

Don't feed unowned cats!

The Problem

There are currently millions of unowned (stray and feral) cats all over the world. In lots of places these cats are impounded and many of them are euthanized. Some are put to sleep because of severe health problems. But many are put to sleep because there cannot be found enough homes for them. Tragically, lots of the cats that have to be euthanased each year are healthy, sociable kittens. There are simply not enough people to adopt them.

[This situation is unacceptable on ethical and animal welfare grounds.](#)

Causes of the problem

The cat overpopulation problem is due to a number of factors, such as supply exceeding demand and the ability of cats to breed extremely quickly. Research has also found that a major contributing factor to this problem is people feeding unowned cats but not taking full ownership or responsibility for them. People feed unowned cats because they genuinely care about them, and feel sorry for them. However many people don't realise that they are causing a bigger problem by feeding, but not owning (eg desexing and identifying) these cats. Feeding unowned cats helps keep them strong enough to reproduce. They continue breeding more and more kittens into a life of disease and neglect. This contributes to the tragic cat overpopulation problem.



The solution

Feeding unowned cats isn't the answer!

If you want to help contact your council to either take ownership of the cat or arrange to have it impounded. **Please don't feed a bigger problem!**



How do I take ownership of a cat?

Once you have contacted your local council to ensure the cat is not already owned, you can adopt the cat or kitten. Please, have the health checked by a veterinarian, and have the cat or kitten microchipped and neutered!

How do I arrange to have a stray cat removed from my street?

If there are stray cats in your area that you want to have removed, you need to speak to your local councils animal management or local laws department.