

# CATS

---

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP HAS A MIXTURE OF RESIDENTS WHO HAVE VARYING VIEWS ON CATS. SOME LOVE THEM, OTHERS DO NOT. OUR COMMISSIONERS ATTEMPT TO WALK THE FINE LINE THAT RESPECTS BOTH POINTS OF VIEW. RECENTLY THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT CATS CAUSING DAMAGE AND CREATING UNSANITARY CONDITIONS. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO ADDRESS CAT ISSUES AND MINIMIZE BAD EXPERIENCES IN OUR COMMUNITY.

1. ORDINANCE 1976-4 CLEARLY PUTS FORTH THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF CAT OWNERS; SPECIFICALLY THE FACT THAT RESIDENTS WHO OWN AND SHELTER CATS ARE LIMITED TO THREE CATS, AND MUST ENSURE THAT THEY ARE EITHER IN THE RESIDENCE OR SECURED BY A LEASH SO THAT THEY ARE NOT ALLOWED TO STRAY FROM THE PREMISES.
2. IN ADDITION TO PRIVATELY OWNED CATS, THERE IS AN ISSUE OF WILD FERRAL CATS. RESIDENTS ARE CONTRIBUTING TO THE PROBLEM BY FEEDING AND IN SOME CASES PROVIDING SHELTER TO THESE ANIMALS. WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED IS THE FACT THAT WHAT MIGHT BE TWO OR THREE ROAMING CATS TODAY CAN EASILY BE TEN OR FIFTEEN IN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. THE S.P.C.A. HAS A PROGRAM THAT ELIMINATES PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH FERRAL CAT BREEDING. THIS PROGRAM IS THE MOST HUMAN APPROACH AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY ANYONE FEEDING OR SHELTERING THESE ANIMALS.

REGARDLESS OF YOUR VIEW OF CATS, WILD OR DOMESTIC, CONSIDERATION OF OTHERS IS THE KEY TO HARMONY WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY. CONTACT THE MUNICIPAL AT 570-735-4735 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING WILD OR DOMESTIC CATS IN NEWPORT TOWNSHIP.

YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION IS REQUESTED.

APPRECIATIVELY,

PETER F. WANCHISEN

TOWNSHIP MANAGER