

# **Leave Litters Alone**

Like all babies, kittens are best left with their mothers who instinctively know how to help their offspring grow up to be strong and healthy. If you find a litter of kittens, here's what you can do to give them the best chance of survival:

### Underage Kittens (under 2lbs or younger than 8 weeks)

See if mom is around. If she's gone, wait 2-4 hours to see if she comes back. She could just be out getting food.

If mom is there: Leave the kittens where they are (unless they are in immediate danger, then you should move them to a safe, outdoor space) until they are 2 lbs. or 8 weeks old. Then follow the instructions below.

*If mom is gone:* If mom has not returned, you should foster the kittens, or find someone who is willing to foster, until they are 2 lbs. and then follow the instructions below.

Just like any wildlife, socializing kittens can make them dependent on humans for survival. Leaving them to learn to live on their own gives them the best chance of survival.

### Weaned Kittens (at least 2 lbs. or older than 8 weeks)

Bring the kittens to Animal Care or another spay/neuter clinic to be fixed. They must be in a humane cat trap (you can borrow one from Animal Care for a small, fully refundable deposit) to take advantage of our Community Cats free spay/neuter program.

After they're spayed/neutered, return them to their outdoor home so they can live happily ever after. This will effectively work to reduce the cat population and prevent more cats from entering the area (we call this method TNR).

### You can be a part of the solution to pet overpopulation:

- Volunteer to foster young, orphaned kittens.
- Support & practice TNR.
- Spread the word about how to best help kittens survive.



For more information or for help with caring for kittens, contact:

Greenville County Animal Care (864) 467-3981 328 Furman Hall Road Greenville, SC 29609



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