

**ANIMAL
RESCUE
LEAGUE
of BOSTON**



A champion for animals

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ARL Seeing Steady Influx of Community Cats and Kittens
Colder weather raising concern for younger community cats and kittens

With mild winters becoming common place, there is no such thing as kitten season anymore, and the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) continues to see a steady influx of cats and kittens from outdoor cat colonies throughout Massachusetts – and with colder temperatures settling into our area, younger cats and kittens will become more vulnerable and in need of help.

ARL currently has a large number of cats and kittens in its care and invites members of the media to meet some of the cats and kittens, learn more about the organization’s efforts to help these local animals, and how local residents can become involved.

Media Availability

When: Friday, November 24, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Where: ARL’s Dedham Animal Care and Adoption Center, 55 Anna’s Place,
Dedham**

Interview Opportunities: ARL staff

To date, ARL has taken in nearly **800** community cats and kittens from all corners of the state, and the organization’s Community Cat Program shows no sign of slowing down heading into winter. With colder temperatures jeopardizing the health, safety, and possibly the lives of

young cats and kittens, ARL is ramping up its efforts to take in as many of these animals as possible and get them the help they need.

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

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 animals, 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 a wide range of 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.

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 cannot do this work alone and needs help from residents who share concern for the welfare of these vulnerable animals.

For more information about ARL's Community Cat Program please visit [Community Cat Program \(arlboston.org\)](https://www.arlboston.org/community-cat-program)

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](https://www.arlboston.org); and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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