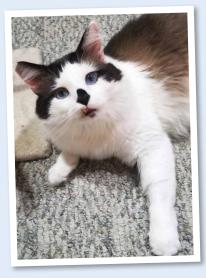
SUMMER 2021 • VOL. 46, NO. 2

PO BOX 14956, PORTLAND, OR 97293



Tai

If your lonely life is missing a large, loving, lapcat, Tai could be your guy. He is dreaming of a home where he can be part of whatever is going on with his people—togetherness is best, in his opinion.

This handsome boy came to us as

a sad and starving stray living on handouts around a food cart pod. He looked pitiful, but with proper vet care, good nutrition, and a clean, safe place to live, it didn't take long for Tai to blossom into the gorgeous creature you see now. His eyes are very blue and his coat and markings are just stunning to behold.

Tai can't get enough of lap time, especially when it includes cuddles, kisses, belly rubs, and plenty of brushing with his favorite ZoomGroom with the rubber bristles. Ahhh... bliss! Sometimes, Tai gets so blissed out he'll roll right off the lap—but then jump right back up for more. For such a big guy—15 lbs. of solid muscle—he is surprising gentle and never plays rough with people.

Tai loves playing with toys, especially ones with feathers. He is fond of fuzzy mice and crinkly things that smell like catnip. He happily spends many hours each day on his heated bed, watching the cat TV program showing outside the window. And don't worry about missing the show—as soon as his people appear, Tai can't wait to chat about everything he's seen, and he's dying to hear what everybody else has been up to all day.

We estimate Tai is about seven years old. He's in excellent health, has no special dietary needs, and his litter box manners are perfect. His long hair is silky and doesn't mat, and he keeps himself very clean.

Tai has been neutered, microchipped, tested negative for FeLV/FIV, and is current on vaccines and dental care. The adoption fee is \$80. To learn more about Tai, please call 503-402-8692 or email arcf@pdx-petadoption.org.

Pico

Pico has been through rough stuff in his life and we sure wish he could tell us his story. We'll probably never know how this wee, blind creature ended up in the middle of a street in Bakersfield, California—but that's when things took a turn for the better.

A passerby spotted this little dog curled up in the street, and thinking Pico might be injured, placed an orange safety cone near him and contacted a local dog rescue. A volunteer from Saving Strays soon arrived and brought him to safety. Pico was scared but sweet, and an all-out effort was made to find his family. He had no ID or microchip and no one came forward to claim him. He wouldn't do well in a high-kill public shelter, so his rescuers asked My Way Home Dog Rescue for help, and Pico was soon on his way to Oregon.

Although he's blind, Pico navigates very well once he gets the lay of the land. In his current foster home, he adores the other dogs, and has made special friends with a big elderly German Shepherd Dog who has become his protector.

Pico is looking for a calm home with a stable routine. He needs patient, gentle people, and there must be another dog in the family—he needs a "guide dog" to provide comfort and companionship.

Pico weighs only six lbs. and appears to be a mix of Jack Russell Terrier and Chihuahua. He is probably about 10 years old, although dogs who have suffered neglect often appear older than their actual age. He has been



neutered, dewormed, and microchipped. He is also up to date on dental care and flea control, and tested negative for heartworm.

The senior adoption fee is \$250. If you are interested in meeting Pico, email mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com or call 503-974-4944.

www.pdx-petadoption.org Animal Rescue & Care Fund | 1

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

At last we're starting to see lights coming back on in places that have been dark for what seems forever. Graduations, weddings, vacations, movies, live music—so many things we won't take for granted again.

But this promises to be the most challenging year for cat and kitten rescue that we've faced in a long time. The result of vet services being severely restricted (or completely suspended) for the past year is a tsunami of kittens—endless waves of them washing up everywhere we turn.

One call for help came from a home with four outdoor cats, including **Kiki**, a beautiful calico with a litter of six kittens living under the porch. We quickly gathered up the kittens, then trapped Kiki and the "auntie" cat, who are now both spayed

and back at their home. The two other cats were already fixed—easy to tell because each has their right ear tipped to show surgery was done. One didn't look well, so was taken to a local shelter where medical care was available immediately. She received the treatment needed, and will be available for adoption through that shelter. The remaining cat is very sweet and we are hopeful she will be agreeable to living indoors in a forever home.

Not far from that home, a young cat appeared where so many others have appeared in the past—an apartment complex with a tenant population in constant

flux, where pets are loosely owned and frequently abandoned. This young tuxedo gent was just beginning to sow his wild oats and show the wounds of tomcat battles. He was also very charming and playful but after several weeks he was still unclaimed, so we named him **Indie** and proceeded with the necessary vet work. Stay tuned for a happy update to his story in our next issue!

At a Portland city park in that same neighborhood, a park ranger was cleaning up a pile of trash dumped in the bushes. Fortunately, he took the time to check inside what appeared to be an empty box, where he found a tiny, scared, tabby kitten. She was not grateful or even happy to see him, so he wisely took her to a place where spicy little kittens are welcome. Her name is now **Hannah** and she has joined our "H" litter.

We were contacted by a person in a distant county who had three female cats in her apartment, each with a litter of kittens for a total of 12, ranging from two weeks to seven weeks old. She was overwhelmed and asked if we could take them all, immediately. It was a holiday weekend but our volunteers Lori and Paul were willing to give up their day to make the drive and bring them to safety. First order of business was bathing and flea combing each squirmy little body, including **Nickles** and his four littermates. Two of the litters are doing well but the "M" litter arrived in very poor condition. We're doing our best to help them recover, but the prognosis isn't great. The owner had scheduled spay surgery for all three cats but failed to keep the appointments, for reasons unknown. Friends, *please* spay







and neuter your pets, and encourage everyone you know to do the same—so much suffering could be avoided. Surgery appointments are still booked far in advance, so don't hesitate—make an appointment now and don't skip it!

It's been a boom year for dog and puppy adoptions. Spending so much time together is great for bonding—lots of walkies, showing off to your colleagues on zoom calls, and hanging out on the couch watching movies, waiting for dinner to be delivered. But if working away from home again is in your future, start planning now to help your dog adjust to the change.

Not all dogs suffer separation anxiety, but if your pup hasn't spent long hours alone, please do some research on the techniques professional trainers recommend to ease your dog into a routine of spending more time alone without developing behavior problems. There are many articles and websites addressing this issue. Ask your vet for referrals to professional trainers if you're not an experienced dog owner, or your pup is especially anxious. It's your job to keep them feeling safe—they're counting on you.

On behalf of Kiki, Hannah, Nickles and all the others, we thank you for the generous support which makes our work possible.

Be careful, be well, and please be kind to all creatures. Happy Summer!

—Carma Crimins

2 | Animal Rescue & Care Fund www.pdx-petadoption.org

Since ARCF does not currently have a dog adoption program, we are working with other local dog rescue groups who share our goals and philosophies of animal welfare and rescue.

MY WAY HOME DOG RESCUE

FOR MORE INFORMATION: mywayhomedogrescue.org 503-974-4944





LEFT: KENNY; BEACH TRIP-WHAT A BLAST!

Kenny

This enormous smile belongs to Kenny, whose story is a perfect real-life example of the challenges and rewards of animal rescue work.

His early life is unknown, but at about one year old he landed in a public high-kill shelter in California with a severely damaged front leg. Amputation was required, and as he recovered at the shelter, it became clear that Kenny (then known as Cooper) didn't like being around so many scared and noisy dogs. My Way Home Dog Rescue was asked to take him and Kenny hitched a ride to Oregon.

Within a few months, Kenny was adopted and set off on a long road trip with his new family to their home. His people loved him, but Kenny wasn't able to get along with the other dogs in the family, even with the help of a professional trainer. So, Kenny came back to Oregon again.

Callie and Comet had been searching for a dog to adopt for several months, and noticed that Kenny kept appearing on their Petfinder search. Comet was especially interested in adopting a tripod. Their application was approved and Kenny came to meet them for the first time—and promptly pooped on their living room floor. Not the greatest first impression, but the second impression more than made up for it—Kenny simply loves people and it was love at first sight with his new moms.

Callie works at home and says that Kenny spends most of his time in their front yard, accepting greetings from all who pass and stop to say hello. He has become the social center of his block—his fan club is huge. Unlike most dogs who feel threatened by others, Kenny has no reaction to dogs who pass his fenced yard or those he meets on walks when he is leashed. His people understand his comfort zone and are vigilant about keeping him safe, and he knows he can trust them.

Because of his missing front leg, and the weight of his enormous head, Kenny's back legs are subject to extra wear and tear. Arthritis is beginning to slow him down, so his moms organized a neighborhood fundraiser to help buy Kenny a wheeled cart. Contributions came in from the bakery next door, the corner tavern, and many others in the neighborhood. Kenny hasn't quite adapted to the cart yet, but they are hopeful that it will come with time. In the meantime, Kenny has found his happy place and would consider it a pleasure to meet you, should you happen to take a stroll down his street.



KENNY'S CUSTOM CART

My Way Home Dog Rescue saves dogs from high-kill shelters, providing all necessary medical care and home-based fostering. These dogs often have long-neglected chronic conditions. Returning them to good health takes a commitment to providing as much care as each one needs. If you'd like to foster, adopt, or donate towards the care of a senior dog, please contact mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com.

SNEAK PEEK SENIORS

ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

March-April-May: We rescued and cared for 32 cats and kittens, including veterinary exams, hospital care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping and more. We placed 12 cats and kittens in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses for the quarter were:

Veterinary: \$4,046.40 **Food/Supplies:** \$3,169.14 **Newsletter:** \$1,781.88



ANIMAL TALK is a quarterly newsletter published by Animal Rescue & Care Fund.

Our Mission: To rescue, shelter, and care for homeless animals and place them in permanent, responsible homes; to promote and support spay/neuter for all companion animals.

EDITOR

Carma Crimins

GRAPHICS/LAYOUT

Sarah Cadwell, www.sarahcadwell.com

2021 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President: Carma Crimins Vice President: Debbie Norr Secretary: Anne Malinowski Treasurer: Chrisi Badrick Member at Large: Marian Kerr

Animal Rescue & Care Fund

PO Box 14956, Portland, OR 97293 503-402-8692

www.pdx-petadoption.org arcf@pdx-petadoption.org

Animal Rescue & Care Fund is a private, non-profit, tax-exempt corporation funded solely by private donations. We are a 501(c)(3) organization so all donations are tax deductible. Our tax ID is 51-0137768. A board of directors makes decisions on policy and activities. All funds are used to support our programs, including publishing this quarterly newsletter.

These feline senior citizens are currently in our foster homes. Tippy and Bugsy will be soon be available for adoption. Mimi will spend her life with us at ARCF.

This sweet 10-year-old butterball came to us from another rescue organization familiar with our success in helping obese cats safely lose weight. It's challenging to maintain a strict diet and exercise program for cats, but we're lucky enough to have a foster mom who is becoming an expert in this field.



TIPPY, WORKING ON HER CORE

(See Georgina's story on page 6.) Tippy has already lost almost two pounds and has become more active in the short time she's been with us. She's also blossomed into a social butterfly—although she wasn't fond of the one toddler she met. Older kids and adults would be her preferred family members, and we think she will make a wonderful companion when she's a little further along on her weight reduction journey. Her forever family must be committed to keeping Tippy happy and healthy, and we can provide detailed instructions on what works for her.



мтмт

Mimi was adopted from ARCF as a kitten in 2005. She was recently returned to us because of a family member's allergy. Having a cat returned after 16 years was very upsetting to all, but Mimi needed us and we were glad to take her back. A vet checkup determined Mimi was suffering from a severe UTI, very high blood pressure, and late stage kidney disease, so we began treatment immediately. She also needs dental care, but her health is too fragile to risk general anesthesia. Because of her

age and medical needs, Mimi will stay with us for the rest of her life and we will do everything we can to make her comfortable. Mimi is an easy going and affectionate cat who asks for very little. Fortunately we have a wonderful foster mom who has accepted Mimi into her family and will provide all the care she needs and the love she deserves, for the duration.

We were asked to take 14-year-old Bugsy when her person passed away in January. She had already been alone in the house for several months with neighbors stopping by to feed and check on her every few days, so she was confused and anxious about what might happen next. Our first stop was the vet, where we found that Bugsy needed dental care and treatment for a UTI. Having painful teeth removed and upgrading her diet helped Bugsy gain needed weight. She's feeling much better and will soon be ready for her forever home.



BUGSY

Maggie & Heidi

Maggie and Heidi came to us as kittens in 2013 when our friend Eric brought a truckload of homeless cats from Mississippi to Oregon, where resources are more plentiful for sick and tired kitties who need help. Maggie and Heidi were soon adopted by Gretta, who adored them. To the great sadness of all who knew her, Gretta passed away suddenly last year and these sweet ladies came back into our care.

The upheaval was stressful, particularly for very shy Heidi, but their patient foster mom provided exactly what they

needed—a calm and peaceful environment with lots of loving care. Maggie and Heidi began to decompress, their quirky personalities came out, and after some medical care, they were ready to take the next step to meeting their forever family. We could accept nothing less than the perfect home for these two and were prepared to wait as long as it might take.

We told this pair's story in our spring newsletter, and to our great delight, Carolyn contacted us to inquire about adopting





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: FIRST DAY IN OREGON;
AMY HEIDI; MAGGIE & MOM

Maggie and Heidi. She adopted two cats from us in 2001, Pancho and Lefty, who had a history of failed adoptions. Pancho and Lefty were not easy cats to live with and care for, but Carolyn provided them with all the care and love they needed. Here's Carolyn's side of the story.

The day I got the ARCF spring newsletter, I wasn't ready to get new cats but I thought, yes—these are the type of cats I was thinking of getting. Older adult cats, a gray cat to name Fumé, and a Calico to name Amy. One outgoing, one shy. Hopefully normal cuddly lap cats.

The mystery of fate is that my sister Amy who loved animals—especially cats—died in September 2020 from cancer. My father passed away in January 2021, then my cat Lefty in February 2021, and his brother Pancho in March, right before my birthday. It was a devastating six months for me. I was trying to figure out how to cope with all this death, then losing my support cats. I was going to wait a bit and try to breathe.

However, I would like to think my sister Amy and the former mom of Maggie and Heidi worked together to help me. After a long talk with Carma and video chat with Maggie,

Heidi, and their amazing foster mom Hillevi, I decided to go for it.

We were all ready for a new beginning.

Maggie Mae (formerly Maggie) is a tiny firecracker. I call her my Velcro cat, house supervisor, and the cuddliest of cuddle bugs. Alternate names are "Margaret Mary!" when she jumps on the counters, and "Fumé!" when she smokes into a closet or outside the house when I take my eye off her for one second. She just wants to be involved with whatever I

am doing.

Amy Hide-A-Lot or Amy Heidi (formerly Heidi) hid for five days every time she thought I was looking at her. On Day Five she suddenly jumped on the bed where I was reading and was like, "You are OK and may now pet me for three minutes." Later she brought me one of her bedraggled

stuffed mice (scared the heck out of me). Maggie, not to be outdone, parkoured onto the kitchen counter the next day with a stuffed mouse for me.

I work nights and sleep days—perfect rhythm for cats. They have also learned how to look after my mom who is 98 with dementia. Maggie sleeps with her when I am working and both of them will check in and sit with her during the day. Heidi was terrified at first by Mom's walker, but is getting used to it now.

After a month, Maggie has calmed down and Amy Heidi has come out of her shell. My sister Peggy (also a Margaret) visited last week and got to sleep with Maggie. She also got a bedraggled mouse gifted from Amy Heidi.

Amy Heidi meows at me and flops on the floor in the most adoring manner and just wants to be pet. I am working on holding her in my arms or my lap—we are up to 1 to 3 minutes. Maggie just melts into my lap like butter and cuddles under my arm when sleeping.

They are treasured every day and have a faithful slave. To their former mom Gretta: it's OK. They are loved and are training me daily. We won't forget you.

—Carolyn Martin

Georgina

Sometimes, despite the good intentions of the people in their lives, cats end up in a spot where conditions aren't terrible but not ideal either. Georgina was passed around among friends and family as their circumstances changed. She was safe and cared for but spent most of her time alone, bored, and inactive. She didn't do much besides eat and we all know what happens then— Georgina put on much more weight than is healthy. Obesity can lead to diabetes, arthritis, and heart disease for our small four-legged friends, just as it does for big two-legged creatures. We were asked to take Georgina and find her a more suitable home.

Foster mom Janet put her on a nutrition and fitness program, which was very successful in helping Georgina lose weight and become more active. Her charming personality was never in doubt, and we received many inquiries for adoption. But the critical requirement for her forever home was a commitment to following the program that was working so well, so when we heard from Mary and Jon about their experience caring for overweight cats, we definitely wanted to know more.



MARY, GEORGINA, & JON

When my hub and I lost our beloved senior adventure kitty Saint to cancer last month, we were devastated. We were so immensely thankful that we'd had her with us over that last year while forced to stay home. She was our 24/7 focus—our constant entertainer, and the bright little light in our home during a very bizarre time.

But we knew that mourning Saint wasn't a wise use of our time or energy so we decided to find another kitty who needed us immediately, though we had zero expectations that we'd find another cat like her. Years ago, we'd learned that she was not only cool with logging thousands of miles with us on road trips in our Jeep, she was also totally down

with being on trains, planes (large or small), marine ferries, and smaller boats—and tent-camping.

So imagine our surprise when we found this crazy girl *Georgina!*, and discovered that in addition to having a larger-than-life personality, she was also good with riding in the Jeep! And not only that, we've found that she's talkative, an epic lap hound, super tidy with her litter box, and sleeps whenever and wherever we sleep.

We're pretty amazed that this sweet kitty could ever have ended up homeless, but we adore her and thank our lucky stars constantly for bringing her into our lives. We've learned that losing a pet is so much less painful when you decide to focus on finding another pet to bring into your home.

Huge thanks to the folks at ARCF for being the terrifically astute matchmakers that they are. As you can probably tell from this photo, we are definitely three extremely happy campers! (I'll add that we were parked when we took this photo. Georgina remains safe in her carrier whenever we're actually driving. Cheers!)

-Mary Marshall & Jon Waterhouse

Melody

Last summer a very nice cat showed up at a farm in the country, where there are many predators and few places to hide. That alone was amazing, so imagine the surprise of finding eight kittens in the manger a few weeks later. How they made it there remains a mystery, especially since the kittens were about seven weeks old, healthy, and friendly, like their mom.

The kittens came to ARCF and were quickly adopted, and mom was spayed and returned to the farm to manage the rodent population in the barn.

Then one day, momcat—now named Melody—wandered into the house, took a look around, and decided the indoor life was more her style. Her house manners were excellent, but she failed to respect the seniority of the female cat already in residence, so it was decided that Melody would follow her kittens to ARCF, with a plan to find her a home with no other cats to cramp her style.



Jacey had been waiting for years to adopt a cat. All her children have allergies that made it impossible to have a cat in the house, but now the kids (and the dog) were gone, and it was finally her time to welcome a cat into her home. During the pandemic, cats were in suddenly high demand as quarantine companions, so Jacey spent months searching for the right cat. We knew what Jacey was looking for, and once we

got to know Melody, it seemed like a good idea for them to meet. Within a few days, Melody was settled in Jacey's home, large and in charge.

What can I say about Melody except that she is perfect! She took over my home as if she had always been here. She has her own sun porch where she can spend her days. with her water fountain, many toys, and a beautiful view over the city.

I feel so lucky that Melody is my cat, I really hit the jackpot.

—Jacey Schwen

In 2011, we took in the only surviving cat from a miserably sad hoarding seizure. Montgomery, as he was later called, lived in the local public shelter until all legal issues were resolved. By then he was so depressed and withdrawn, the shelter asked if we could help him recover some of his "cat-ness" and maybe learn to enjoy life. At first, Montgomery didn't eat or groom himself, and he slept in the litter box and peed in his bed. He never had a proper cat upbringing or good role models. But Ursula and Jose were willing to take him on as their first foster cat for ARCF—and he was also their last.

About a year after losing my last cat Mr. Kitty and his sister Enid, I was missing cats in my life, but hesitant to adopt. After careful consideration and some nudging from my partner Jose, I decided to foster. I found a wonderful organization, ARCF. They asked if we could take Montgomery for about a week, until his new adopters could take him permanently.

I remember very well the moment when Monty and I first met. We knew he would need patience because he was so shy and unsocialized. Oddly, as soon as his carrier was opened, he walked right up to me and started purring. It was love at first sight.

His potential adoption fell through. Jose, who had never had a cat before, had already grown attached to Monty. He said "Why can't we just adopt him?" Seeing him advocate for Monty was so heartwarming and sweet, I had to agree.

I am so grateful that I got to spend the next 10 years with this amazing creature. We kept his name because it seemed so fitting for such a dapper tuxedo'd little guy, though we shortened it to Monty.



MONTGOMERY DE LARA-MORTON

In the beginning, there were some hurdles. Because of his former life, Monty had some anxiety issues. When stressed, he would urinate inappropriately. Our vet determined it was behavioral so he was prescribed Prozac, which worked well. Sadly, although he loved other cats, they triggered his anxiety. So, he

was always a solo cat, but it never seemed to bother him.

Monty and I were kindred souls. He loved his cat dad a lot too, but he was obsessed with me. I'm pretty sure Monty thought about me every second he was awake. I could call his name from anywhere, anytime and he would come running to jump onto my lap. Whenever I went away for more than a day, Monty and I would miss each other terribly and he would be extra affectionate when we would "reunite." The older he got, the sweeter and more mellow he became. We discovered that he really loved traveling and so we started taking him on short trips.

Sadly, Monty developed a lot of health issues over the last year including heart and kidney disease. We tried everything to help him, but finally had to say goodbye. His exact age was not known, but he was probably about 16.

I didn't realize until he died that Monty had been my support animal. I miss his purrs and cuddles so much and he will forever hold a place in my heart. Thank you ARCF for bringing us together with Monty.

-Ursula Morton

Carrie Fagerstrom lost her "heart dog" Laguna to the infirmities of old age. Laguna was rescued as a stray living in the desert of Arizona. When the local humane society closed its doors, Carrie was part of the team that helped Laguna and others come to Oregon for adoption. She soon decided her home was the right one for him. Laguna won the hearts of all

who met him and is deeply missed, especially by his scruffy little brother, Sawyer.



LAGUNA



POOKA

We received the sad news that Ernie Tong lost his beloved dog Pooka, adopted 10 years ago after living the first six years of her life at the end of a rope. It was Ernie's first time fostering a dog. He quickly decided to adopt her and they became soulmates. No dog could have a better life than Pooka had with Ernie, and she will never be forgotten.

Stephanie Burgess was heartbroken at the loss of her beautiful, brave, and brilliant calico cat Olive, to one of the unknown maladies that sneak up on our feline friends as they grow old. Olive showed up at

Norm and Stephanie's home on Mt. Hood 10 years ago, and it took a year for Stephanie to gain her trust. Olive



OLIVE

was devoted to Stephanie and her loss leaves a great empty space in their family.

FROM THE HELP DESK

Why do fleas exist, when all they do is create misery? We don't have an answer, but we can tell you just how essential it is to treat your pets with safe, effective flea control products.

WHY?

We all know that fleas cause itching, but that's not all! In fact, fleas can lead to severe problems for animals and humans. Itching causes scratching, leading to broken skin, making your pet more uncomfortable and allowing infection to set in.

Fleas can also cause internal issues. Tapeworms are parasites that reside as larvae inside fleas and are transmitted to pets when swallowed during grooming. Tapeworms cause weight loss, poor coat quality, and the itchy bum evidenced by scooting on the carpet.

Flea bite anemia is a risk for any young or small animal infested with fleas. This occurs when fleas feed so much on your pet that her red blood cell count decreases and she gets anemic.

Fleas aren't just hazardous for your pets—they can be dangerous for you, too!
Fleas can carry certain diseases that can spread to humans, including bartonella (Cat Scratch Fever).

Long story short: letting fleas run loose can lead to emergency vet and doctor visits!

OK, GOT IT! WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW TO TREAT MY PET?

First, it's always easier to prevent fleas than to get rid of them. Treat

preventatively using flea control products that are safe to use all the time.

Second, choose a flea medication method carefully, with guidance from your veterinarian. There are many medications out there that, at best, simply don't work and at worst, can cause serious harm to your pet.

TIP: ALWAYS READ THE LABEL!

Flea Treatments to Avoid:

- Flea products with Amitraz, pyrethrin, permethrin, or pyrethroids (found in 1000+ pesticides, flea dips, shampoos and topical applications)—At toxic levels in the bloodstream, these chemicals can cause seizures and even death.
- Low cost flea collars—These are generally ineffective and can pose a choking/hanging hazard. We have rescued more than one cat with a lower jaw or leg caught in a toxic plastic collar.
- Essential oils—Not only are they ineffective at killing fleas, they often have phenolic compounds that the feline liver cannot tolerate. Tea tree, eucalyptus, and oregano oils found in "organic" topical parasiticides are dangerous for both cats and dogs.

IF I HAVE DOGS AND CATS, CAN I USE ONE TREATMENT FOR BOTH?

NO! Canine flea medications and topical insecticides are one of the top feline toxins reported to the Pet Poison

Helpline. Some are so toxic that you should keep your cats away from a dog that has been treated for short periods after application. Flea treatment residue left on shared bedding or spread by physical contact or grooming can be just as hazardous.

DO I HAVE TO WORRY IF ALL MY PETS STAY INDOORS?

YES! Fleas are tenacious little buggers! They can jump up to seven inches and are happy to piggyback into the house on human clothes and shoes, as well as other pets. So even if your cats stay inside, it's smart to check for fleas periodically.

SO WHICH PRODUCTS ARE SAFE TO USE?

Products sold by veterinarians typically undergo either FDA- or EPA-reviewed clinical trials to establish safe dosage and document adverse effects.

Use these vet-recommended medications as directed, as even these can be deadly if applied in a larger-than-recommended dose. In addition, your vet can tell you which products lose effectiveness due to resistance developed by fleas in certain areas.

THE UPSHOT

We recommend that you work closely with your vet to ensure you use the right medication in the right way for your pet. This can save significant discomfort and prevent serious illnesses for you and your pet!

YES! I want to help

Animal Rescue & Care Fund depends entirely on your donations. Our work includes rescue, medical aid, food and shelter, humane education, neutering/spaying, and more. Your contribution goes directly to help the animals. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Make a secure online donation using a credit card, debit card, or PayPal account. Save time and postage!

Visit our website for more details: www.pdx-petadoption.org.

I enclose ______ for humane work. (\$35 sponsors an animal, but we appreciate any amount.)

I'm interested in being a volunteer. Please contact me at ______.

Name ______ Mail to:

Address _____ Animal Rescue & Care Fund PO Box 14956

City, State, Zip _____ Portland, OR 97293-0956

8 | Animal Rescue & Care Fund www.pdx-petadoption.org