



Our mission is to create a community without homeless pets by providing high quality affordable spay neuter and medical services.

ALTERNATIVES TO DECLAWING

HUMANE OHIO Humane Ohio operates a low-cost spay/neuter clinic and a pet food bank. Our vision is a community without homeless pets where every resident has access to affordable spay/neuter.

ALTERNATIVES TO DECLAWING THAT WILL MAKE YOU AND YOUR CAT HAPPY! Excerpts taken from Dr. Christianne Schelling, DVM and Traci Shreyer, Animal Behavior Counseling Services • Declawing can lead to physical, emotional and behavioral complications for your cat. It is erroneous to think that declawing a cat is a trivial procedure similar to trimming fingernails.

- Declawing is a surgical procedure that involves amputating the last joint of the cat's "toes." It is a very painful procedure with strong potential to secondary complications. (It would be like if we cut our finger off down to the knuckle.)
- The front claws are a cat's primary defense. Once declawed, there is no replacement or regrowth of the claws. You may think, "My cat never goes outside." But what if your cat accidentally gets outside and you can't find her? She is now defenseless in a potentially hostile environment.
- Deprived of its front claws, a cat may become insecure and distressed. A cat's display of distress tends to take such forms as urinating on your favorite rug or spraying your antique armoire. Feeling defenseless without her claws, your kitty may become hostile to people (including you) and to other cats, and become more apt to bite.
- Some cats develop an aversion to their litter box because of the pain associated with scratching in the litter after a declawing procedure. If your cat doesn't go in the box, she will find a more comfortable place to do her business. Often times, these habits are hard to break.

For more information on declawing, please visit www.declawing.com