

# Wonderland Humane Society 501(c)(3) Animal Welfare Volunteer Organization PAW PRINTS



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## WINTER PAW SAFETY

When winter arrives, our pets' paws need extra care, especially with ice melt around. Regular ice melt can be harmful to our furry pals, causing irritation or worse. Look for any signs of discomfort, cracked pads, or ice balls, and address any issues immediately.

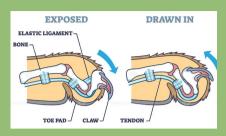
- Choose Pet-Friendly Ice Melt
- Clean Paws After Walks
- Protect with Booties
- Check Paws Regularly
- Moisturize Paw Pads

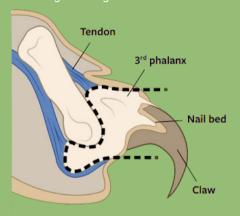
Follow these easy steps to ensure your pet's paws stay safe and happy during the winter season. For more tips, check out the ASPCA's guidelines. Stay cozy and enjoy winter with your furry friends!





## **UNDERSTANDING DECLAWING**









## >>> CAT NAIL TRIMMING TIPS

Many loving cat owners declaw their cats because nail trimming can seem like a lot of work. It doesn't have to be! Spend quiet time with your kitten or cat rubbing their feet to make that touch associate with a good feeling. Choose a time for the nail trimming when your cat is drowsy. If you are leery of doing it on your own, ask another cat loving friend to assist you.

For the actual logistic of doing the trimming, YouTube videos are a source for tips. They may also show items you have around your house that may make it easier for you and your cat.



When trimming cats' nails, always cut below the nail bed to avoid discomfort and injury.

## >>> CATS CAN BE TRAINED!

Many loving cat owners declaw their cats because they rightly can't afford to have their furniture ruined. Follow these tips to train your cat to scratch somewhere besides furniture.

Each cat has their own preference for the type scratching mat, box or post they prefer. Start with one your friends recommend, but your cat may prefer another type. Store the ones they don't like for your next cat, who may love it. Rub the mat, box or post with catnip or spray it with artificial catnip spray. Reapply as needed.

Repeatedly bring your cat to the scratching post and hold their front legs and imitate their scratching. They will look at you like you've lost your mind, but don't give up. If you've selected the scratching post style they prefer, they will start to use it. Each time you see them use it, praise them profusely and if they are food motivated, give them a kibble treat.

If you have a real hard-head, decide if a gentle deterrent is in order for if they scratch the furniture. Opinions on this differ, but spray water bottles in strategic locations may be needed temporarily.

Declawing cats is a painful operation that leaves ghost amputation pain for years.





## WHS UPDATES

## >>> PETCO ADOPTION EVENTS

Cats and kittens are fostered by caring volunteers and available at adoption events throughout the community. We're very thankful to the new Petco in Cadillac for partnering with us bi-weekly to help find homes for these rescued cats. **New volunteers are needed to help for a couple hours.** 

## >>> CLINICS

In 2021, WHS committed to a 5-year project to offer affordable spay & neuter procedures for roaming cats. Clinics are only for feral, stray, or rescue cats, and require a small copay.



## >>> FUNDRAISERS

Last year, we had several successful fundraisers with Culver's and Taco Bell. We're excited to have four more Taco Bell dates planned to start off 2024!

Be sure to show this flyer at the window and WHS will receive 20% of your order total! Please share with your networks!

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more.



## **CALENDAR**

#### **FEBRUARY**

- 3 Petco Cat Adoption
- 17 Petco Cat Adoption

#### **MARCH**

- 2 Petco Cat Adoption
- 13 Dog Neuter Clinic
- 16 Petco Cat Adoption
- 17 Cat Spay & Neuter Clinic
- 30 Petco Cat Adoption

#### **APRIL**

- 13 Petco Cat Adoption
- 25 Taco Bell Fundraiser
- 27 Petco Cat Adoption

## **BOARD MEETINGS**

WHS is network of volunteers and is always seeking help with a variety of projects. Attending meetings is the first way to grasp what WHS is all about and to discover where you fit in! Board meetings are held each month on the 3rd Thursday at 3:30pm at the United Methodist Church of Cadillac.





## >>> VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

WHS is growing and we are in need of new volunteers to help us make a difference in Wexford County!

## SECRETARY

Be the official record keeper of WHS. Record notes at monthly meetings and manage email distributions. Attendance at officers meetings also required.

### **GRANT WRITERS**

For our all-volunteer non-profit, finding matching funds for clinics is vital. Work with other detail-oriented volunteers to complete paperwork for grant funding.

#### MARKETING CREATORS

Creative ideas are needed to let Wexford County know about our important mission, including making sure our clinics are filled. Newsletters are one aspect of this.

#### ADOPTION ASSISTANTS

WHS works with foster families and community partners to find homes for stray cats and dogs. Be another friendly face at our adoption events.

#### FALL DONATION DRIVE

Help fold and address donation request letters to our network.

## THANK YOU NOTE WRITERS

Our donors and supporters are very important to our mission! Use our template to create and mail thank you notes.



#### CLINIC ASSISTANTS

WHS hosts low-cost spay and neuter clinics for cats and dogs. Greet people, gather payments and process basic paperwork to help things run smoothly.

#### FUNDRAISERS

Our fundraisers help support the low-cost resources we provide to the community. Join us at our next fundraising outing, help coordinate events, or suggest new opportunities.

## COMPANIONS FOR VETERANS

This new branch of WHS is working to find a creative and low-cost way to help veterans find a pet companion that meets their needs. Volunteers with community connections and drive are needed to help launch this program.

## COIN JAR MANAGERS

One of our best fundraisers are coin jars at retail store check-outs. Collect and deposit funds quarterly while developing great relationships with area businesses.



