
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 19, 2016

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FREE CATS

Spayed/neutered, Microchipped, Vaccinated and Ready for a New Home!

GRAND RAPIDS – Beginning Wednesday July 20, 2016, the Kent County Animal Shelter (KCAS) is offering **FREE ADULT CATS**, (over four months old) for adoption. Kittens under four months are available for adoption at half price. Qualified adopters will only pay \$20 compared to the normal price of \$40 for kittens. This offer is good through close of business Friday July 22. To apply, potential adopters simply need to come to the Kent County Animal Shelter, provide photo identification with a current address, and fill out an adoption form. Normal KCAS adoption guidelines will remain in place. Shelter personnel will verify with landlords of those adopters who rent that pets are accepted in their homes.

All of the cats currently available for adoption have already been spayed or neutered. Shelter staff test all adoptable cats for Feline Leukemia and FIV. Every cat is also up to date on all vaccinations, has been microchipped and has received a flea treatment. “These are good and loving pets,” says Dr. Christopher Buckley DVM, staff veterinarian at KCAS. “For whatever reason, we just have too many of them right now, and we want them to find good homes.”

The Kent County Health Department reminds people that the health benefits of pet ownership are well known. According to a University of Minnesota study, cat owners were 30 - 40% less likely to die of cardiovascular disease than non-cat owners. The study also found benefits from lower stress, lower blood pressure and increased life span.

The Kent County Animal Shelter is located at 740 Fuller N.E. in Grand Rapids. The shelter is open Monday through Friday 9:30-1 and 2-6:30. Interested media can call for a roll and interview appointments. The pictures attached are of cats that were actually available for adoption as of Tuesday. Feel free to use the photos with courtesy to the Kent County Animal Shelter in any way you see fit.

The offer for free cats expires when the shelter closes on Friday July 22. More about our adoption program can be found [here](#).

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KCHD has been in the business of providing health services to Kent County since 1931. The Health Department is home to nearly 265 employees including public health nurses, sanitarians, health educators, technicians, public health administrators, and specialized staff at the Kent County Animal Shelter. The Health Department operates one main clinic and three satellite clinics located in Kentwood, Rockford, and Grand Rapids. To learn more about KCHD services, visit www.accesskent.com/health.

700 FULLER AVE. NE, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503