What To Do If You Find A Stray Cat

info@rainrescue.co.uk
www.rainrescue.co.uk

We understand that finding a stray cat can be worrying if you don't know how to help. Whether you're a cat lover or new to feline friends, this guide is here to offer guidance on what to do if you find a stray cat. Your actions can make a huge difference in the life of a vulnerable cat, and we're here to help you navigate the steps to ensure their safety.

IDENTIFY IF STRAY OR FERAL

Stray cats may be frightened, but are familiar with human interaction, & usually found around residential areas. Feral cats are born in the wild, are less accustomed to humans & will act more defensively. They also tend to appear well-fed and groomed.

TRY TO APPROACH THE STRAY CAT

Approach with care; extend a gentle hand, use a calm voice, & offer dry food and water to encourage trust. Avoid wet food initially due to potential allergens and leave dry food out to gain their trust.

APPLY A PAPER COLLAR

Make a paper collar by fastening a strip of paper to the collar with your contact details, Alternatively you can print a premade one here: **https://bit.ly/catsprotectionpapercollar**

TAKE A PICTURE & POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Create a social media post to share and post in all local groups.

MAKE LOCAL ANIMAL CHARITIES AWARE

Contact your local animal charities & give the cats details to make them aware.

TAKE TO THE VETS TO BE SCANNED FOR A MICROCHIP

If no owner has been found after 7 days, take to a vet for them to contact the owner if the cat is microchipped.

DISPLAY POSTERS & CONTACT NEIGHBOURS

Try any way possible to contact people in your local area. Door knocking and displaying posters are great ideas.

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Before assisting a cat in your area, determine if it's a stray or a neighbour's pet that enjoys wandering. Avoid feeding local cats to prevent them from returning. Following these simple steps ensures you effectively support community cats while respecting local pet ownership.

Is the cat approachable?

NO

Is the cat injured?

NO

This cat is likely to be feral but may still require vet treatment. Contact info@ rainrescue.co.uk for advice.

YES

Has the top of the cats left ear been removed?

YES

This cat is likely to be feral and if it has been ear tipped may have been neutered. No further action is needed.

NO

Cat may be part of a feral colony and will need neutering. Contact info@ rainrescue.co.uk to find out more about trapping, neutering & returning them.

YES

Is the cat injured?

YES

Take to your local vet for treatment. The vet can also scan for a microchip to help find an owner.

NO

Place a paper collar on the cat for 7 days with your contact details. Make your own or print some here: https://bit.ly/catsprotectionpapercollar

Add the cat to your local rescues waiting list, and inform them that you have added a paper collar and have 7 days to find the owner. Also inform your local vets and social media groups too.

SCAN THE ABOVE QR CODE TO ADD THE CAT TO OUR WAITING LIST AT RAIN RESCUE