OUR MISSION

MAD Cats improves the lives of community and domestic cats in Virginia’s Madison and Culpeper Counties. We focus our efforts on reducing the birth rate of our resident felines to prevent the overpopulation and needless suffering of these animals. By keeping the local cat population healthy, and in check, fewer cats are euthanized due to a lack of shelter space and available adopters.

We strive to ensure that the cats in our region lead full and happy lives with the care and kindness they deserve.

In 2017 (Before MadCats)

- Madison County Shelter: 436 cats taken in, 203 euthanized
- Culpeper County Shelter: 495 cats taken in, 78 euthanized*

In 2021 (After MadCats)

- Madison County Shelter: 216 cats taken in, 21 euthanized
- Culpeper County Shelter: 258 cats taken in, 40 euthanized*

*VDACS 2021 Public Shelter Reporting Data
OUR WORK

Cat colonies grow rapidly.

A female cat reaches maturity at about 5-6 months of age and can have a litter of 6-8 kittens before she is a year old. If the first litter is born in the spring or summer, she may be pregnant again when the first litter is only 8-9 weeks old. Her offspring will be producing their own litters within a year. And so on. It’s easy to see how a single breeding female can lead to a burgeoning cat colony. That’s why we focus on controlling the community cat population.

We educate residents on the benefits of sterilizing their cats.

Many people aren’t aware of the suffering that often comes from rampant feline reproduction. Many litters end up undernourished, in poor conditions, where they are afflicted with disease, injury, and predation by other animals. Others end up in overtaxed animal shelters that are forced to euthanize cats who are not, or cannot be adopted.

We remove barriers to getting cats spayed and neutered.

Many cat owners do not have the time, money, and/or inclination to take their cats to a veterinary hospital to be spayed or neutered. However, this surgery—which removes the animal’s reproductive organs—is essential to preventing overpopulation. Our volunteers work with owners and residents to trap, transport, and pay for these surgeries.
We’re making a difference.

By preventing cat reproduction, we save lives. With an average female cat birthing two liters per year, each un-spayed female cat produces about 9 kittens a year.

We spayed 466 female cats, thereby preventing 4,194 births.

In 2022, we spayed/neutered/vaccinated 932 cats, Up from 232 cats in 2018.
OUR PROGRAMS

Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Program

TNR is the globally recognized humane approach to help control cat overpopulation. It was our main and only program when we first organized in 2018, but within a few weeks—when we rescued our first kittens—our foster program was born.

In 2022, we spayed/neutered and vaccinated 932 cats and have made big strides from our first full year, 2019, when our total was 232. After several years of rapid expansion, we are fast approaching the physical limits of clinical appointment availability, transport capacity, and available volunteer trappers. In other words, we are just about maxed out.

Last year, we trapped 50 out of 52 weeks, sometimes with more than one appointment. Our vehicles hold a max of about 15 cats and there are only a certain number of appointments available at clinics within two hours driving time. We’re reaching the logistical limits of handling more cats and are always seeking new volunteers.

Foster to Adoption Program

We take in kittens and juveniles, providing all their medical care, socialization, and nurturing to prepare them for adoption. All are spayed/neutered and vaccinated prior to being transferred to our partner rescues and humane societies. In 2022, we took in 330 kittens and cats in this program.
**Kitten Foster Program**

Our foster kittens come from our TNR colonies, the community at large, and this year, the Culpeper Animal Shelter. We take in orphans from a few hours old to kittens approximately 8-10 weeks, when they can still be socialized. We also take pregnant moms, too late to spay, and moms with litters.

This year we have taken in 325 kittens:
- 251 have been adopted, transferred to larger rescues, or returned to owner
- 41 are currently in foster care
- 33 died in care from illness

**Cat & Kitten Adoption Program**

MAD Cats is a "foster-based" rescue, meaning our foster kittens and cats live with our volunteers. When COVID hit, we could no longer allow potential adopters to come to our homes. We contacted larger rescues in more urban areas to see if they could help. We have been able to partner with rescues in Richmond, Fredericksburg, Winchester, and Arlington to transfer our Spayed/Neutered, socialized kittens into their programs. We recognize we are losing a considerable amount of revenue in adoption fees and the long-term strain on our volunteers caring for such vulnerable and fragile lives. We are actively looking for a location to house our foster kittens and resume adoptions in 2023.
Domestic Cats Spay/Neuter Program

In 2020, we added domestic cats to our programs, providing owners a no-cost option. Many owners choose to donate, but no one is turned away.

Food Assistance & Distribution Program

Many "owner surrenders" to shelters are because owners can't afford to feed their pets. We provide monthly deliveries of food to our Colony Caretakers and any cat owner in need of food support to help them keep their cats in their home.

MAD Cats volunteers deliver approximately 300-350 lbs of dry food per month. This program is available to our managed colony caretakers, meaning all cats have been S/N and vaccinated. We also provide food to owners of domestic cats when providing food support allows them to keep their cats and not surrender them to the shelter.

We distribute over 4,000 lbs of food a year to community cats.
COMMUNITY BUSINESS PARTNERS

Thank You to Our Local Business Supporters!

Ace Collision Center
American Woodmark
Bald Top Brewing Co
Battlefield Toyota
Beer Hound Brewery
Blue Quartz Winery
Crescere Resort, LLC
Culpeper Star Exponent
Culpeper Amateur Radio Assn
Xpress Printing
Frenchman’s Corner
Graves Market and Deli
Graves Mt. Lodge
Jenny Lynd’s Pizza
Leon’s Auto Parts
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Madison Ford
Madison Auto Parts
Madison County Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center
Madison County Parks & Recreation
Prince Michel Winery
Plow and Hearth Outlet, Madison
Remington Pharmacy
Reigning Cats & Dogs
Shotwell Run Brewing Co
Southside Treasures & Thrift
The Cat’s Pajamas
The Graves Family
The Possum Store
The Little Country Store, Etlan
Wolftown Market

BENEFACTORS

American Woodmark Foundation
Jessica Beath Foundation
Onyx & Breezy Foundation
Richie–Kirk Foundation
Two Mauds Foundation
Ursula Landsrath Foundation

Thank You for Our Generous Foundation Supporters!
OUR FINANCES

Fundraising

2022 has been our most successful fundraising year to date! Our community really came through for us. We have raised more than $36,000 through events, festivals, and online raffles.

Annual Festivals and Events..................$18,788
We raise funds through online events, online raffles and in-person events and festivals. Three of our best efforts include:

- **GML Apple Harvest Festival**—MAD Cats has participated in the Apple Harvest Festival at Graves Mountain Lodge in Syria, VA since 2018—a 3 weekend event. Syria is the home of our first community cat colony.

- **Cat Sock Sales**—You might know us from our cat socks and handmade cat-themed merchandise. The brain-child of one of our founding members, our sock tables can be found at events every month at locations in and around Madison County. Over the years we have added other cat-related merchandise, much of it handmade by one of our volunteers.

- **Give Local Piedmont (GLP)**, an online one-day event. We have been participating in GLP for 4 years. Most of the donations come from our Cat community, near and far.

Grants......................$17,250
Our solid 3-year history of achievements and program growth made us competitive for foundation Grants in the category of animal rescue.

In addition to grant money made directly to MadCats, there was a $75,000 Anonymous foundation grant for S/N Program that was paid directly to veterinary clinics.

Direct Donations.......................$24,300
Our "cat" community contacts list has more than doubled in size since we started publishing a monthly newsletter, many direct donations come in through Facebook, our website (www.MadisonCommunityCats.com), and individual cash or check donations.
Program Expenses

TNR and Domestic Spay/Neuter Clinical Costs
Our signature program is by far our greatest expense. The average cost to Spay/Neuter and vaccinate a cat is $90–$100 plus the extra costs for pregnancy and other services. We paid $7,304 over the $75,000 foundation grant to cover all related expenses.

TNR Supplies and Equipment
Traps wear out; we purchase 6–10 per year. This year we also purchased a heavy-duty condo to house cats being held more than 24 hours, prior to or after S/N surgery. It is also used to house sick or injured cats and occasionally litters of moms and kittens. This was a one-time expense which will last many years.

Vet Expenses and Foster Home Supplies
For 2022, our foster intake was 350 kittens and a few adult cats. We provide vet expenses for our foster kittens and cats, along with supplies of food and other care items. We administer our own vaccines treatments, and medications to our foster animal in order to reduce vet expenses –

Colony Cat Support
MAD Cats provides monthly donations of food to more than 18 colony caretakers. The number of colonies has increased each year as many of our caregivers are financially challenged and unable to provide for a colony of cats. We also build and distribute winter shelters.

Community Vet Expenses
This program was discontinued mid-year. It was set up to assist with vet expenses for sick/injured cats whose owners could not afford care. We recognized that the amount of money needed to continue was more than we could provide without more resources and planning. We will explore the possibility of establishing an emergency fund in the future.
Thank you to our dedicated group of volunteers! We could not do this without you. We’re grateful for your support, your generosity, and your kindness to our community cats.

Mad Cats is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. All donations are tax deductible in accordance with IRS guidelines. EIN: 83-2073006

We couldn’t do what we do without the support of our amazing community, local businesses, and small but mighty band of passionate volunteers.

To donate via check, please send to:

**Madison Community Cats**
53 Robinson Lane
Syria, VA 22743