

MassPAWS Newsletter



Since its inception in 2001, MassPAWS has assisted thousands of animals.



Please keep your cat indoors!

Top Reasons to Keep YOUR Cat Indoors

- Outdoor cats are killed & maimed by cars each year
- Cats are killed & tortured by humans for fun.
- Dogs maim and coyotes eat outdoor cats
- Feline leukemia, FIV and Feline Infectious Peritonitis are diseases outdoor cats are more vulnerable too; they get into fights with other cats
- Fleas, ticks & parasites are picked up outside the home
- Extreme temperatures like heat or cold kill thousands of cats a year
- Traps and snares set outdoors can maim and kill your cat.
- Toxins like antifreeze and poisons kill cats

Cats that are kept indoors live at least 50% longer than cats that are allowed outdoors! Your vet bills will be much lower as your cat is less likely to be injured or attacked in a safe indoor environment.

Contact MassPAWS:

PO Box 520136,
Winthrop, MA 02152
617-846-5586

MASSPAWS.PETFINDER.ORG

We spay/neuter cats & dogs preventing pets from becoming homeless or ending up (themselves or their offspring) in over-burdened shelters. We also provide s/n and support to caretakers of feral cat colonies and provide assistance to caretakers trying to keep their pets.

The Five Things You Need to Know About Ice Melts

Most of us know how to protect our pups in freezing temperatures (doggie sweaters, here we come!) but not everyone is aware of another winter danger for dogs: the ubiquitous rock salt used to melt ice. In the past five years, the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (APCC) has received hundreds of calls about ice melt exposure. Here's everything you need to know to keep Fido safe from salt melts till spring:

1. Ice melts are poisonous to dogs if ingested. Dogs who lick their paws after a wintry walk may be exposing themselves to toxic chemicals like potassium chloride, magnesium chloride, calcium carbonate and calcium magnesium acetate that are present in many ice melts. Consumption of ice melts can be lethal, but only if your dog ingests large quantities.

"Larger ingestions can lead to an increase in the blood's electrolyte levels, weakness, lethargy, moderate irritation to the oral and gastrointestinal system, and even tremors," says Nicole Martin, a certified veterinary technician and Client Services Manager at APCC.

Still, smaller quantities of ice melts can make your dog feel pretty sick. "We would expect a small ingestion, such as licking paw pads after a walk through ice melts, to lead to mild gastrointestinal signs such as hyper-salivating, nausea and vomiting," Martin warns.

2. Melts can irritate dogs' paws. Dogs' gastrointestinal systems are not the only part of their bodies that react badly to ice melt exposure. Though paw pads are tough, ice melts can cause them to burn, become irritated and even crack, turning a daily walk into a painful ordeal for your dog. "It's important to regularly check in between your pet's paw pads for signs of irritation," Martin advises.

3. It's relatively easy to protect your pup from ice melts. A few simple steps can keep your dog safe, but one of them is especially key: "After wintertime walks, pet parents should wipe their pet's paws off with a clean, damp towel," says Martin. She adds that dog boots can go a long way toward protecting your pet from the perils of winter walks.

Other ways to keep your pet safe: Wipe down your dog's entire body if she was rolling around in the snow, don't let your dog drink from puddles of melted snow, and keep your dog from snacking on snow near any place where ice melts may have been used.

4. "Pet-friendly" ice melts are available, but they may not be the answer. "Although these types of melts tend to be considered safer, they, too, can lead to problems if the animal has been exposed to enough of the product," says Martin. If you've got ice melts of any kind at home, keep them in sealed, pet-proof containers.

5. If you think your dog ate ice melts, please take action. Call your veterinarian or the ASPCA's 24-hour poison control hotline at (888) 426-4435.



Reasons to Adopt a Senior Cat

Kittens grab our attention with their playful antics, and every breeding season they flood into shelters by the litter. But what about those charming and mild-mannered older cats?

Cats over age 5 have a much lower adoption rate than their younger counterparts. Senior cats are over 8, around 45 in human years, and many shelters consider them practically unadoptable. Adoptees overlook these great pets for any number of reasons and few find their forever homes.

See MassPAWS available animals for adoption

At MassPAWS.petfinder.org

So, why should you consider adopting a senior cat? Besides the fact that the holidays are a spectacular time to add a new member to the family, there are plenty of reasons to consider an older cat.

Senior cat health concerns

Some people are hesitant to adopt an older cat out of fear that she'll have health problems. Cats often live into their late teens or early twenties. With proper preventive care, feeding, and lots of



Patricia Peabody

TLC, you can enjoy a healthy older cat's company for years to come.

Please Help Save the Animals! Your Donations are Tax Deductable.

Many animals are being cared for by MassPAWS. Please call MassPAWS to make a donation to help with their care: (617) 846-5586 or donate with www.PayPal.com to MassPAWS@aol.com

MassPAWS FUNDRAISER

Our Next fundraiser at Orient Heights Yacht Club in Winthrop will be held on March 24, 2011. Please send your email address to MassPaws@aol.com; we will notify you of important information, upcoming events and so that we can send you our newsletter electronically !

Making an Urgent Appeal, We Desperately Need Donations

MassPAWS is a last resort for lost, injured, abused, and unwanted animals. **We are a non-profit, all volunteer animal care organization**, dedicated to the care and re-socialization of lost, injured, neglected, and abandoned cats and dogs. We try to provide the qualities of safety, compassion and shelter to all animals under our care, in our homes and on the streets. We are in desperate need of donations. Please support us who stand out all day trapping and transporting and feeding and trying to raise money for the animals. MassPAWS is looking for help to assist us or for donations; ***we are not able to spay or neuter new animals without ongoing funding and fear what will happen if nothing is done.***

You can also help by **fostering** or **donating** to help pay shelter fees and vet bills if you aren't in a position to adopt. Our long term goal is to see the North Shore a no-kill area with free and low-cost spay/neuter readily available. Our goal is to alter as many cats and dogs in areas with a high number of free roaming animals. We are looking for funding to support the work we do on behalf of all the animals. ***Animals continue to be dumped or killed. Please, will you help us with a donation?***

Sincere thanks to our vets and cooperating humane organizations . . . no, we can't do it alone in our Greater Boston North communities. The need is too great. The animals need all of us and more. Our sincere thanks to our humane veterinarians who are invaluable partners in animal welfare:

Dr. Olga Iglukova and Revere Pet Clinic
 Dr. David Dunn and North Shore Animal Hospital, Lynn
 Dr. Arthur Freedman and Hawthorne Animal Health Care, Salem
 Dr. Deborah Brady, MRFRS Catmobile



And to the humane organizations who have helped us and the animals in need in our communities:

All Dog Rescue	Cape Ann Animal Aid, Gloucester	Northeast Animal Shelter, Salem PALS-
Animal Umbrella ARL Boston	Feline Rescue of Cape Ann Melrose	Peabody Animal Life Savers Underdog
Broken Tail	Humane Society, Melrose MSPCA	ResQ Whiskers of Hope, Arlington
Rescue, Medford		

And To all of you, supporters who believe in our Mission.

Easy to build Winter Shelter for Outdoor Cats

Materials needed are: a large Rubbermaid storage bin, an eight foot by two foot sheet of one-inch thick hard Styrofoam, a yardstick, a box cutter or utility knife, and straw, shredded newspaper or other insulating material. Then assemble as follows:

1. Cut a doorway six inches by six inches in one of the long sides of the storage bin towards the corner. To prevent flooding, cut the opening so that the bottom of the doorway is several inches above the ground.
2. Line the floor of the bin with a piece of Styrofoam, using the yardstick and box cutter to cut out the piece.
3. In similar fashion, line each of the four interior walls of the bin with a piece of the Styrofoam. Perfect cuts are not necessary. Don't make the Styrofoam go all the way up to the top of the bin, but leave a uniform gap of at least three inches between the top of these Styrofoam "wall pieces" and the upper lip of the bin. There needs to be room for an interior Styrofoam "roof" to fit.
4. Cut out a doorway in the Styrofoam where it is lined up with the doorway that has been cut out already in the storage bin. Trace the outline of the doorway on the Styrofoam first before cutting.
5. Stuff the bottom of the bin with straw or other insulating material to hold the Styrofoam interior wall pieces in place.
6. Cut out a Styrofoam "roof" to rest on top of the Styrofoam interior wall pieces

Cover the bin with its lid.

This shelter can be cleaned by taking off the lid and the Styrofoam roof. It's also lightweight and may need to be weighed down. A flap over the doorway is optional. Catnip can be sprinkled inside at first to attract the cats.



MassPAWS is proud to have received grant monies from: The Petco Foundation, PetSmart Charities and from the Massachusetts Animal Coalition License Plate Program.



Help Homeless Pets in your Neighborhood;

Please participate in the PETCO Foundation and PetSmart Charities fundraising programs; *they work!*



The Massachusetts Progressive Animal Watchdog Society, Inc.
MassPAWS.Petfinder.com

Spay / Neuter Information

Thousands of kittens, cats and dogs are stray, abandoned, homeless and unclaimed every year in Massachusetts; sadly, many are destroyed. Please have your pet spayed or neutered, show your love and keep them safe!

- Find upcoming low cost **CATMOBILE** Spay/Neuter clinics at MRFS.org or call (978) 465-1940 or email Catmobile@MRFS.org
- The **S.T.O.P. Clinic**; this mobile unit drives to many cities performing low cost Spay/Neuter (cats only, fee includes initial vaccinations) www.TheStopClinic.com
Call the S.T.O.P. clinic at (617) 571-7151
- Low cost Spay/Neuter certificates at **Friends of Animals** www.FriendsOfAnimals.org or call (800) 321-7387
- **Animal Rescue League SPAY Waggin'** (877) 590-7729, a mobile unit that provides low cost spay and neuter for cats and dogs under 60 pounds, fee includes initial vaccines. www.arlboston.org
- **Alliance For Animals** offers low cost Spay/Neuter services 232 Silver St., South Boston, (617) 268- 7800 www.AFABoston.org
NOTE: will spay/neuter Pit Bulls for FREE.
- **MSPCA SNAP** (617) 541-5005 & **Shalit-Glazer** (617) 541-5007 programs, assisting low-income households with Spay/Neuter needs; go to: www.mspca.org and search SNAP or Shalit-Glazer
- **Merwin Animal Clinic** 542 Cambridge St. Allston (617) 782-5420
Walk-in clinic open 12-3 Mon-Sat (cash only) Low cost spay and neuter by appointment.

MassPAWS

MassPAWS assisted over 500 homeless, stray, and abandoned cats and dogs with neutering over 250 in 2010. We continue to rescue the beautiful little guys with your help and generous support! Couldn't do it without you!

Address

PO Box 520136,
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Phone

617-846-5586

We're on the Web!
MassPAWS.PetFinder.org

MassPAWS was organized in 2001 as a group of long-term animal welfare volunteers and professionals committed to working on the most compelling animal issues in Massachusetts, with the goal of ending the suffering and destruction of cats, dogs, wildlife and animals in entertainment and research.

Our primary activities include: humane education; rescue of cats and dogs from terminal impoundment and life-threatening situations; foster care and adoptions; humane feral cat management utilizing trap-inoculate-neuter protocols and lending support and networking to other humane organizations.



Looking to adopt a cat or two? MassPAWS cats may be seen at Petsmart Salem with our friends from PALS and at Petsmart Saugus with our friends from Melrose Humane Society. Be sure to adopt not shop!!