

South
Middleton
Community
Cats



SM Community Cat Connection

Summer/Fall 2026

Closing in on Cat #600



It's hard to believe that in just over 2 years of serving the SMT community, we are approaching our 600th TNR cat. It goes without saying that this is a feat that could not be achieved without the dedication of many volunteers. Our organization

has a handful of special people who transport for us, organize fundraisers, help with daily tasks like laundry and cleaning as well as the amazing caretakers we have been blessed to work with!

Personally, I have enjoyed meeting so many new people who share my love of cats, and now consider some of the folks we've worked with to be friends. I've also met lots of people in South Middleton Township who have been here awhile and have great stories about their neighbors!

It's important to recognize that when we say "It Takes A Village," we truly mean that every donation, whether it be time, talent or money, helps us toward a common goal. As well, the partnerships we have made with rescues and local business-owners has been immeasurable. Thank you all.

As we celebrate our 600th cat, we hope you will continue to share in our mission and be with us when we hit 1000!

- Suzanne



Support Us!!

We have a ton of awesome events coming up and we'd love your support!



Aug 31-Sept 21 ~ Pet Food Drive Collection ~ drop off at SMT Municipal Building

Sept 13th ~ Community Aid Clothing Drive ~ 12-2pm at the SMT Parking Lot

Sept 23rd ~ TNR Basics at SMT Municipal Bldg 6:30pm

Oct 25th ~ United 4 Animals Cash Raffle Drawing

Oct 27th ~ 2nd Annual Black Cat Appreciation Day at Red Robin ~ two locations, Carlisle and Mechanicsburg 4-8pm (and online!)

Stories From The Street

It's ok to do the best you can.

This summer, we got a lead on a farm who desperately needed our help. Located in Monroe Township, it appeared as though we were the closest group able to help, and we were happy to do so.

The caretaker is a renter on the farm for over a decade and finally got so upset at seeing the kittens succumb to predators and death, as well as knowing the adult population was very unhealthy. Owls, Hawks and coyotes are a staple on the farm.

We started trapping in late July, utilizing any open appointments we could find. Shockingly, most of the cats we were catching were female. We kept an eye on the kittens we could find. Of the 8 kittens we were monitoring, 3 we assumed had been washed away in the torrential rains, and 1 we simply could not find. A kind soul out of Lancaster took the remaining 4 at two different pick ups, and despite them initially thriving, they started to fail within weeks.

2 additional kittens trapped, the caretaker hadn't seen since May. Clocking in at less than 2lbs each, they were both suspected to be at least 4 months old. Tiny and malnourished.

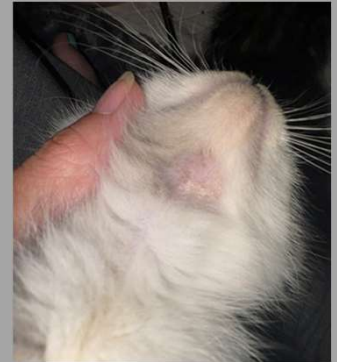
We continue to set traps for the adults, fitting them into appointments with our partner clinics, and knowing that we've done the best we can to eliminate more kittens on the farm, but it's a tough reality. This is a project that will likely go on into the late Fall, with another round of kittens being born before we can fully sterilize all of the adults.

We know that we can't save them all, but we are sure trying, knowing that it's ok to do the best we can. If you would like to help in any way, please reach out.



Ringworm is a pesky skin condition that's common in cats.

Despite its creepy-crawly name, ringworm (dermatophytosis) is caused by a microscopic fungus that's found in the dirt. It feeds off of protein in hair and skin.



Round bald patches that expose scaly pink sores are a dead giveaway that your cat has ringworm. You're most likely to notice these infected spots on the face, ears, tail, and feet.

One of the reasons ringworm is easily spread is because the spores (invisible seeds) it releases can live on surfaces for up to two years.

Veterinarians use a combination of topical and oral antifungal medications, sometimes along with medicated baths, to treat ringworm.

To prevent ringworm from spreading, it's important to clean surfaces and items where their spores may have spread

Autumn Changes:

How Fall Affects Cats

As daylight lessens and temperatures drop, a cat's behavior shifts.

Outdoor cats instinctively remain closer to their shelter and narrow their roaming radius during the fall. They will be more active at those twilight hours, which shift drastically during the fall months. As we fall back, cats follow their crepuscular instincts. They do not understand that you need to be on the road an hour earlier than previously. Be vigilant while traveling, especially at twilight hours.

Fall is a good time to start checking those dangerous spots that cats seek out as warm shelters and hiding places. Your shed, a previously closed building, car engines, wheel wells, exhaust pipes, and firewood piles are appealing but dangerous. This is the perfect time to begin preparing insulated shelters as a safe alternative for the cats in your community.

Even with these behavior changes, fall remains one of the best times of year to TNR. The mild temperatures reduce the risk of heat stroke and freezing in traps, and cats are more motivated by food as they begin to bulk up.

Keep alert and keep us updated about possible community cat sightings, and remember kittens can still be born during the fall months.

Meet the writer's cats:
Pépé, 6 years old



Hulk, 8 years old: Both were adopted from the YCSPCA.



Fall and Your Indoor Cat

- Autumn zoomies—bursts of energy
- More sleep
- Seeking warm spots
- Coat thickening
- Seasonal Allergies with dry skin

Ways to Help

- Keep a schedule
- Fit playtime into the schedule
- Check the safety of warm spots
- Brush more often
- Air purifiers
- Wipe fur with a damp cloth especially after windows were open
- Add more omega-3 fatty acids to diet

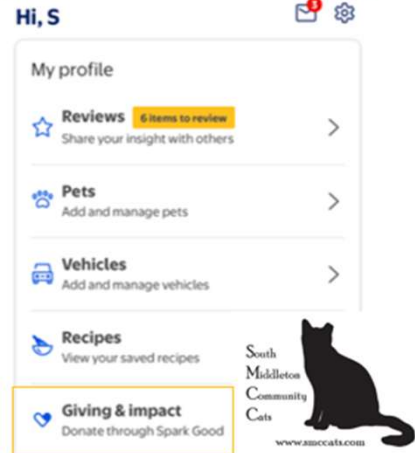
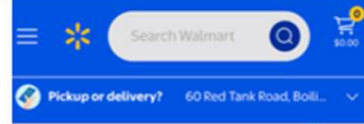
End of Fall Twilight Hours:
6:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

ROUND UP AT CHECKOUT



1

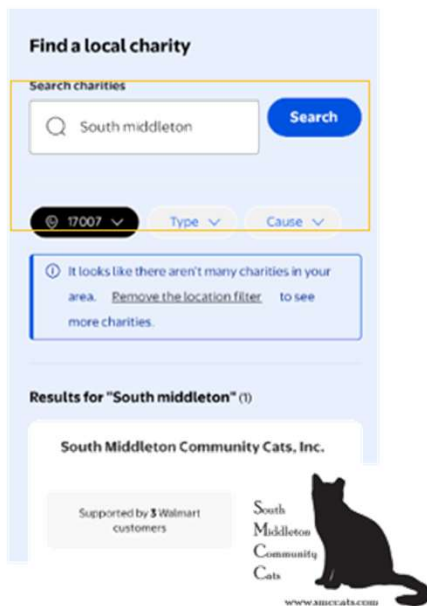
In your Walmart account, go to your profile and find "Giving and Impact"



2

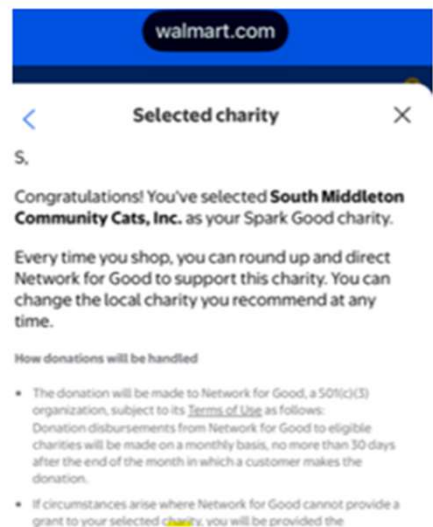
Search for us by name "South Middleton Community Cats"

Round up



3

You're all set!



Once again, we would like to thank the individuals who have sent us donations or food/supplies for colonies! And those who volunteered this summer!

Pam S.	Laurel F.	Carol S.	April K.
Vickie H.	Rick M.	Lawrence &	Merlene M.
Cheryl C.	Jennifer B.	Sachiko B.	Deb A.
Marilyn M.	Deb & Mike B.	Debra F.	Patty P.
Tracey H.	Gloria U.	Teresa M.	Tracy D.
Annette I.	Allyson H.	Susan N.	Bill P.
Val G.	Dawn M.	Nina M.	



Time to Prepare For Winter!

Gather Your Materials:

You'll need a sturdy plastic storage bin (preferably dark-colored to absorb sunlight), a utility knife or jigsaw, insulation material (straw, Mylar blankets, or rigid foam insulation), and duct tape. **Avoid using blankets or towels, as they can absorb moisture and freeze.**

Cut an Entrance: Cut a small, cat-sized entrance on one of the shorter sides of the bin. Aim for a 6-inch by 6-inch opening. Make sure the edges are smooth to prevent injury. You can reinforce the edges with duct tape.

Insulate the Shelter: Line the inside of the bin with insulation. If using rigid foam, cut pieces to fit the bottom, sides, and lid. Secure them with duct tape. If using straw, pack it tightly inside, ensuring it fills the corners and provides a thick layer on the bottom. Mylar blankets can be layered to reflect heat.

Add a Lid and Seal: Secure the lid to the bin with duct tape, creating a tight seal. You can add a brick or heavy object on top to prevent the wind from blowing it open.



Have you visited our website?

www.smccats.com

An opportunity to help all pets!

1. Print the [Application for Special Organization Registration Plate Form](#) here on our website.

2. Complete all information in Section A. Follow the Instructions in Section D. Sign and date your application. (SNAP will complete sections B & C)

3. The Fee for your Spay/Neuter plate is \$70.00.



Last Chance to Attend! Sept 23rd



www.SMCCats.com

Our LAST course of the year is happening soon! Come learn how you can be part of the solution in making a better life for our community cats. Participation in the class satisfies eligibility for township-sponsored vouchers for your colony. Scan the QR code to hold your FREE spot!



South
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Clothing Drive

Your donations turn into financial assistance to support the important work we do in our community.

Sunday September 13th, from 12-2PM
**** SMT Municipal Building Parking Lot****
520 Park Drive, Boiling Springs, PA 17007

Do you have a passion to volunteer for a Non-Profit?

Board of Directors

Suzanne Shriner – President/Treasurer
Janelle LaMaster – Vice President
Bonnie Holtry – Secretary



We are looking to **add members to our board** who want to lead committees or help us shape the future of South Middleton Community Cats. If that's you, reach out!

SMCommunityCats@gmail.com

Join us at either location!
Show this flyer to your server!

Red Robin® will give

**20% OF FOOD SALES*
BACK TO**

SOUTH MIDDLETON COMMUNITY CATS

**Show this flyer or simply mention the fundraiser to
your server to have your sales counted.**

FUNDRAISER DETAILS

236 Westminster Dr, Carlisle, PA 17013
6560 Carlisle Pike Suite 450, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

October 27, 2026 4PM – 8PM

If ordering online, please follow these instructions:

- 1** Start your order at redrobin.com/order and select the restaurant above.
- 2** In the menu, go to the category labeled "Fundraisers (To-Go Only)" and click on that item.
- 3** Click the "add" button, and then "add to bag."
- 4** Add your meal items and check out.
- 5** Arrive at Red Robin, come in, say hi, grab your food and be on your way! If your location has curbside pick-up, we can bring it to your car too!

*Donation based on all eligible net dine-in and to-go food sales only. Excludes sales from catering (at select locations), 3rd party ordering and delivery sites, alcohol, gift cards, retail, tax and gratuity. Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near the restaurant during fundraiser day & hours.

Red Robin