

## **Outdoor Cat Supplies and Resources**

Most cats will stay if they are treated well and feel safe in your location. Establish a bond with your cats by talking to them while they eat, giving them wet food and cat treats, and providing stimulation with toys such as play mice. Good wet food options are any of the Friskies poultry flavors or Fancy Feast Gravy Lovers Chicken.

## **Shelter**

Outdoor cats should always have access to safe warm shelter. Ideally you will have a secure shelter such as a barn, shed, or other outbuilding, but leaving your garage door open enough for your cats to come and go at night and in cold weather is also an option.

Straw (**not hay**) is good bedding for cats during cold weather. Other options for keeping outdoor cats warm are small heated pet shelters sold through Chewy or Amazon. Pet safe heating pads or Snugglesafe microwaveable discs can also keep your cats safely warm.

It is easy to construct a winter box from a cooler or other plastic container if your cat needs additional protection from the cold. You Tube has many videos available with instructions for constructing winter boxes and other shelters for cats.

Outdoor cats also need a safe location to eat and drink. A table or shelf in their shelter area provides security. If you live in an area where other animals can be a problem, try feeding wet food at a specified time twice a day while using a phrase of your choice such as “here, kitty, kitty”. This helps your outdoor cats learn that your voice and specific words are the signal for feeding so you can feed them without leaving food out that may be eaten by other animals.

## **Flea Treatments and Dewormers**

If your cats will let you touch and pet them there are several products such as Revolution Plus and Bravecto Plus that control both fleas and worms. These can be purchased from your veterinarian.

Capstar is a pill that can be given to your cat and acts to kill fleas in hours. Capstar can be purchased from your veterinarian or from sources such as Chewy and Amazon.

Profender is a broad spectrum dewormer that can be given once a month. It can be purchased through your veterinarian.

If your cats will not allow you to touch them, try food grade diatomaceous earth to sprinkle in your cats living area and bedding. It can also be given with food to help control fleas. Food grade diatomaceous earth can be purchased through Chewy, Amazon and other sources. **Be sure to purchase food grade, not filter grade!**

Drontal Dewormer is a pill that can be given with food to control worms and can be purchased through multiple sources.