

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE of BOSTON



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For Release on:

March 23, 2022

ARL Seeing Significant Uptick in Community Cat Intakes

Since January, the Animal Rescue League of Boston's (ARL) Field Services Department has been extraordinarily busy rescuing community cats and kittens from cities and towns throughout ARL's service area, and is expecting another record-breaking year for intakes.

Media Availability

When: Wednesday, March 23, 9-11 a.m.

Where: ARL Boston, 10 Chandler St., Boston, MA

Photo Opportunities: Kittens and cats recently brought to ARL

While community cats mate year-round, May through October was typically the months where ARL would see the vast majority of kittens being born, however, due to mild late fall and winter months, this is no longer the case.

ARL is the only large animal welfare organization in Massachusetts directing resources to help community cats, and in 2021, ARL brought in nearly 900 community cats, a 175 percent increase over 2020, and 2022 is shaping up to be even busier. Already in 2022, ARL has taken in nearly 100 community cats and kittens and is anticipating a continuous flow of community cats coming through ARL's doors throughout the year.

Current data estimates there are approximately 700,000 community cats living in communities across the Commonwealth, 70,000 in Boston alone.

While community cats are incredibly resilient, kittens born outdoors are extremely vulnerable to fluctuating weather conditions, predators, illness, among others, and sadly many don't survive.

Community cats and kittens can be found literally anywhere – under decks, in basements, woodpiles, dog houses – anywhere a mother cat can provide relative safety and warmth for her offspring.

ARL is committed to caring for these animals and reminds the public to be on the lookout for community cats and kittens. If you come across these cats and kittens, it's important not to attempt to move them, instead contact ARL Field Service for assistance at (617) 426-9170 (option 1). Once the cats and kittens are rescued, ARL provides veterinary care, including vaccinations and spay/neuter surgery, and the cats are also assessed behaviorally to determine adoption potential. Adult cats who are truly feral and do not want to rely on humans for care are returned to the field.

ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Founded in 1899, ARL provides high-quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2021, ARL served over 23,000 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The Animal Rescue League of Boston does not receive government grants or public funding and relies on the generosity of our supporters to help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at; and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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