



Poquoson Animal Welfare Sanctuary, Inc. Intake Policy

1. Found Stray Felines: Based on resources and space availability, P.A.W.S. will accept into custody stray, abandoned, or abused felines in and around the city of Poquoson.

Per Title 3.2. *Agriculture, Animal Care, and Food, Chapter 65 Comprehensive Animal Care, § 3.2 – 6548. Private animal shelters; Confinement and disposition of animals; Affiliation with foster care providers; Penalties; injunctive relief*, any found feline will be reported as found with description per annotated on the Animal Custody Record (ACR) to the local public animal shelter (Peninsula Regional Animal Shelter) within 48 hours of intake. A microchip scan will be performed. Additionally, intake protocol will begin (see PROTOCOL A. DETERMINING IF AN ILL, INJURED, OR OTHERWISE COMPROMISED ANIMAL REQUIRES VETERINARY TREATMENT).

Additionally, the cat will be posted as a found stray on our social media pages as well as local lost and found pages (performed by our Lost and Found Coordinator). Cat will be held by our rescue for 5 days to see if claimed. If not, feline will be processed either into the P.A.W.S. Foster / Adoption program or sanctuary residence depending on temperament.

2. Owner Surrendered Felines: P.A.W.S. will take back into custody any cat previously adopted out by P.A.W.S. to secure re-homing. Cats that are not previously P.A.W.S. cats will be considered on a case-by-case basis based on resources and space availability.

3. Agency Transfers in: P.A.W.S. will accept any previous P.A.W.S. cats that have been turned into local public and private shelters found through microchip identification. These felines will also be re-homed by our organization.

4. Agency Transfers out: On occasion, if due to lack of space, we will contact the local non-kill Peninsula SPCA to determine if they have space to accept a cat into their shelter. A transfer will be done in accordance with § 3.2 – 6548, *subsection E. transfers between shelters*.

5. Trapped Feral Cats within Colonies: P.A.W.S. will assist the community of Poquoson with trapping needs of feral cats to provide traps, education, temporary hold if needed and vetting for spay, neuter and vaccines. Under this provision, cats must be returned to a location where a citizen is providing food, shelter, and oversight. Cats will not be released to the field nor on property not expressly agreed upon by owner of said property.