



## Information Regarding Cats

### **Q. Do Cats Need to be Licenced?**

A. No. There is no by-law in the City of Orillia that requires cats to be licenced.

### **Q. Are Cats Allowed to Run at Large?**

A. There is no by-law in the City of Orillia that prohibits cats from running at large. To deter cats from entering your property:

- Plant Rue herb in your garden. This is a flowering herb available at local nurseries.
- Plant Plectranthus Caninus, better known as "Scaredy Cat Plant," in your garden. This is also available at local nurseries.
- Place a clean margarine container with holes punched in the lid, with a cloth in it soaked in household bleach in the area where you want to keep cats out. The odour of the bleach coming through the holes in the container lid is a deterrent.

If you have any questions regarding these tips, please contact the Orillia branch of the OSPCA, 705-325-1304.

### **Q. Why Spay/Neuter Your Cat?**

A. Based on the current cat population and the fact that cats reproduce at substantially high rates (up to 18 kittens per cat per year), it is clear that the cat population will not decrease over time unless cat owners do their part by spaying or neutering their cats.

Benefits of spaying/neutering your cat:

- Spaying/neutering helps to reduce the overpopulation of cats in the City and the significant number of cats that are housed at the OSPCA shelter, as well as reduces the burden placed on volunteer rescue groups.
- Spayed/neutered cats are more relaxed. They are not driven to mate and are less likely to roam.
- Neutering tends to diminish aggressive behaviour toward other animals and decreases the likelihood of fight-related injuries.
- Altered cats are less likely to spray.

The City encourages cat owners to visit the Ontario SPCA at [www.ontariospca.ca](http://www.ontariospca.ca) to learn more about spaying and neutering and to locate a clinic.

## **Q. Where Can I Adopt a Cat?**

If you are interested in adopting a cat, please contact:

- Orillia branch of OSPCA - 705-325-1304
- The Comfie Cat Shelter - 705-323-9570