



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 19, 2019

Working Cats Clock In for a Second Chance at a Home *LASCC & WCF Announce Cats Clocking In Program*

As the winter weather continues, Lafayette parish residents may find evidence of rodents seeking shelter from the cold in their homes, garages, and businesses. Lafayette Animal Shelter and Care Center (LASCC) and WildCat Foundation (WCF) have teamed up to create a program that offers an all-natural pest control solution free of poisons and traps. Cats Clocking In (CCI) is an adoption program that matches cats that are unsuitable for a traditional adoption with homeowners and businesses that would like an extra layer of rodent security.

CCI is an extension of LASCC's Trap, Neuter, Return program, which traps, sterilizes, and returns feral cats to where they were found. In some cases, the last step is not possible. LASCC Supervisor Shelley Delahoussaye explains, "Feral and semi-feral cats are unable to be returned to the area they lived previously for various reasons. Presently, cats in this situation live at our shelter's barn, but it is not a long-term solution. The new CCI program will place these 'unwanted cats' somewhere that they are not only wanted, but needed. Cats are excellent, environmentally friendly rodent deterrents. CCI will relocate feral cats and give them a job doing what they love to do naturally! It's a win-win in our book!"

Unlike a traditional adoption, CCI promotes a business relationship between working cats and their new employers. In exchange for food, water, shelter and basic medical care, the cats will deter rodents from their new home. Working cats are employed where pest control is needed such as barns, farms, factories, warehouses, stores and private property. Having a working cat on patrol prevents rodents from taking up residence in these areas. With the assistance of SpayNation, working cats are spayed/neutered, microchipped, vaccinated, and ear tipped at no cost to the adopter. Those interested in hiring a working cat or cats can find out more here:

<http://www.lafayettela.gov/LASCC/Pages/Cats-Clocking-In.aspx>

Paula Stude, president of Wild Cat Foundation/SpayNation believes Cats Clocking In can help improve the reputation stray cats currently carry. "Rather than seeing our stray cats as problems, we can take compassionate steps to make sure every cat has its place." Spay Nation/Wildcat Foundation is offering its feline expertise to adopters interested in hiring a working cat. "We are excited that our partnership with LASCC is expanding," Stude explained, "with each new development animals are being saved & No Kill 2020 is becoming a reality."

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