



# ILLINOIS ANIMAL RESCUE TIMES

WWW.ILLINOISANIMALRESCUEINC.ORG

## ABOUT RESCUE

Illinois Animal Rescue, Inc. is made up of individuals, rescuers, humane investigators, transporters, a coalition of humane societies, and many others. Just regular people, scattered throughout the state of Illinois and beyond, dedicated and working together to save precious lives.



IAR strives to rescue, transport and offer humane care to the animals in communities throughout Illinois and surrounding states.

In the past several years, a coalition of rescuers have saved thousands of adoptable pets: in 2007 over 6,000 precious lives were saved from untimely death, abandonment, neglect, abuse and unnecessary euthanasia. This was all accomplished through generous donations of volunteers, that now form IAR.

Costs are increasing, so we need YOU to help fulfill our mission—the saving of innocent lives.

## IAR GOALS

- To educate our communities on the importance of spaying/neutering
- To rescue animals on death row
- To provide transportation for rescue

>> Continued



## IAR

### >> IAR GOALS

- To ensure that every animal is treated with respect and dignity
- To find homes for animals serving life sentences in no-kill facilities
- To provide medical treatment for animals in underprivileged counties
- To ensure the humane treatment of all animals

IAR is a licensed, 501 (c)(3), not for profit, no-kill rescue organization.

## KITTEN SEASON

### The Three Seasons of Rescue:

1. Snow Season (cruelty complaints)
2. Leaf Season (they are everywhere they are not supposed to be)
3. Kitten Season

If you are new to rescue and have not yet heard of "Kitten Season," we'll let us explain! One of the Three Seasons of Rescue, Kitten Season happens every year. When spring begins and summer is almost over, just about every unspayed female cat gives birth to litters upon litters of kittens, flooding animal shelters across the nation with homeless kittens. It generally starts in spring, peaks in late spring or early summer, and ends in fall.

Kitten Season presents many challenges to animal shelters. Resources that are already hard to come by—food, money and space—are often stretched to their limits as shelters are inundated with homeless cats and kittens.

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## SPRING/SUMMER 2009

### >> KITTEN SEASON

Kitten Season occurs due to 1) nature and 2) an over-abundance of unsterilized cats (both owned and stray) in our communities. It becomes worse when unwanted cats and kittens are left on the street to reproduce and fend for themselves.

It is our responsibility as a community to handle this problem. People domesticated cats which made them our responsibility. If we do nothing, many cats and kittens will die before their first birthday—either on the street or by euthanasia. The surviving ones will reproduce to thousands in a couple of years.



Two or three cats become many, contributing to an already overpopulated population. Please consider recognizing our obligation as members of a civilized society and be willing to help us take responsibility. Doing nothing accomplishes just that: nothing.

If you have stray cats in your neighborhood, act now (some vets may do spays/neuters for between \$10 and \$25), before it's too late, and they bring their precious kittens into the world, only to suffer and die. If kittens are lucky enough to survive, most of them may end up feral, never knowing a safe, warm place to call home, nor the feel of compassion.

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They will live like wild animals in the elements, only concentrating on survival and reproduction. Check out this link to see how fast cats can multiply.  
[http://www.spayusa.org/media/pdfs/Cats\\_Multiply\\_Pyramid.pdf](http://www.spayusa.org/media/pdfs/Cats_Multiply_Pyramid.pdf)

The vast overpopulation of cats and kittens will not drop overnight, but there are many ways to help reduce cat overpopulation in your community, and help give some relief to the victims of Kitten Season.

- Spay or neuter your pets and the strays
- Help donate towards the fight (even one cat will make a difference)
- Become a foster parent
- Adopt

If you are in a situation and you need help or advice, please contact IAR right away! We can make a dent, one kitty at a time.



## IT'S A REALITY: PETS GET LOST.

One in three pets will become lost during their lifetime. Without proper identification, statistics show that 90% of lost pets never return home. According to the American Humane Association, only about 17% of lost dogs and 2% of lost cats ever find their way back home. Almost 4 million pets are euthanized every year because the pets or their owners cannot be found in time.

### 10 Ways Pets Can Get Lost

1. A worker or friend visiting your home may accidentally let your pet out.
2. A window, perhaps with a loose screen, is left open, and your pet slips away to chase a bird or a squirrel.
3. Any unattended pet can be stolen.
4. A dog may escape off of a leash or tie out if left unattended.
5. Dogs may be released outside by their owner without a leash for a "quick" run.
6. Thunderstorms or fireworks may cause pets to panic and flee.
7. Dogs may climb, jump or dig under fences.

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### >> PETS GET LOST

8. An electric fence may go down, allowing your pet out of the yard, but maybe unable to get back in being shocked.
9. During travel, pets may wander off in an unfamiliar area.
10. In emergency situations or natural disasters, pets may flee or get lost in the turmoil.

To protect your pet, microchip. A tiny microchip containing a permanent and unique ID number can be implanted under your pet's skin. Then, register your pet to permanently identify your ownership and the pet to that unique ID number of the microchip.

The microchip itself has no internal energy source, so it will last the life of your pet. It is read by passing a microchip scanner over the pet's shoulder blades. The scanner emits a low radio frequency that provides the power necessary to transmit the microchip's unique code and positively identify the pet. If your pet gets lost and is taken to an animal shelter or veterinarian, they will scan the microchip to read its unique code. This number is used to identify the pet and retrieve your contact information, which is used to contact you and reunite you with your pet.



Illinois Animal Rescue, Inc. is dedicated to the safety and well-being of your pet, by offering low cost microchip clinics for your pets. Watch IAR's website for clinic details. Microchip clinic proceeds go toward the rescue of the many animals that have already become a statistic. Again, one in three pets will become lost during their lifetime. Without proper identification, statistics show that 90% of lost pets never return home. Don't let your beloved pet become a statistic: microchip.



### What to do if you find an injured or orphaned wild animal

Many wild animals are born during the spring and summer months. You may come across baby birds, rabbits, squirrels, raccoons, deer or other young wildlife as they make their way into the world.

For many people, the pleasure of seeing these young creatures is mixed with a sense of protectiveness, of wanting to help them survive. But spotting a baby animal by himself doesn't necessarily mean he's an orphan. Many wildlife parents leave their young alone during the day, sometimes for long periods. The mother is usually nearby and quite conscious of her young. Also, keep in mind that despite their small size, many young animals are actually independent enough to fend for themselves.

### How To Tell if a Wild Animal Needs Your Help

Here are some general signs to look for:

- a wild animal is presented to you by a cat or dog
- the animal is bleeding
- appears to have a broken limb
- a featherless or nearly featherless bird (nestling) on the ground
- the animal is shivering
- evidence of a dead parent nearby

### Finding Help

If a wild animal exhibits any of the above signs, immediately call one of the following local resources for assistance. You will find listings for most of these in your telephone directory or online.

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>> FEELING WILD?



- Wildlife rehabilitator: Visit Wildlife International or the Wildlife Rehabilitators Information Directory where you can type in your location and get a list of rehabilitators near you. Your local animal control agency or state wildlife agency should also have contact information for wildlife rehabilitators in your area.
- Local animal shelter or humane society
- Animal control agency
- State wildlife agency
- Nature center
- Exotic animals veterinarian

Capture and Transport

Once you've contacted the right person, describe the animal and his physical condition as accurately as possible. Unless directed otherwise, here's how you can make an animal more comfortable for transport or while you're waiting for help to arrive:

- Punch holes, from the inside out, into a cardboard box or other container. A paper bag may be suitable for birds.
- Line the box with an old T-shirt or other soft cloth.
- Put on gloves.
- Use a towel or pillowcase to cover the animal, then scoop him up gently and place him in the container.
- Do not give the animal food or water. He could choke, develop digestive problems, or drown. Many injured animals are in shock, and eating or drinking can make their condition worse.
- Place the container in a warm, dark, quiet place until you can transport him.
- Transport the animal as soon as possible. While in the car, keep the carrier out of the sun and away from direct air conditioning or heat. Keep the car radio off and talking to a minimum.

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>> FEELING WILD?

- Never handle an adult animal without first consulting with a wildlife professional. Even small animals can injure you.
- Do not pet the animal in consolation. Being touched by a human may be threatening to them.

For more information on the young of species you may encounter, to help you decide whether or not they need to be rescued, visit the Humane Society of the United States at:

[http://www.hsus.org/wildlife/urban\\_wildlife\\_our\\_wild\\_neighbors/coexisting/injured\\_orphaned\\_wildlife.html](http://www.hsus.org/wildlife/urban_wildlife_our_wild_neighbors/coexisting/injured_orphaned_wildlife.html)

ADOPT AN ADULT CAT



Typically, adult cats feel the most immediate effects of Kitten Season. They are often overlooked by potential adopters when kittens are in abundance.

Once accepted into a rescue, some cats have their barely weaned kittens taken away, and the mother is left to be euthanized. This is unacceptable. But during Kitten Season it becomes more difficult to place adult cats. Even when people come in with the intent to adopt an adult, their heads are turned by cute, active kittens, and the adult cats are passed by.

If you are thinking of adopting a feline, please consider adult or a young adult. Cats are kittens for only the first few years of their lives.

When thinking of adopting, if you like a mess, if you like your toes bitten while you sleep, if you like your furniture and your curtains torn to shreds and have your heart set on a kitten, then by all means,

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>> ADULT CAT

please help us save lives by becoming a foster parent to a litter, or two, and you can pick out your favorite, toe-biting, curtain-climbing, furniture-shredding kitten of the bunch! But if you want a lifetime of love in a calmer package, look into the eyes of one of our adorable, adoptable adult cats.

Here is a link you might find helpful about choosing the right cat for you.

[http://www.hsus.org/pets/pet\\_adoption\\_information/choosing\\_the\\_right\\_cat.html](http://www.hsus.org/pets/pet_adoption_information/choosing_the_right_cat.html)

CONTACT US

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847-487-8602

[www.illinoisanimalrescueinc.org](http://www.illinoisanimalrescueinc.org)

**Adoptions:**

[DogAdopt@illinoisanimalrescueinc.org](mailto:DogAdopt@illinoisanimalrescueinc.org)  
[CatAdopt@illinoisanimalrescueinc.org](mailto:CatAdopt@illinoisanimalrescueinc.org)

**General E-mail:**

[Info@illinoisanimalrescueinc.org](mailto:Info@illinoisanimalrescueinc.org)  
[Volunteer@illinoisanimalrescueinc.org](mailto:Volunteer@illinoisanimalrescueinc.org)

**You Can Help Save a Life!**

- Make a donation
- Give of your time
- Sponsor a rescue or transport
- Help transport animals
- Foster an adoptable animal



**Please send donations to:**

Illinois Animal Rescue, Inc.  
P.O. Box 205, Ringwood, IL, 60072

Illinois Animal Rescue, Inc. is a licensed, 501 (c)(3), not for profit, no-kill rescue organization.