



Heartland News



March 2022

KITTEN SEASON IS HERE

What Is Kitten Season?

As the warmer months arrive, unaltered (not spayed) female cats go into heat. If impregnated by a male cat, a female cat gives birth to a litter of kittens only 60 days later. This is the perfect time to volunteer at a shelter or foster baby kittens until they're big enough to be spayed or neutered and then adopted. We are also looking for foster parents for bottle baby kittens. And, of course, this is also a good time to adopt a cat of your own.

Kitten season is generally when most unaltered cats go into heat. This lasts primarily from March through October. A female cat can go into heat at any time of year, but the majority do during kitten season, and that's why it puts such a strain on animal shelters and rescues.

Female cats are only in heat during certain times throughout the year. This is usually during kitten season. A cat can first become pregnant at 4 months of age so it's important to spay and neuter your cats when they're still young. In fact, you can generally spay or neuter your cat once they weigh at least 2 pounds, which is usually when they are about 8 weeks old.

A cat in heat eventually gives birth to an average of 4 to 8 kittens. So not only are large numbers of cats giving birth during kitten season, but they're also each giving birth to several babies. Kitten season and the pressure it puts on shelters is why it's so important to spay and neuter your cat.

(from <https://www.adoptandshop.org/what-is-kitten-season/>)

Don't forget - it's also the beginning of flea season. Even if your cat is indoor-only, you're at risk. Why? Because fleas can travel inside your home in other ways, like on your clothes or shoes. One flea is all it takes: An adult female can lay up to 50 eggs per day and 400-500 eggs in their 100-day lifespan. It's said that in as little as three weeks, a single flea can multiply into 1,000 fleas on your cat and in your home. It is important to remain vigilant against these vermin in order to avoid an infestation of your home, and very unhappy kitties.

Happy Endings - Beatrice

During the frigid weather in January we were asked to take in a sweet orange kitty that a kind lady had rescued. She found it along the road shivering and scared. The shelter was full, but we could not refuse to help this poor kitty. Beatrice settled in nicely and we fell in love with this quiet girl.

A few weeks later a young couple came in looking to adopt an orange cat. They checked out a couple bigger cats and then saw Beatrice. It was Love at first sight. When they held Beatrice it was mutual. Beatrice decided they were "her people" and she turned on the charm and found her forever family. The smile says it all!



Beatrice

5 Quick Kitten Facts

1. Felines are considered kittens until they are 1 year in age.
2. All kittens are born with blue eyes with their permanent eye color appearing around 4 weeks of age.
3. An unaltered female cat can become pregnant at 4 months of age so spay your kitten!
4. A kitten can be spayed or neutered when they reach 2 pounds in body weight, typically at 8 weeks of age.
5. Kittens instinctively know to use a litter box.

POISONOUS PLANTS FOR CATS

A Field Guide



SAGO PALM



DAFFODILS



AUTUMN CROCUS



HYACINTH



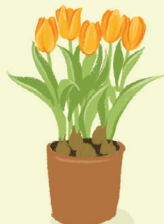
AZALEAS



DIEFFENBACHIA



CYCLAMEN



TULIPS



OLEANDER



LILIES



RHODODENDRONS



KALANCHOE

chewy

Cat Condos

Here at Heartland we are hoping to make 2022 the year we upgrade our cat condos. Our current facilities are old and worn out, and we think our kitties deserve better. Since we rely on contributions from our supporters, we will be holding many fund-raising events as the year goes on. We greatly appreciate anything you can give, as the condos are not cheap. If you are unable to attend our functions, we still take donations through PayPal or GoFundMe. You can also donate with our donation card at the bottom of the page. We thank you so much for your continued support, and hope to see you soon!

Support for Heartland Pet Welfare provided in part by:



petco foundation

PET SMART Charities



Neumiller Farms



Nestlé PURINA

DONATION CARD

- Yes, I can volunteer
- \$10 a month Sponsor-a-pet
- \$20 Yearly membership
- \$50 Initial vet check/check-in for one kitty
- \$125 Cat food and litter
- \$200 Shelter supplies
- \$ _____ Other

Name		Phone	
Address		Optional Phone	
City		State	Zip
Email			
Enclosed:		<input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover	
Card Number		Exp. Date	
Signature		CVV	
Mail completed form and payment to: Heartland Pet Welfare 2720 Wacker Rd Savanna, IL 61074			