



# How to help... if you find a cat outside

## Most cats are best left where they are

Cats wandering outside are usually not far from their homes and are unlikely to be lost. Research shows that cats are over 13 times more likely to be reunited with their owners if left in place rather than taken to a shelter. A cat that looks healthy with good body condition and coat is very rarely lost. We might not know where that cat lives, but good body condition tells us the cat likely knows where home is. A cat that is not injured, ill or in imminent danger is unlikely to need assistance.

## Here's how you can help

- If the cat looks healthy, please leave it where it is/put it back where you found it.
- Post a picture and description of the cat on NextDoor, Craigslist, Pawboost, Lost Cats of WI, and surrounding neighborhood Facebook groups.
- Post "Cat Sighting" flyers in your neighborhood with your contact information and the date/time/location of sighting.

Fox Valley   
**Humane  
Association**  
Caring for pets and their people

N115 Two Mile Road  
Appleton, WI 54914  
**Open 9:00-3:00**  
*(For stray drop off)*  
**Call (920)733-1717**

Follow us



Fox Valley Humane  
Association  
foxvalleyhumane

**More information**  
[www.foxvalleypets.org](http://www.foxvalleypets.org)

FVHA is the city's only municipal open-admission animal shelter. It protects the public and promotes humane care of animals.

**MOST CATS/KITTENS FOUND OUTSIDE SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE.  
IF THEY ARE INJURED, ILL, OR IN IMMEDIATE DANGER:**

- Call (920)733-1717 or visit [www.foxvalleypets.org](http://www.foxvalleypets.org)
- Bring them to FVHA – N115 Two Mile Rd Appleton, WI 54914 (9- 3 P.M.)

## Community cats

While not all free-roaming cats have what we think of as a traditional home, if they are healthy and in good body condition, they likely have a place they call home. These cats, often called community cats, are not in need of our assistance.

If you see a cat with a tipped ear (see photo), it is an indication that the cat has been spayed or neutered and vaccinated. If a cat is creating a nuisance and is not ear tipped, Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is the best way to help.



## Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR)



TNR is considered best practice and is good public policy. It ensures no new kittens are born, stabilizes cat populations, provides vaccines, and improves cats' lives. It also stops the behaviors and stresses associated with mating such as yowling, spraying, and fighting.

Healthy cats can usually be returned to their location of origin the day after surgery. Plans for sick or injured cats should be discussed with the clinic. See our Education page for more information on TNR and thank you for helping cats!

Visit our website for more information on our TNR program: [www.foxvalleypets.org/tnr-program](http://www.foxvalleypets.org/tnr-program)

### LOST & FOUND PET RESOURCES

Helpinglostpets.com  
Pawboost.com  
LostFoundPetsWisconsin  
Neighborhood Social Media Sites

### REHOMING RESOURCES

Adoptapet.com  
Petfinder.com  
GetYourPet.com  
Petbond.com

