

**ANIMAL  
RESCUE  
LEAGUE  
of BOSTON**



*A champion for animals*

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## **Below Freezing Morning Nearly Claims Life of Homeless Kitten**

*ARL collaborates with community cat feeder to save kitten's life*

A 5-week-old kitten who was recently found cold to the touch in Berkley, MA, on a brisk November morning when temperatures dipped below the freezing mark, is getting a second chance thanks to the quick actions of a community cat feeder and the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL).

The kitten, now named Applesauce, was discovered amongst a cat colony by a resident who monitors and feeds the colony and was very alarmed when the kitten was found cold and listless. The finder took the kitten inside, contacted ARL's Field Services Department, and did their best to warm up the kitten, by using blankets and providing sugar water.

ARL responded to the home and transported the kitten to ARL's Dedham Animal Care and Adoption Center. Upon intake, the kitten's temperature was just 93F – a cat's normal body temperature is typically between 100.5-102.5F.

ARL's veterinary team used a heated blanket to help increase the kitten's body temperature and closely monitored him. Over the course of several hours, the kitten's temperature had risen to 98F, and he was starting to perk up, indicated by a voracious appetite. Aside from being nearly frozen to death, the kitten was otherwise in good health.

With the kitten stable, ARL placed Applesauce into foster care, where his foster family reported that for the first 24-36 hours the kitten was lethargic and spent most of his time curled up in a

blanket sleeping. However, by the third day in the foster home, Applesauce rebounded, being very vocal, attention-seeking, and purring for hours on end!

At just 7-weeks-old, Applesauce is still too young to find his forever home, however, ARL is thrilled that after the quick actions of the finder, he will have the opportunity to find a family and live the life he deserves. He should be available for adoption in a matter of weeks.

For photos of Applesauce, please click the Dropbox link below:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/6l9q4gknf1q6hlwx6ru8g/h?rlkey=zemfpoph67hbslv1s65k2akjc&dl=0>

### **ARL and Community Cats**

ARL is the only large animal welfare agency in Massachusetts with staff specifically dedicated to community cats.

ARL's [Community Cat Program](#) rescues hundreds of community cats annually to help slow the cycle of homelessness among cats, providing medical care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, and determining whether each cat will be returned to the colony, returned to their owner if microchipped, or admitted to an ARL shelter to be put up for adoption if they are friendly.

There are an estimated 700,000 community cats residing in Massachusetts, 70,000 in Boston alone. ARL encourages anyone who discovers cats living outdoors to contact ARL Field Services at (617) 426-9170 x563.

### **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 2022, ARL served 20,601 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 [arlboston.org](http://arlboston.org); and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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