

The Big Fix Homeless Cat Project

 Spring 2017 



We are a 501c3 and our work is primarily sustained from tax deductible donations. Contact (830) 896-6053 for more information or to become a volunteer. What type of volunteer help do we need?

Trappers, telephone counselors, transportation for vet visits, and more. Your help is vitally important to our success and we are grateful for your continued support!

Ancient Egyptian artists never portrayed cats in a sleeping position, but always upright, reflecting the respect they had for the cat's wisdom.

Soon it will be kitten season. Warmer weather causes female cats to go into their heat cycle (when they can become pregnant), and late Spring through Summer is the height of that season. Please consider spaying/neutering your cat before this happens. It will not make a male cat less masculine to have him neutered, but it will make him a more enjoyable pet. A female cat does not need to have at least one litter to be more feminine. As a matter of fact, a female who has never had a litter has fewer health problems.

If you feed feral cats (outdoor cats who do not belong to anyone), give us a call for trapping them for the purpose of vaccinations and spaying/neutering them, or we can loan you traps (with instructions) if there are only a few around. First you must call us for a feral cat voucher (for free spay or neuter) at (830) 896-6053. Our telephone counselors will ask you questions to find out the information needed to start the process to get those cats sterilized.

Did you know a pregnant cat can be safely spayed? It may seem sad to have it done at that time, but 75% of feral kittens do not survive. Very often a feral cat does not get the proper nutrition to have a healthy litter. It's kinder to have the pregnant female spayed and eliminate the chance of her and her kittens dying a slower, painful death. The other good reason to do so, is every Spring through Fall animal shelters, rescue organizations and humane societies receive more kittens than they can possibly place in good homes.

Did you know a nursing cat can be spayed without danger to the kittens? As long as she is returned to her kittens the same day, she can continue to feed them. Since any female can go back into heat as soon as her kittens are 6 weeks old, it can be nearly impossible to find the right time to spay her.

For an unusual cat name consider a place on the map: China, Egypt, Spain, Kenya, India, Tokyo, Chile, Congo, Syria, Malta, Tibet, Burma, Haiti, Peru, Nepal, Samoa, Italy, Czech, Japan

Would you like to help us continue our mission? It doesn't take a lot of money. We have several low/no cost options. First is buy an extra bag of dry cat food when you shop at Kerrville's *Pet Supplies Plus* and leave it on "The Big Fix" donation shelf in their store. Second, when you shop online with Amazon, use

<https://smile.amazon.com> instead. You can bookmark this page and any qualifying purchase that you make will contribute a small percentage directly to us (at no extra cost to you). All you have to do is designate



"Big Fix Homeless Cat Project of the Texas Hill Country" as your donation choice. You can go to our website (<https://www.bigfixcats.com/donate>) to access our Amazon Wish List, donate with PayPal, or sign up with Amazon Smile.

Feel free to browse our website BigFixCats.com to learn more about our mission, to educate yourself about caring for cats, to make a donation, or to just read our past newsletters. Our organization is strictly volunteer and there are no salaries.

Did you know that Saint Gertrude is known as the Patron Saint of Cats?

Clay cat litter came about by accident. In 1948 a neighbor by the name of Kay Draper went into her local sawmill to pick up some sawdust for her cat's litter tray. She had been using ash, but was fed up with it being tracked all over her house. Ed Lowe, the son of the owner, offered her some clay, known as Fullers Earth which was used to absorb grease. Ed realized he was onto something, and started marketing the product in pet shops and at cat shows. It took a while to catch on, but eventually it became a multi-million dollar business.

Male cats used to be called "rams" or "boars", however in 1760, an anonymous author wrote a book entitled "*The Life & Adventures of a Cat*" in which the central character was a male called Tom the Cat. This book was hugely popular and the name tom cat quickly replaced "ram" or "boar".

In households in the UK and USA, there are more cats kept as pets than dogs. At least 35% of households with cats have 2 or more cats.

Looking for the Purrfect Gift for the Cat Lover on your list? A gift to *The Big Fix* is a wonderful way to celebrate your shared love of cats and to make the world a better place for them. We will send a card notifying your honoree of your thoughtful gift in their name. Your tax deductible gift of as little as \$10 will allow us to continue our mission. Your donation goes directly (and only) to humane trapping, neutering, and veterinarian care. Simply fill out the form below and enclose it with your gift donation.

Checks should be made out to: *The Big Fix* and mailed to: The Big Fix, P.O. Box 294003, Kerrville, TX 78029.

Name of Honoree:

Occasion (Birthday, Anniversary, In memory of etc.):

Send my gift card to:

(Recipient's mailing address):

Donor's Name:

Donor's Phone #:

