



CARE

cat adoption and rescue efforts
APRIL/MAY 2016

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CARE

With our latest newsletter, we want to first thank our supporters. We have been very pleased with the reception of the newsletter so far and welcome your input on stories you would like to see. We review our communications efforts annually and this newsletter is an effort to enable our millennial supporters and all those who are constantly on the go to keep up with us. While we will continue to send our nearly 5000 printed newsletters twice a year, we wanted keep in touch throughout the year without increasing our carbon footprint or annoying supporters who have a great deal going on in their lives!

Should you decide to do so, you can easily unsubscribe at any time through the link found in the footer of the email. We hope, though, that you will enjoy these updates and feel free to forward on to people you know who may be considering a companion animal or have questions about kittens they may have found this month. You can also call our hotline at 804-288-9797 with any additional questions.

This month, we're all about spring. Spring brings new life - including litters of brand new kittens needing care and support. Read about CARE's search for fosters and volunteers. Enjoy our Spotlight (a new CARE newsletter feature) story on a mom and daughter cat pair's journey to find their forever home together.

Spring also brings new hazards to our cat friends. Let us help you spot these problems with tips from our Spring Hazards story.

And, as you spring clean, check out our ideas below for making cat toys out of household items. Your cat will be just as happy with your upcycled cat toys - and your wallet will thank you, too!

Finding A Together Home

Kim and Marie are a stunning pair. Kim, 3-years-old, and Marie, 2-years-old, are a mother-daughter set who were looking for their forever home.

Their lives started out full of love, secure, and in the care of an elderly couple. When the husband passed away, his widow had to move and was unable to continue to care for Kim and Marie.

Kim and Marie's life became one of stress in the pet-store window, where Marie, a shy girl, was particularly affected by her new surroundings.

Despite this, they had nothing but love to share. Sweet and quiet, they're the perfect pair to snuggle up with.

While they had each other, what they desperately needed was a loving home away from the stress and uncertainty of life in a pet store window.

Their story is a happy one - they were just adopted by a nice lady who has given them their forever home, together.

So many cats just like Marie and Kim are searching for their forever home still. Do you have room in your heart and home?

[See more available cats here.](#)



Spring Hazards

Spring is a beautiful season, with blooming flowers and warmer weather. We dust off our homes and throw open our windows. But for our feline friends, spring brings a number of hazards:

- Flowers - a number of flowers and plants are toxic to cats, such as lilies, tulip bulbs, and azaleas
- Screens in windows - make sure all are installed tightly and are made of sturdy material
- Cleaning products - as you break out the cleaning supplies, be aware of where your kitties are and consider pet-friendly options



For more information on spring hazards, see the ASPCA's Springtime Safety Tips ("<http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/springtime-safety-tips>").

Kitten Season Updates: What to Do If You Find Kittens

This time of year, a common question we receive is: **what do I do if I find a litter of kittens?**

Do not disturb the kittens immediately. Wait and watch. Is the mother cat around? If so, and if the mother is friendly, it is best to keep her and the kittens together until the kittens are 8 weeks old. **If the mother is friendly, notify your local shelter of a stray cat or take to a nearby vet to scan for a microchip.**

If no mother is visible, give her several hours to return before scooping up the kittens. **If kittens are left in a box, they were likely abandoned** - but monitor before removing in case a mother returns. **Kittens who are clean and quiet likely have a mother around.**

Call your local animal control. Note age of mother and kittens, stray or feral (eye contact and approachability are good indicators for judging), and whether there is any need for immediate medical care.

Click [here](#) and [here](#) for more information.



Local Animal Control Contact Info:

City of Richmond - 804-646-5573
Chesterfield County - 804-748-1683
Goochland County - 804-556-5302
Hanover County - 804-365-6485
Henrico County - 804-727-8800

Remember: rescue groups and shelters are overrun with litters this time of year. 3.4 million cats enter shelters and 1.4 million will be euthanized. **Step up and foster if you are able to do so.**

[Click here for more information on fostering with CARE.](#)

Make Toys From Common Household Items

Play is an important part of each cat's day. But cat toys don't need to be expensive or come from the store at all to become your cat's new favorite toy. With a tiny bit of ingenuity, you can create a number of toys from common household items!

- Pipe cleaners
- Plastic bottle tops
- Empty paper bags or boxes
- Empty toilet paper tubes
- Old (cleaned) medicine bottles with a bell inside
- Try throwing a jingly ball or ping pong ball into your empty bathtub
- Give an old toy new life as a chaser toy by tying string around it



More ideas can be found [here](#) or [here](#).

Volunteers Still Needed

We are in need of volunteers to help care for our adoptable cats and kittens at our Short Pump Petsmart location. With kitten season here, experience all the furry cuteness by volunteering to help until each one finds a home!

Opportunities available every other Sunday AM. On-call volunteers needed for all shifts.

Contact Sandy at 804-288-9797 if interested!

Kroger Shopper?

Kroger donates money back to the community when customers link their card to their choice of charity. A percentage of all your Kroger grocery sales will go directly to help CARE cats!

- Sign in online at: kroger.com/communityrewards.com and link your Kroger Plus card to CARE #92652
- Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus card number
- Enter #92652 or Cat Adoption and Rescue Efforts, Inc., select CARE from list and click on CONFIRM
- To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see Cat Adoption Rescue Efforts, Inc. on the right side of your Kroger information page
- Do you use your phone number at the register? Call 800-576-4377, select option 4 to get your Kroger Plus card number, and then link your

accountonline

- Members must swipe their registered Kroger Plus card or use the phonenumber that is related to their registered Kroger Plus card whenshoppingfor each purchase to count

Cat Adoption and Rescue Efforts, Inc.

<http://care-cats.org>
PO BOX 2934
Henrico, VA 23228

Cat Adoption and Rescue Efforts, Inc. (C.A.R.E.) is an all-volunteer, non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to the rehabilitation, care and adoption of cats and kittens rescued from euthanizing animal shelters in Richmond, VA and surrounding areas. And, accepts on a limited basis animals from alternative sources. We are committed to the highest principles of humane care and obtain professional medical treatment for all animals in our systems.



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