

**WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO HELP STOP THIS SENSELESS KILLING?**



**THE SPAY SHUTTLE FUND**

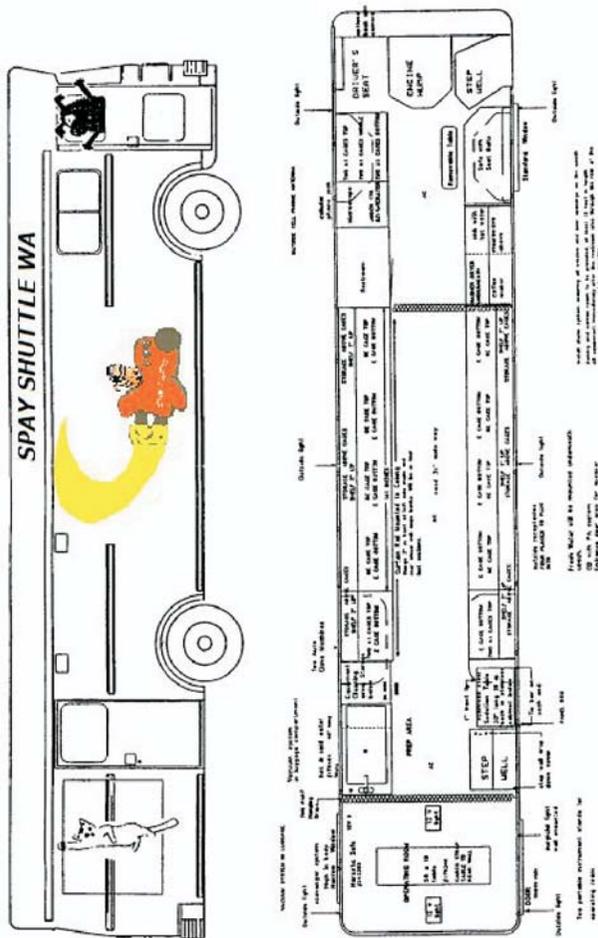
Cat Alliance of Australia is, together with several animal welfare groups, appealing for money and equipment to build a mobile veterinary spay & neuter clinic by 2011. The Spay Shuttle program will operate with the support of the veterinary profession to provide low-cost, high volume desexing to communities around WA during kitten season. The clinic will also offer low cost desexing for dogs. We hope you will support our fundraising initiatives.

**Our aims**

1. To raise \$250,000 to build a mobile clinic (converted bus/truck) with capacity for 3 surgery tables and treatment/surgical preparation facilities.
2. To raise \$50,000 for the first year of operation including developing and printing community education and information materials to facilitate Spay Shuttle clinics.
3. To purchase medical and surgical equipment and consumables such as sutures and gauze.

In the US low cost desexing clinics have dramatically decreased euthanasia rates from 17 million in 1980 to 4.5 million in 1995.

**TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

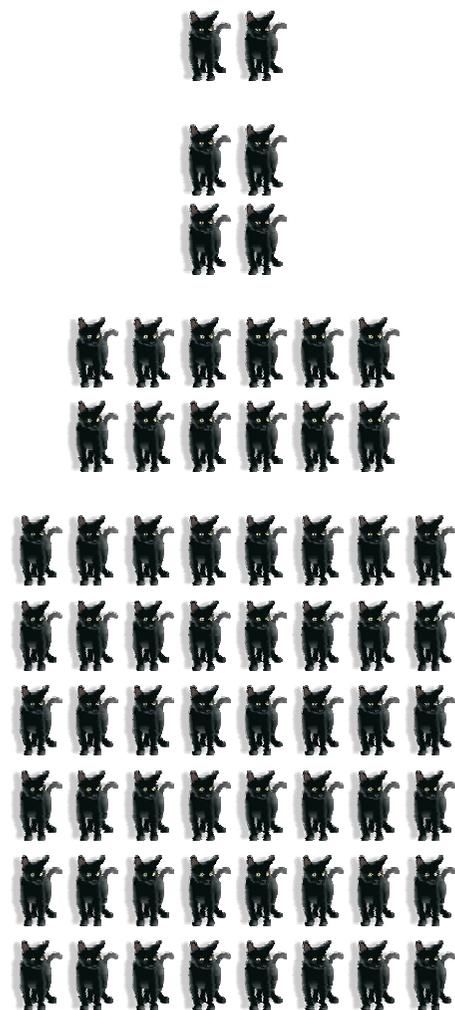


**Cat Alliance of Australia**  
[www.catallianceaustralia.org](http://www.catallianceaustralia.org)  
 Phone: 9524 1398

Constructive dialogue and collaboration towards better cat welfare

**STOP KITTY 'GENOCIDE'**  
**DESEX YOUR CATS!**

*Feeding an Unowned Cat?  
 Please Ensure it is Desexed*





## KITTY 'GENOCIDE'

**FACT #1:** In 2009, well over 13,000 healthy cats had to be euthanised or destroyed in Western Australia. This figure does not include country areas.

**FACT #2:** In December 2009 alone, Cat Haven accepted 1000 cats. During summer, 80 cats are euthanised every day at Cat Haven.

**FACT #3:** RSPCA WA saw an increase of 59% in the number of cats that were surrendered to it in 2009

**FACT #4:** Nationally, 66,205 cats were surrendered to RSPCA in 2008/9: 39,495 of these were euthanised.

In 2009, Cat Haven & RSPCA managed to find new homes for over 2,500 cats but this was still not enough to save the 13,000 cats that had to be euthanised or destroyed by local council pounds, rangers and animal welfare groups. When no veterinarians are available people resort to shooting, bludgeoning or drowning these cats.

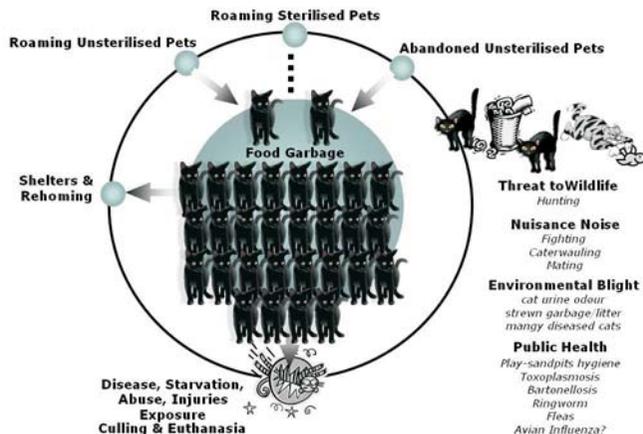
## THE PROBLEM

80-90% of pet cats are already desexed but surveys have shown that 1 in 5 households feeds a roaming cat that is not the family pet. A large proportion of these unowned cats are not desexed. These non-desexed unowned cats and non-desexed outdoor pet cats are the cause of the cat overpopulation problem.

## HOW MANY CATS? DO THE MATHS!

Female cats start reproducing once they are 4 to 7 months old. Mating season starts in July and August and kittens are born in October or November. Female cats can cycle again within a month and produce another litter in March to April. A non desexed stray female cat has, on average, 2.1 litters per year and 4.25 kittens per litter. Within 2 months of birth 42% of stray kittens will die of exposure, disease or malnutrition. Many will end up at shelters or pounds to be euthanised. Those that survive go on to be prolific breeders. Life as a stray cat can be hard with the expected lifespan being approximately three years. Indoor pet cats can be expected to live for 15-20 years or even longer. Despite a short life, a stray female cat is still capable of producing 5.25 litters or 22.3 kittens. Over 12 years, a single breeding female, together with all her female offspring that survive to reproduce will be responsible for over 3200 new cats!!

Culling stray cats is ineffective and costly because cats are very prolific. Many of the problems associated with stray cats like noise pollution and urine spraying are also worsened by periodic culling. Culling destabilizes the stray cat population and does nothing to prevent new cats from moving into the area that has been culled. Survivors become more difficult to tag and cull leading to eventual failure of such programs.



## WHAT CAN I DO?

### 1. DESEX YOUR PET CATS

Firstly, make enquiries with your local council as several WA local councils, like Bunbury Council, offer pet desexing coupons to their residents. Councils also have schemes offering subsidised desexing of cats are available to pensioners and low income families along with Cat Haven and Cat Sterilisation Society. (see box below)

### 2. GET HELP TO DESEX YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD'S STRAY CATS

If you know of breeding stray cats at your workplace or in your neighbourhood and would like to do something about it contact Cat Sterilisation or Cat Alliance of Australia. Although these volunteer organizations may not be able to provide direct assistance immediately because of resource constraints, they have the knowledge, experience and support networks to assist you.

### 3. EDUCATE NEIGHBOURS WITH ROAMING NON-DESEXED PET CATS

Educate your neighbours and friends about cat overpopulation and persuade and help them to do the right thing to either keep their cat confined to their premises or get their cat desexed. No owned cat should contribute to the problem. This pamphlet can be downloaded and printed from the Cat Alliance of Australia website.

### 4. SUPPORT THE ANIMAL WELFARE GROUPS & HELP REHOME CATS.

Every donation helps however small or large and if you are looking for a pet cat try these places first to see what they have available.

Cat Haven  
[www.cathaven.com.au](http://www.cathaven.com.au) Tel: 9442 3600

Cat Sterilisation Society  
[www.catsterilisation.com.au](http://www.catsterilisation.com.au) Tel: 9397 5062

Cat Alliance of Australia  
[www.catalliance.org](http://www.catalliance.org) Tel: 9524 1398

Phone your local council to see if they offer a subsidy for sterilisation