

No Spooky Cats This Halloween

Tips for Cat Owners for a Safe Halloween from The Cat Adoption Team

(October 19, 2007) — If you get the willies when witches, ghosts, and Grim Reapers come rapping at your door on Halloween, imagine how frightened your unsuspecting cat could be. Constant knocks and doorbells, followed by chants of “Trick or Treat!” can be very stressful on routine-loving cats.

A frightened or distressed cat may bolt out the door, weaving through the little legs of merry makers, or hide in a small space far away from the offending noises. Both can panic cat-loving families as they search for their beloved pet. The best place for a cat on this hallowed eve is a safe, quiet spot out of the way of the activities and continually opened front door, says the Cat Adoption Team.

Here are some easy ways to ensure a safe and happy Halloween for your cat:

- Be sure your cats are wearing collars with ID tags should they escape despite your best attempts. Get your cats microchipped as a secondary means of ID.
- Keep cats indoors away from trick-or-treaters and other Halloween activities.
- The best costume for your cats is their own furry birthday suits. While some very relaxed cats may seem to like playing dress up, most dislike the confinement of costumes and they can sustain injuries if hampered in their movements. Cat owners also risk being severely scratched as their cat attempts to become free of the costume.
- Decorate with care. Hang dangling decorations up high to avoid entanglement and other hazards. Remember, cats love to play with dangling items.
- Ensure open flame candles are in areas inaccessible to cats and their curiosity and agile tails.
- Use fake cobwebs sparingly. Indoors they can pose a real threat to cats, who may ingest them.

The Cat Adoption Team has hundreds of wonderful felines of all colors, breeds, and ages looking for new, loving homes. Visit www.catadoptionteam.org.

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The Cat Adoption Team (CAT) is the Pacific Northwest's largest non-profit, no-kill cat shelter with its own full service veterinary hospital on-site. CAT's mission is to work with the community to save the lives of homeless, sick and injured cats and kittens by offering shelter, adoption, foster, hospice, and veterinary services to end needless feline euthanasia in our community. CAT, a 501(c)(3) publicly-supported charity, will save over 3,000 lives this year and relies heavily on the support of the public and generous volunteers. CAT is located at 14175 SW Galbreath Drive in Sherwood, just off Tualatin-Sherwood Highway Road. For directions and more information, call (503) 925-8903 or visit CAT's Website at www.catadoptionteam.org.