



# The Scoop

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## Watch Out for Heat During the CAT Days of Summer

July 2012

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### Keep Kitties Occupied During Anti-Boredom Month!

Cats are social animals. When left all day alone, a cat that is acting destructively or aggressively is probably bored. What's the best thing you can do to keep kitty occupied? Studies say that house cats who live with other cats are healthier and happier. The best thing you can do for your cat is to get him or her a playmate. If that's not possible, keep kitty stimulated and ease the loneliness with:

- Regular, scheduled play time with you.
- DVDs featuring fish, mice, and birds. (You can get them at many pet supplies stores.)
- Cat condos, trees and other places to climb and explore.
- Treats and toys hidden around the house.



### Email us your ideas!

What do you do to keep your kitty occupied? Share your ideas and we'll post as many as we can in an upcoming issue. Include a picture! Email to [Tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com](mailto:Tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com)

### News and Events

#### More cat lover news:

#### Read *Cat Chat*

Oakland Press blogger Caren Gittleman brings you all kinds of cat lover news, cool cat stories, new products and more. Go to: <http://opcatchat.blogspot.com>

### Does Your "Kitty Got Talent?"



Have a talented feline? We're looking for kitties to star in our new video series! Contact [tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com](mailto:tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com)

### Watch Out for Overheating During the Cat Days of Summer



Summer heat can be fatal to pets left in the heat in parked vehicles or outdoors without adequate shelter, shade and water. While considered to be resilient pets, and in spite of their reputation as desert animals, cats do not tolerate heat any better than people. Cats can suffer heat exhaustion and heat stroke that can result in serious organ damage or death. Prevent heat stroke by:

- NEVER leaving any pet in the car in warm weather EVEN WITH THE WINDOWS DOWN. Temperatures can rise very quickly in a very short period of time.
- Using home air conditioning if the outside temperature is more than 90 degrees. If you don't have air conditioning, keep air circulating with overhead fans and box fans.
- Keeping plenty of cool, fresh water available. Put ice cubes in the bowl to keep water cold.
- Keeping your cat indoors from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. which are the hottest hours of the day.
- Providing shaded areas for cats that must go outside along with plenty of fresh, cold water.

Signs of overheating include restlessness, panting, drooling and sweaty feet. Heat exhaustion can cause rapid breathing, vomiting, redness of the mouth and tongue, lethargy and a wobbly gait. If you notice any of these symptoms, cool your cat down with a cool wet wash cloth and contact your veterinarian.

### Save on Wellness Exams for Senior Cats!



Save 10% off all senior wellness exams and get free blood pressure checks, free nail trims and more! AARC is open to cats 15 years and older. [thecatpracticepc.com/aarc.htm](http://thecatpracticepc.com/aarc.htm)

### Summer Heat Intensifies Feline Allergies

Summertime and hot weather usually causes a flare up in the conditions that cause feline allergies. We are seeing more cats with symptoms that can be mild or severe and include:

- |                              |                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Red, watery eyes             | Sneezing                           |
| Itchy skin                   | Excessive licking or over grooming |
| Scabs or lesions on the skin | Chin acne                          |
| Ear infections               | Bacterial infections of the feet   |



Orange and white cats are more susceptible to allergies than other felines. If left untreated, allergy symptoms can be extremely uncomfortable. In addition, infected areas can become severely infected requiring more aggressive treatment.

If you notice allergy symptoms in your kitty, see your veterinarian who will most likely prescribe an antihistamine and sometimes, antibiotics.

### Kitty Camp

Cats staying in our Kitty Camp enjoy frequent attention and plenty of play and exercise in our Kitty Playroom. Boarding your cat is a great alternative while you are away, have guests or are having work done at home. For more information – or to register – go to [thecatpracticepc.com/boarding.html](http://thecatpracticepc.com/boarding.html) or call 248-540-3390.



### We Have Kittens for Adoption!

The Cat Practice has new kittens that are looking for good homes and will be available for adoption soon! Come in and see our three little black kitties, three white and orange and one little buff, all from the Michigan Humane Society. All kittens are short-haired and as playful as can be.



**Pet Fire Safety Day is July 15**

**Have a Plan for Making Sure Pets Escape House Fires**

Each year, 40,000 pets are killed in fires; most of them residential. In a fire, it's essential to get pets out quickly and safely. Follow these tips:

**Locate your pet's hideaways.** During a fire, pets are terrified and will run to places they feel safe. Find the best cubbyholes and niches, map them out on a sheet of paper, and include the map in your escape plan.

**Prepare an emergency kit for each pet.** Include your pet's food, veterinary documents, medications, and pet's photo/description. If you have to board your pet until you get settled, the facility will require proof of current vaccinations.

**Know your escape route.** Keep carriers (or collars and leashes for dogs) near doors that you use most frequently in case you have to evacuate or if firefighters need to rescue your pet.

**Affix a pet alert window sticker.** Record the number of pets inside your house and attach the sticker to a front window where it can easily be seen by emergency responders. Check to keep information updated as the number of pets in your home may change. Get a free window cling-on sticker at [www.adt.com/pets](http://www.adt.com/pets), [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org) and [www.asPCA.org](http://www.asPCA.org).

**Consider monitored smoke detectors.** Pets left alone can't escape a burning house. Monitored smoke detectors connect to and send a signal to an emergency response center.

**Give pets a way out.** During a fire, if you must evacuate and can't find your pets, leave a door that leads outside open, and call your pet's name once you get outside. With luck, he or she will hear you and head for your voice, although this works better for dogs than cats.



**Looking for Homes / Official Cat Adoption Site**

See the adoptable cats and kittens in our lobby and on [our Facebook page](#). Also, we are now an [official adoption outreach center of Oakland Pet Adoption Center](#) in Auburn Hills so we are getting new kitties as often as we can adopt them out!

**Follow us in the News!**

Check our website regularly for updates on our recent news coverage. [thecatpracticepc.com/press.htm](http://thecatpracticepc.com/press.htm).

**Are You Getting The Scoop?**

To sign up, send us an email at [meowmail@thecatpracticepc.com](mailto:meowmail@thecatpracticepc.com) or call 248.540.3390

**Contact Us:**

If you have story ideas for The Scoop or would like more information, please contact Tabitha at [Tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com](mailto:Tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com).

**Our Hours:**

Monday - Thursday: 8 am – 9 pm  
Friday: 8 am – 8 pm  
Saturday & Sunday: 8 am – 6 pm

**A Cat is Not Just a Cat! Singapura**

The Singapura, one of the smallest cat breeds, does not develop to full size until almost 2 years old.



Noted for its large eyes and ears, ticked coat and blunt tail, the Singapura

takes its name from the Malay name for Singapore.

This feline is curious, playful, and affectionate and loves human interaction. They tend to enchant people as well as other animals. Don't be surprised to find your Singapura kitty perched on high places where they go to get a better view of their surroundings.

The Singapura is a healthy breed with no known genetic health problems. Pregnant females can sometimes have difficulty giving birth due to weak uterine muscles.

**Cat Trivia**

**Question:** Americans spend more money on cat food than they do on baby food. *True or False?*

– Be the FIRST to email us with the RIGHT answer at [Tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com](mailto:Tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com) and win a free bag of organic catnip! See next month's issue for the answer!

**Last month's trivia answer:** FALSE, they can sprint at 30mph! Congrats to Colleen Hartwig, who was the first to reply with the correct answer and claim the free bag of catnip!

**Cat's Meow Tip: iPad Apps Cats Will Want to Get their Paws On!**

Your iPad isn't just for you anymore! A search of "cat and iPad" on YouTube reveals thousands of videos of transfixed felines watching moving objects on the tablet's big screen. There are a lot of apps available to amuse your cat. Most of these are on Apple's iOS platform and work best on the iPad. It's unlikely that the smaller screen of the iPhone will amuse your pet quite so well, and don't be surprised if they prefer to use the Smartphone itself as a toy . . . However, the iPad is the perfect size, and its scratch-proof glass can even resist kitty's claws!



**Look for these free apps:**

- Cat Fishing and Cat Fishing 2.
- Friskies JitterBug
- Tasty Treasures Hunt
- Party Mix-Up!

**Worth checking out paid apps:**

- Game for Cats
- Paint for Cats
- Cat Piano Concerto

**Contributed by Barbara Guca.** *Do you have a cat care tip that is just the Cat's Meow? Email [Tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com](mailto:Tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com). If we run it, you get a FREE bag of organic catnip. Limit to 75 words.*

*Like a graceful vase,  
a cat, even when  
motionless,  
seems to flow.  
- George F. Will*

Follow us:   

Wellness/early detection      Chronic conditions      Medical/surgical care      Geriatrics/hospice      Kitty camp boarding

**The Cat Practice commitment to cats and their people:**

- Spot health conditions early to avoid more costly care later.
- Treat the whole patient looking out for physical and emotional wellbeing.
- Respect each cat as an individual with his/her own distinct personality & heredity.
- Avoid surgery at all cost. (The exception: all cats should be spayed or neutered!)
- Provide alternatives for care whenever possible.
- Partner with cat families through knowledge sharing.
- Make oral hygiene and preventive dental care a priority.

The Scoop is published monthly by The Cat Practice.



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