

Pet Rescue Times

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A Word About Declawing: DON'T!

Cat declawing has always been a controversial issue. Outlawed and considered inhumane in many industrial nations, the United States is catching up. This summer, the California State Legislature passed AB 1857, outlawing declawing for both domestic and exotic cats.

Declawing is a surgical procedure that amputates an animal's toes at the last joint. A portion of the bone, not only the nail, is removed. Declawing can result in permanent lameness and arthritis.

How does declawing affect cats?

Declawing does more than just get rid of claws, it destroys part of your kitty's natural behavior and can lead to far more serious and painful issues.

Declawed cats cannot fight off another cat or dog. Even indoor kitties sometimes escape into the outside world.

A cat's claws help its feet meet the ground at the proper angle. Declawing alters the symmetry of their paws causing the paws to touch the ground incorrectly and causing pain.

Behavioral changes often occur after declawing. Cats who were playful and friendly can become timid or solitary. Deprived of their claws as a means of defense, some cats become excitable and aggressive. The stress makes some declawed cats prone to cystitis, skin disorders and irritable bowel syndrome.

For weeks after having their claws removed, some cats find using a litterbox painful. They can associate the pain with the litterbox rather than with declawing, causing the cat to refuse using a litter box.

In some cases, cats that cannot mark with their claws mark with urine instead, which means urine soaked carpets and flooring.

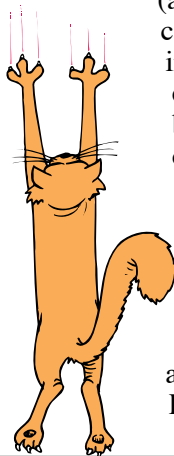
The better solution

Provide your kitty with a sturdy scratching post (at least 3 feet high) so your fur-baby can stretch completely when scratching. The post also needs to be stable enough that it won't wobble when being used. Choose a post that's covered with a rough material such as sisal or burlap. To train a cat to use a post, rub your hands on the scratching surface and then gently rub the kitty's paws on the surface. When the cat starts to scratch furniture or carpet, gently say no and take her to the scratching post. Praise your cat for using the scratching post. An occasional sprinkle of catnip or spray of catnip extract will keep your cat interested.

If the above approach doesn't convince your kitty that furniture is not a scratching post, more drastic measures are called for. Shaking a tin can filled with coins when you catch your cat using the furniture as a scratching post. Cats hate sudden noises. After stopping the bad behavior, re-introduce your kitty to the scratching post.

Last resort

If the above methods don't provide consistent results, trim your kitty's claws periodically. Nail clippers work well. Trimming works as well as permanent declawing, doesn't affect cat behavior and doesn't mutilate your kitty.



Cat declawing is illegal or considered inhumane in:

- The United Kingdom
- France
- Portugal
- Spain
- Germany
- Scandinavia
- Netherlands
- Belgium
- Switzerland
- Italy
- Austria
- Australia
- New Zealand
- and many others

Do You Feed Purina?

If you do, you can help rescue. Purina, a brand of food for both dogs and cats, has a weight circle on every bag. It can be found on the side of the food bag. (It is a circle shape, not the UPC code – see example at right). Columbia Second Chance can use these circles to collect much-needed food for our critters. Please drop off your circles at any donation box or mail them to: PO Box 10186, Columbia, MO 65205.



CSC Calendar

OCTOBER

- 23 Award Halloween Pictures 10 am-4 pm; Petco Columbia: 12 pm-4 pm
- 30 Award: 12 pm-4 pm; Petco Columbia: 12 pm-4 pm
- 31 Petco Jeff City: 12 pm-4 pm

NOVEMBER

- 06 Award: 12 pm-4 pm; Petco Columbia: 12 pm-4 pm
- 07 Fall Craft Show Hearnes Time TBA
- 13 Award: 12 pm-4 pm; Petco Columbia: 12 pm-4 pm
- 14 Petco Jeff City: 12 pm-4 pm
- 20 Award: 12 pm-4 pm; Petco Columbia: 12 pm-4 pm
- 27 Award: 12 pm-4 pm; Petco Columbia: 12 pm-4 pm
- 28 Petco Jeff City: 12 pm-4 pm

DECEMBER

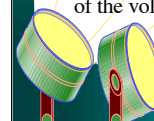
- 04 Award: 12 am-4 pm; Petco Columbia: 12 pm-4 pm
- Epsilon Sigma Alpha Craft Bazaar - Location/Time TBA
- 11 Award Christmas Pictures 12 pm-4 pm; Petco Columbia: 12 pm-4 pm
- 12 Petco Jeff City: 12 pm-4 pm
- 18 Award: 12 pm-4 pm; Petco Columbia: 12 pm-4 pm
- Giftwrapping at Barnes & Noble Time TBA
- 25 Award: 12 pm-4 pm; Petco Columbia: 12 pm-4 pm
- 26: Petco Jeff City: 12 pm-4 pm

Adoption Spotlight



Maggie

Maggie is a 7-year-old spayed female black Labrador mix. She came to CSC as a puppy. She was placed in a home until she started attacking the other animals. She is the most wonderful animal you could ever have as long as she is the ONLY animal. Even after years of being isolated, Maggie is still not fond of other animals. She is extremely obedient with people. She needs to be in a home that will PROMISE to keep her in a supervised, fenced area. She can only go on a walk if she is muzzled and on a short lead. Maggie is a favorite of the volunteers and really needs a special home. Can you be the one to give Maggie a home?



CSC Holds Grand Opening of New Canine Facility

CSC celebrated the grand opening of their new facility, the **K9 Cottage** this July. The facility, located just outside Columbia, now houses our dogs in need of a foster or forever home. With this new spacious kennel, our adoptions have greatly increased and our dogs seem to be happier than ever. Every day, they get to run in exercise yards and have interaction with both people and other canines.



CSC volunteers and guests celebrate the grand opening of the K9 Cottage facility.

“Our old kennels were dilapidated and run down,” says Board President **Heather Duren**. “Now that we have the K9 Cottage, the animals look and act so much more adoptable and we have found homes for many of our long-term residents.”

Though we have moved into our new facility, the organization is still actively seeking funds to finish paying for the cost of this project.



Since the start of the campaign last year, the capital campaign has raised just over \$125,000 of its \$250,000 goal for the first phase of our project.

“Once we get the rest of the funds raised to complete payment on our kennels, we are going to move on to our next project of building **Kitty Kondos** for all of our kitties waiting for their forever homes,” says Duren.

Halloween Photos

Come get your critter’s Halloween photo taken on October 23 at **Award Pet Supply** from 10:00 am– 4:00 pm. In costume or not, your critter will look fabulous! Get several prints for just \$10. **Clark Photography** will be donating their time to make sure your pet gets the best photo possible.

Summer Dog Washes Make A Splash

For the fourth year in a row, the summer dog wash season has proved to be a splashing good time for all involved. The dog washes this year raised more than \$2,000 to help the critters at CSC. For \$5, owners could bring their dog to Award Pet Supply where CSC volunteers would get down and dirty (and often soaking wet) cleaning up the critters.



“Sometimes I think I get more drenched than the dogs, but we have tons of fun at dog washes,” says **Kim Foster**, CSC volunteer.

More than 400 dogs came in to get cleaned up and many were repeat customers throughout the summer.

With the winter chill getting closer and closer to mid-Missouri, the dog wash supplies have been put away, but CSC plans to bring them back out next June to kick off what we hope will be a dog wash season even more successful than this year!

New Look for Website

The address hasn’t changed, but our look is brand new. Thanks to **Andy and Laura King** for creating a new website for the organization. Not only do we have a much easier way for you to see our animals, but behind the scenes we have a custom-designed database system that will help us tremendously in keeping our records in order. Come check it out! www.columbia2ndchance.org.



Columbia Second Chance
seeking first class homes for second-hand pets
573-445-5598 www.columbia2ndchance.org

Contact us to volunteer, adopt or donate at:
Phone: 573-445-5598
Email: columbiasecondchance@hotmail.com
Website: www.columbia2ndchance.org or www.Petfinder.com