

Media Contact: Kathy Covey
(503) 710-8373 (cell)
(503) 925-8903 ext. 228 (office)
kathyc@catadoptionteam.org
catadoptionteam.org



Cat Adoption Team Celebrates Portland Named a Top 10 Cat-Friendly City By CATalyst Council

(March 30, 2009) – The Cat Adoption Team in Sherwood congratulates Portland for its outstanding ranking as one of the top 10 Cat-Friendly Cities in the US, as recently determined by the CATalyst Council (released March 27, 2009).

“Everyone knows how dog-friendly Portland is,” comments Aaron Asmus, Executive Director of the Cat Adoption Team in Sherwood. “CAT is excited that Portland is also receiving national recognition for being a top cat-friendly city!” And CAT knows cat-friendly people! Over the past 10 years, CAT has seen feline adoptions grow 1,179 percent.

The number of owned cats outnumbers that of dogs by almost 10 million (81.7 million pet cats to 72 million pet dogs according to the 2007 American Veterinary Medical Association US Pet Ownership & Demographic Sourcebook).

What makes a cat-friendly city? The love and care cats receive, says the CATalyst Council. Factors such as cat ownership per capita, the level of veterinary care, micro-chipping and cat-friendly ordinances factored in the selection. The CATalyst Council hopes to call attention to how much America’s number one companion, the cat, is loved and cared for in all of the cities named, and set the bar for other cities to follow.

Come visit the cat-friendliest place in the Portland Metro area – the Cat Adoption Team. Just minutes off I-5, CAT has over 250 felines waiting to make your acquaintance. Find adoption information, feline biographies, and everything you need to know about cats at catadoptionteam.org.

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MEDIA INVITATION: Spice up this story with great b-roll and audio of cute cats. Call or email Kathy.

The Cat Adoption Team (CAT) is the Pacific Northwest’s largest non-profit, feline-only shelter. CAT was the first animal shelter in Oregon with its own full service veterinary hospital on site. CAT’s mission is to work with the community to save the lives of unwanted, homeless, sick, and injured cats and kittens by offering shelter, adoption, foster, hospice, spay/neuter, and veterinary services to end needless feline euthanasia. CAT will find homes for over 3,250 felines this year. As a 501(c)(3) publicly-supported charity, CAT relies on the generous support of the public and volunteers.

The CATalyst Council is a national initiative comprised of animal health and welfare organizations and corporations to champion the cat in light of troubling statistics released by the American Veterinary Medical Association that show an increase in the cat population coupled with a decline in veterinary visits for cats. For more information, visit www.catalystcouncil.org. The effort to study America’s major metropolitan areas is part of the

CATalyst Council's mission to address some alarming statistics for America's cat population. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) the number of cats owned has grown by more than one-third this decade, from 61.1 million in 2001 to 81.7 million in 2006 while cat visits to the veterinarian fell some 11 percent between 2001 and 2006.

14175 SW Galbreath Drive ~ Sherwood OR 97140 ~ (503) 925-8903 ~ catadoptionteam.org