

# WORKING CATS FAQ

**Q. Why is the Dumb Friends League adopting out cats that will be living outdoors? Have you changed your philosophy that cats should be kept indoors?**

**A.** For the majority of cats, an indoor lifestyle is safer and healthier than living outdoors, and we typically advise cat owners to keep their pets inside. However, some cats that we receive at our shelters are better candidates for adoption into outdoor environments. Some have been accustomed to living outdoors at their previous home and are unable to adjust to an indoor environment. Others make better hunters than lap cats. Still others are less social with people, but thrive in barn environments. Adopting out these types of cats to caring owners for use as working cats can provide the cats with a "job" and a better quality of life.

**Q. Do people who adopt working cats have to take care of them, or are the cats just left to fend for themselves?**

**A.** Patrons adopting working cats must complete our standard adoption process and meet with one of our adoption counselors, just like every potential adopter. Our counselors determine what type of working cat best suits the patron: one that is somewhat sociable with people but prefers living outdoors, one that is less social and lives to hunt, etc. Then we determine if we have a cat that would be a good match for that patron. We require adopters to ensure that all working cats have warm shelter, adequate food and water, and that they be given regular veterinary care—again, just as with any cat we adopt out from our shelters.

**Q. What is the cost to adopt a working cat?**

**A.** Our adoption fees for working cats are waived at all times.

**Q. Do you adopt out kittens as working cats?**

**A.** Yes, depending on age and level of socialization.

**Q. Do working cats get any medical care before they leave your shelter?**

**A.** Yes, all working cats receive a general health exam upon arrival at our shelter, and then a spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations and rabies vaccination as part of their adoption fee.

**Q. Who should I call if I'm interested in adopting a working cat?**

**A.** Call 303.751.5772 and one of our Customer Care staff will be happy to speak with you.