



# Spay and Save

## Volunteer Newsletter



**ADOPTIONS**

May/June

Cats 45

Dogs 4

## How to Keep Fish when You Have Cats

From Wiki How by Pippa Elliott, MRCVS

"There is a delicate balancing act in store for owners of both cats and fish. These hunters and prey never dwell together without some drama, and the younger the cat, the more the mischief. If you're looking into ways of helping your pets coexist, these steps will keep your beloved fish and frisky feline in a semblance of harmony.

### Secure the fish

- ♥ **Secure its location.** If you're in protection mode for your fish, the first thing to think about is the location of the fishbowl or tank. Is it easy for your cat to jump up and peer inside? If so, find a spot that at least delays your cat's intrusion into the fish ecosystem long enough for you to rescue the fish, such as up in a cabinet or on a high mantel.
- ♥ **Buy a secure tank.** If your current setup doesn't allow you to place a secure lid on the fish container, consider purchasing a tank with a lid. Many pet stores and big box stores sell fish tanks and bowls with lids.
- ♥ **Move the fish.** One sure-fire way to keep your cats out of the water of a fishbowl is to move the fish to a room where the cats don't go. If you like looking at your fish, designate a room you frequent as a no-cat zone."

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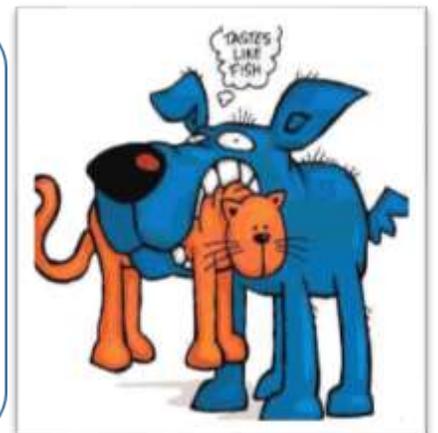
## Dogs Eating Cat Food: Is it Safe?

From Vetinfo

"Feeding cat food to your dog is tempting, especially if you have several felines in your household. However, you should know dogs have different feeding requirements and feeding your dog cat food for a longer period can result in stomach and intestinal upset and deficiencies in your dog's system.

**Cat and Dog Food Nutritional Info:** Compare the dog food nutritional info with the cat food labels from the same manufacturer, you will find that there will be differences between the ingredients and the contents of fat, proteins, fibers and carbohydrates. For instance, all cats require a higher amount of proteins and fats than dogs.

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## Why you Shouldn't Feed Stray Cats

The Editor: My cats are indoor/outdoor cats and for the most part they stay on my property. I recently adopted a kitten that came from Norristown and I have found that their previous semi feral lifestyle makes them wanderers. One of my cats recently has been regularly disappearing just before dinner time and does not return until the following morning. It indicated to me someone is feeding him and then returning him outdoors for the night. This angers me for I am particular that my animals stay on my property and are bedded down inside each night. This is for their safety since many animals are killed each year by unsuspecting drivers and prowling nocturnal animals.

To try and stop the neighbor who I believe thinks they are being kind to a stray I put out notices with the cat's picture asking them to stop feeding. I also collared and tagged the animal with my name and address and a request to stop feeding him.

I have always been suspicious that many of the animals we rescue, in places like Norristown, are actually someone's pet. I am not aware that we ever make any attempt to notify the owners of these animals that we are trapping them. I myself will not remove a cat from the area unless it has NOT BEEN NEUTERED. I feel that if the owner has not neutered the animal, they are not responsible enough to own them.

Feeding strays seems a nice thing to do but how many Pets are being enticed away from their homes by people that feed? One in three cats are according to the ASPCA. For the person feeding the animals and their neighbors the feeding just keeps attracting more and more animals until the whole thing becomes untenable. People who feed do not realize that they are also risking potential legal problems for they can become accepted under the law as the owner. Learn more from this article from [Onegreenplanet.org](http://Onegreenplanet.org)

By Michelle Neff of [Onegreenplanet.org](http://Onegreenplanet.org)

"Chances are you've seen, or at least have heard of outdoor cats. Some may be cats who are allowed to roam outdoors by their guardians, other may be community (feral or stray) cats who call the outdoors home. In fact, the ASPCA currently estimates that there about 20 million free-roaming cats in this U.S. That figure includes a mix of truly feral cats, semi-socialized cats, and lost or abandoned cats.

For many, it's hard to see felines living outdoors. The first instinct may be to give them a can of cat food, which is certainly a kind gesture, but in reality, feral cats are often just as safe and healthy as our own house cats. It's been shown that feral cats have equally low rates of disease as indoor cats. The lean physique of some feral cats sometimes leads people to believe that they are starving or ill, but studies find that feral cats have healthy body weights and fat distribution. Outdoor cats tend to live much more active lives than the house cats who sleep on the side of our beds. Continued Page 4

## Dogs Eating Cat Food:

Another difference between the 2 types of diet is that cats are carnivorous, so all of the ingredients in the cat food will be derived from animals. Canines are omnivorous and their diet may include plant sources in addition to the animal sources. Feeding only animal-based ingredients will lead to indigestion and several nutritional deficiencies.

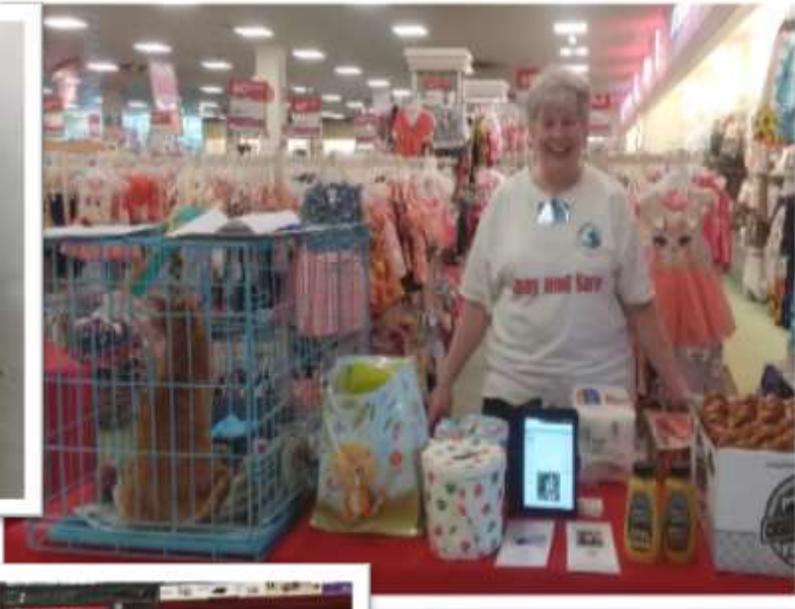
**Problems Caused by Cat Food Fed to Dogs** If you feed your dog cat food on one occasion, this will not cause any major health issues; your dog may vomit or have diarrhea. However, feeding cat food to your dog on a regular basis can cause problems such as:

Frequent vomiting, Diarrhea, Constipation, and Obesity, since the feline food has a higher content of fats and proteins and a lack of essential vitamins and minerals in the dog's system

## Avoid Dog Eating Cat Food

You should not feed your dog cat food on purpose. However, if you have cats in your home and the dog is often curious and snacks from the cat food bowl, you will have to make sure your dog doesn't have access to the cat food bowl. "

# Spay and Save Happenings



*Left: Maria Robb at Boscov's Pet Palooza. Spay and Save raised \$131.75 and we got an application for a volunteer. This time there was a tree up where people can buy pet products and donate them to Spay and Save.*



*Left: Limerick Adoption Day. This is such a coincidence. NONE of the four of us told each other we were going to wear the same shirt. Even Alicia and Madelyn who live in the same house did not realize they were wearing the same shirt until they got to the adoption day. Pictured Alicia and Madelyn Ferraioli, Barb Hardy and Chris Daniels.*



*Left and Right: Lindsey Maiale daughter of Cathy Maiale was working in Costa Rica this May Spaying and Neutering Pets. See the full story on page 5.*



## Why you Shouldn't Feed Stray Cats Continued

If a cat looks well cared for, they are more likely to return home without your help. If they do hang around, chat with your neighbors or post signs to see if you can find their family. Feral cats are afraid of people and usually, run if approached. They will not allow you to touch them and you shouldn't try because it can endanger you or the cat. They'll only eat food you've provided after you've moved away. A cat is probably feral if he's still unapproachable after several days of feeding.

Of the 70 million stray animals that live in the U.S. only about six to eight million make their way into the shelter system. Only about three or four million of animals in shelters are adopted into homes. Knowing these heart-wrenching statistics, animal lovers undoubtedly want to help their feline friends."

For more information on legal responsibilities of people who feed stray animals read the article by Author: Anthony E. LaCroix of Michigan State University College of Law at <https://www.animallaw.info/article/detailed-discussion-feral-cat-population-control>.

Editor: A debate may follow this article from some of our Colony Care takers and others that feed cats in their neighborhood. A discussion of this can be found on the Spay and Save Facebook page so join us there and express your opinion.

## How to Keep Fish When You Have Cats

### "Train the cat

- ♥ **Refrain from physical & verbal punishment.** Cats do not respond well to physical punishment like spankings and verbal punishments like yelling. Keep in mind that cats have a real need to explore and hunt. Understanding this will help you have patience with your pet. You can also use a squeeze bottle with water. Water in their faces when they can't see the source will teach them not to return to the crime.
- ♥ **Investigate environmental punishments.** Also called "remote punishment" or "booby trapping," placing things in a cat's environment it doesn't like keeps it from repeating a behavior. For example, any textured surface cats don't like can be placed around the fish. A plastic nubby material that is used to keep cats from digging in planters is called Cat Scat Mat Plastic Spike at Amazon.
- ♥ **Keep your cat off surfaces.** Cats naturally enjoy being up high where they can survey their environment, but that also means they like to get up on counters and tables—where fish usually live. You can train them to stay off your surfaces by not encouraging them to jump up on tables or counters for treats or petting.
- ♥ **Put your fish away.** When you leave the house, put your fish in a locked room so that the cat can't get to it. Even if you believe your cat is trained to leave the fish alone, eliminating the possibility of mischief keeps your cat from being tempted.

## Yard Sale: *Anything or Everything for a*

### *Donation to Spay and Save*

Contact Toni Dougherty for one or all three pet carriers at: [Tonidocrt@gmail.com](mailto:Tonidocrt@gmail.com)



Contact Maria Robb for this delightful Cat tree at [mariarobb@hotmail.com](mailto:mariarobb@hotmail.com)

**Do you have any pet related item you need to find a new home for... Contact [tonidocrt@gmail.com](mailto:tonidocrt@gmail.com) and send a photo of your item to be included in next month's newsletter. Buyers, along with getting a nice item donate to Spay and Save.**

## Motorcycle Cat



## Shop Rite Fundraiser for Spay and Save

By Kathy Plover

Each month, for the last few years, folks have been dropping off tens of thousands of dollars in Brown family Shop Rite register tapes at the Pet Valu in Roxborough. This effort has generated a source of constant revenue for Spay and Save.

The Brown family owns seven Shop Rite stores in Philadelphia, one in NJ (Brooklawn), one in Montco (East Norriton) and one in Bucks county (Bensalem). They will donate 1/2 of 1% for every dollar spent at one of their stores to Spay and Save. That may not seem like a lot at first glance, but it truly adds up each month.

The Roxborough Pet Valu employees graciously accept register tapes each and every day and give them to their store's Spay and Save volunteer coordinator. The coordinator delivers them to volunteer Lois Landis monthly, and Lois takes it from there.

Maybe you don't shop at Shop Rite, or have a location near you, but maybe friends and family do. Some of the people who drop their register tapes at the Roxborough Pet Valu aren't even Pet Valu customers but have learned about the program through neighborhood social media posts and want to help.

## Volunteer Corner

### Volunteer at Spay Neuter Clinic in Costa Rica

By Lindsey Maiale

This past May, I was lucky enough to be a part of a veterinary mission trip to La Suerte, Costa Rica! While there, we stayed on a conservancy in a small rainforest community where we held a free three day spay and neuter clinic to help pet owners there learn the importance of castrating their pets to help curb their pet overpopulation problem. Unfortunately, many pet owners there were not aware of the impact that their own pets were having on the stray dog and cat population, and we were given many unwanted puppies and kittens which some of my friends ended up taking home with them to the United States. We were very fortunate to have a local Costa Rican vet who was willing to spend his days off from work helping our mission accomplish what we went there to do. With only one vet doing the actual spay and neuter procedures, and 20 pre-vet students prepping and monitoring the patients before and after their surgeries, we were able to successfully castrate over 100 animals in just three days! While they were long hot days, it was such an amazing feeling to know we were able to help so many pets and their owners!



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

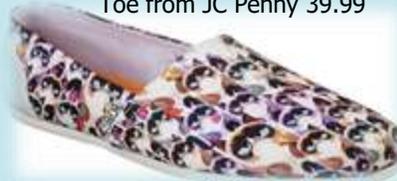
Date	Event Location	Coordinators
1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	Gateway Pet Valu (Dogs)	Theresa Lare
1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	Limerick Petco	Alicia Ferraioli
5 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Paoli PETCO	Kathy Tierney
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	Gateway Pet Valu	Janet Lynch
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	Exton Petco	Morag Steskal
3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	Limerick Petco	Madelyn Ferraioli
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Exton Petco	Paula Wenke
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Perk Valley Pet Eatery	Susan Trombadore
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Roxborough Pet Valu	Chris Daniels

## My Favorite Shoes, Bob's Skechers

*Skechers Bobs Women's Wag Party Slip-On Shoe Closed Toe from JC Penny for 29.99*



Skechers Bobs Women's Plush Slip-On Shoe Closed Toe from JC Penny 39.99



**Profits are Donated to Animal Shelters. Found in many stores on the web but these are on sale at JC Penny. Also available at Amazon Smile and donate to Spay and Save at the same time.**

## The Connected Cat



**Newsletter Editor:**  
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- ♥ **Vice President** Naomi McCarron
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the Web