



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE: Barn Homes Needed for Working Cats!

Dartmouth, NS (May 27, 2019) The Nova Scotia SPCA was contacted by four situations involving large numbers of cats that urgently need to be spayed/neutered and relocated. They are in urgent need of barn homes where the cats will be safe, warm and cared for. The cats will come fixed and tested negative for disease. You will also receive instructions to properly introduce them to your barn.

Most recently, the SPCA was contacted by a home owner living in a rural Nova Scotia area asking for help. She was in an overwhelming situation with over 40 cats living in her home. The situation had started innocently with a few unfixated cats and since then has grown beyond her control.

The conditions deteriorated to such a point that the homeowner is no longer able to live in her home but still visits daily providing food and changing litter boxes the best she could. As the caregiver aged, she realized she could not physically keep up with the demands of properly caring and keeping up with the ever-growing population.

As the number of cats grew, the owner was unable to handle and socialize them, they became feral cats. A feral cat has never had human contact and becomes quite wild. The best option is a barn home environment where they can interact with people at their own pace. The first 20 cats have been brought into the Dartmouth SPCA and are ready to find their new barn placements.

Unfortunately, situations like this are becoming increasingly common in Nova Scotia. Many caregivers are ashamed or embarrassed to admit they need to ask for help, or unaware what resources exist to help them in these situations.

How can you help?

- If you have a barn home, and can provide a warm, safe space for a feral cat who will in turn work for their room and board, please email catcolony@spcans.ca
- Spay or neuter your own pet to avoid adding to the cat population
- Report feral cat colonies so the SPCA can help at catcolony@spcans.ca
- Sponsor-a-spay for a feral cat by donating at <https://46189.thankyou4caring.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=298>

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