



Animal Welfare League
of Frederick County

SO YOU WANT TO ADOPT A CAT?

Our philosophy regarding cat adoptions is based on the simple goal of placing a cat in its forever home. To this end, we strive to match the right cat with the right individual or family.

HOW TO GET STARTED

Cats available for adoption are shown on petfinder.com; many are also available at our adoption center. If you find a cat you may want to adopt, you can either: email or call the foster parent listed on petfinder.com; call our adoption center (301-663-5855); or visit our adoption events. Our adoption center is open for visits from 11:00am – 4:00pm most Saturdays and Sundays or by appointment. We also have cats available for adoption on most Saturdays at the Petsmart on Urbana Pike and Pet Valu on Seventh Street, both located in Frederick. Please call us at 301-663-5855 to confirm that we will be holding adoptions on a given Saturday.

THE ADOPTION PROCESS

Our adoption process includes a visit with the potential adopter, the cat, and its foster parent; completion of an adoption application; an adoption interview; completion of an adoption contract; and, payment of the adoption fee. Because our foster parents invest a lot of time, energy, personal funds, and love in preparing an animal for adoption, we rely on the foster parent to advise potential adopters about the cat's temperament, eating/sleeping/play habits, and likes/dislikes. Accordingly, the final decision regarding the adoption rests with the foster parent.

THE BASICS OF ADOPTING A CAT FROM AWLFC

- ✓ Check out our cats on petfinder.com or by visiting our adoption center or by visiting our exhibits at Petsmart or Pet Valu (most Saturdays). Plan to spend a few hours getting to know the cat and bring the entire family who will be living with the cat.
- ✓ Plan to spend at least an hour or more on completing the adoption application and contract. We also spend time talking with adopters to educate them on important information about nutrition, scratching, litter box behaviors, etc. Even experienced cat owners can learn new information.



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- ✓ Our adoption fee is \$125 for one cat or \$200 for two cats. This fee includes: spay or neuter of the cat, all core vaccines (FVRCP and rabies), deworming, feline leukemia/FIV testing, and microchipping.
- ✓ Last, but by no means least important, we have two non-negotiables when it comes to adopting our cats:
 - ⊗ We do not allow declawing. This is an inhumane surgery which mutilates a cat by amputating its first digit. This procedure can cause behavior issues, including inappropriate wetting and insecurity. It has been outlawed by most European countries and is opposed by the ASPCA and HSUS. If you must have a declawed cat, we encourage you to visit Frederick County Animal Control as they sometimes have declawed cats.
 - ⊗ We require that you keep your cat indoors. We know cats love the outdoors but it doesn't love them...in fact, the top cat killers are cars and attacks by dogs, other cats, and wildlife. Protect your cat by keeping it indoors.

For more information about cat adoptions, please visit our web site (www.awlfc.org) or call 301-663-5855.