



**MICHIGAN  
ANTI-CRUELTY  
SOCIETY**

## **10 REASONS TO KEEP YOUR CAT INDOORS**

The Humane Society of United States reports that one in three pets will get lost during its lifetime. Despite best efforts by animal shelters and rescue groups to reunite displaced pets with their owners, very few find their way home again without a microchip. No wonder animal shelters are overcrowded with homeless animals!

To help increase the odds of a reunion, Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society (MACS) microchips all of their pets before they are adopted out and invites all pet owners to take advantage of their low-cost microchipping service for \$25. The microchip, about the size of a grain of rice, is implanted under the skin at the back of the neck and a handheld scanner is used to display the pet's unique chip number, which is registered to the owner.

For added safety and good health, MACS encourages cat owners to keep their feline friends inside. Here are 10 reasons to keep your cat indoors:

1. A cat that spends more time outdoors may live on average 2 to 3 years less than a cat that lives exclusively indoors.
2. Outdoor cats are at risk of being struck by a vehicle.
3. Other animals can seriously injure or kill outdoor cats.
4. Thieves have been known to steal outdoor cats and sell them to research laboratories for experimentation.
5. During cold weather, cats seeking shelter in the engine compartment of a vehicle can be injured or killed when the vehicle is started.
6. People who don't like cats might torture, poison, shoot, or trap outdoor cats to kill them.
7. Outdoor cats are exposed to more illnesses and diseases, like rabies, upper respiratory infections, feline leukemia, feline AIDS, and feline infectious peritonitis.
8. Outdoor cats have an increased risk of parasites, like fleas, ticks and worms.
9. Outdoor cats seeking shelter from inclement weather can accidentally get trapped in a garage for days without food or water.
10. Outdoor cats might get lost and cannot find their way home.

MACS recommends that even indoor cats be microchipped in case the cat slips out an open door or window. To microchip your pet and for routine veterinary services, the MACS walk-in veterinary clinic is open Tuesday-Saturday from 10:00am-2:00pm. All services are first come, first served.

Low-cost feline and canine spay/neuter surgery is offered at the MACS clinic, but must be scheduled in advance by calling the clinic at 313-369-9863.

To adopt a pet from MACS, please visit the shelter during adoption hours Tuesday-Saturday from 10:30am-3:00pm or fill out the adoption application online at [www.macsshelter.org](http://www.macsshelter.org).

### **About Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society**

Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society has been helping pets and pet owners in Detroit since 1935. Every year MACS helps thousands of pet owners with free or low-cost veterinary services and other pet-related resources. MACS is located at 13569 Joseph Campau, Detroit, Michigan 48212. For more information, please visit [www.macsshelter.org](http://www.macsshelter.org) or follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/macs1935](http://www.facebook.com/macs1935).

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