

Barn Cat Program (Working Cats)

What is a Barn Cat?

Barn Cats typically display characteristics of being unsocial, want minimal to no human contact and are not suitable for living as indoor pets.

What is the Barn Cat Program?

The Rancho Cucamonga Animal Center's Barn Cat program allows cats that are not accustomed to living in a home to find refuge as indoor/outdoor cats. In return, Barn Cats will provide pest control for barns, warehouses, businesses, garages or other safe locations.

What is the Commitment?

While Barn Cats can live mainly outdoors, caretakers should provide a safe housing area such as a barn, garage, or building where they can sleep and escape from predators. Caretakers will also need to provide continuous food, water, and veterinary care.

What is Included in a Barn Cat Adoption?

Barn Cats are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, treated for parasites and ear-tipped. Their adoption fee has been waived for qualified adopters. We suggest a minimum of two cats at each location as it will help the Barn Cats with transitioning to their new home and will increase the likelihood they will stay in the area.

How do I Introduce my Barn Cat to Their New Home?

To help Barn Cats succeed, you should allow for a two to four-week transition period. During the transition period, the Barn Cats should be confined to a stable, garage, or enclosed area where they will be living. This will give the cats time to adjust to their new surroundings. It is important the enclosed area is not too hot or cold and has a source of protection from the elements. In addition, the Barn Cats should be provided food, water, and a litter box. If you adopt more than one Barn Cat, each cat should initially have its own space. After two weeks, you can let your new Barn Cats out. Once released, it is common for Barn Cats to hide until they feel more secure. Continue to put food and water out for them.

Continued Care for a Barn Cats

A Barn Cat Adopter will need to provide fresh food and water. Hungry cats do not make good mousers. The food should be put in the same location during day hours. Remove the food at night to prevent wildlife and rodents from eating it. Barn Cats should always have access to a warm, dry shelter and a regularly-cleaned litter box. Thank you for considering a Barn Cat. Your commitment is saving the life of a cat that cannot be adopted to a traditional home. Questions? Email RCPets@cityofrc.us

