

AdvoCAT Message Points

- Some estimates indicate that there could be as many as one million stray and feral (free-roaming) cats in central Ohio.
- Unfortunately, even when these cats are found, they have nowhere to go. Unlike dogs, local laws provide no protection or services for cats that stray, and cats are not accepted at the county's animal control facility, the Franklin County Dog Shelter.
- During 2006, the Capital Area Humane Society took in more than 13,000 homeless animals, which include dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs and other companion animals.
- More than 10,000 of the animals brought to the Humane Society were cats.
- Nearly 8,000 of the cats were reported to be strays, meaning that more than half of the animals received by the Humane Society were stray cats.
- The sheer number of cats that the Humane Society and other cat organizations take in every year is straining already limited resources.
- The Humane Society responds daily to cats in crisis as the default animal control service for cats in our community. The numbers are too large for us to be able to find homes for all of the homeless cats in our community.
- In 2006, the Humane Society was able to place 3,000 animals. The placement rate for dogs is 81 percent, with the remaining dogs being ineligible for adoption due to severe medical conditions or temperament that makes them a threat to the community. Comparatively, the Humane Society is only able to place 15 percent of the cats brought to the organization. Tragically, nearly 9,000 cats were unable to be placed in permanent homes and were euthanized.
- The Humane Society has launched the "Be an AdvoCAT" campaign for 2007 to educate the community about the cat crisis and implement programs to help improve the plight of cats. Register online now to join the ranks of AdvoCATs in our community, working together to help make a difference in the lives of cats.

Be an AdvoCAT!

For more information about cat overpopulation in our community and what you can do to help, visit www.caahs-pets.org.

