

# DALLAS ANIMAL SERVICES FOUND CAT ACTION PLAN



You're a good citizen who just found a stray pet. Here's how you can maximize that pet's chances of reuniting with their owner!

## Does the Cat Really Need Help?

Not all cats need to come to the shelter. Take action based on the description of the cat you found below!

### Healthy, Friendly Adult Cats



These are very likely owned animals who are simply exploring the outdoors! If they appear well fed, well groomed and friendly, chances are they belong to your neighbors. You can leave them be so they can return to their home. As only about 2% of cats taken to a shelter are recovered by their owners, DAS does not take in healthy stray cats.



### Cats with Ear Tips

These are permanent outdoor cats known as community cats. Community cats are comfortable living outside and are confident hunters capable of feeding themselves. Think of them as free rodent control for your neighborhood! These cats are already home, so you can leave them be. The ear tip is a visual indicator that they have been spayed or neutered and may also be microchipped and/or vaccinated for certain contagious diseases. Visit [BeDallas90.org/communitycats](http://BeDallas90.org/communitycats) to learn more or to become a colony caretaker.

### Sick, Injured or Skinny Cats



If you see a cat that appears injured, sick, or skinny, they may need medical attention and/or are unused to living outdoors. Bring them to Dallas Animal Services at 1818 North Westmoreland Road from 11 am to 7 pm daily. If you need help trapping the cat, please fill out a Service Request by calling 311 or online at [BeDallas90.org](http://BeDallas90.org). Kittens looking sick, skinny or covered in fleas should also be brought to us.



### Healthy Kittens

Not all kittens need help. The best place for kittens is with their mother, so before you scoop up kittens you find outdoors, it is important to determine if they're truly orphans or if mom is hiding or hunting nearby. Mom might be scared to come back if you're watching her nest. Try leaving a ring of flour around the kittens and checking back after a few hours to see if you can see mom's footprints. If mom does not come back, bring them to Dallas Animal Services at 1818 North Westmoreland Road during our hours of operation. If you are unable to bring the kittens to DAS or if it is outside of operating hours, call 311 for assistance.

If mom is nearby, visit [BeDallas90.org/kittens](http://BeDallas90.org/kittens) for next steps.

#### Hours of Operation:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Wednesdays 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
Saturdays & Sundays 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

[BeDallas90.org](http://BeDallas90.org)