

# WHAT YOU CAN DO



## If you find an injured songbird

Contact a wildlife rehabilitator near you  
[www.ontario.ca/page/find-wildliferehabilitator](http://www.ontario.ca/page/find-wildliferehabilitator)

## How to keep your cat indoors

Although it's easiest to raise your cat to stay indoors as a kitten, it IS possible to train an adult!

### To transition an outdoor cat to indoor life:



- Familiarize your cat to a scratching post and litter box first, and transition them slowly



- Feed your cat indoors, keeping them inside for increasingly longer times after feeding



- Discourage cats from running outside by squirting them with water



- Give cats stimulating toys to help foster their natural behaviours (e.g. hunting-based toys, a cat tree or jungle for climbing), play with your cat, and try giving them catnip



- Bring the outdoors inside
  - Provide a sunny window perch
  - Try growing cat grass
  - Provide hiding places

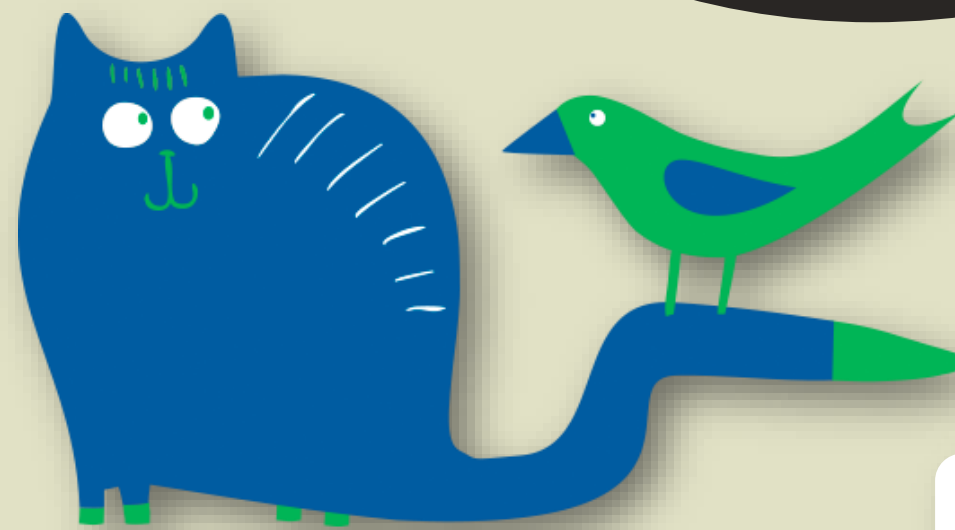


- Make the indoors comfortable
  - Keep the litter tray clean
  - Keep eating, drinking, litter, resting, and hiding places well-separated
  - Consider a second cat as a playmate

### Safe outdoor options:

- Provide a screen-enclosed outside area
- Harness train them for outdoor walks
- Ensure your cat has an ID tag or microchip and is spayed/neutered

# CHECK OUT THESE USEFUL RESOURCES



**CATS AND BIRDS**  
KEEP CATS SAFE AND SAVE BIRD LIVES



[catsandbirds.ca](http://catsandbirds.ca)



[spca.bc.ca/pet-care/care-behaviour/cats](http://spca.bc.ca/pet-care/care-behaviour/cats)



[goo.gl/QVfvPT](http://goo.gl/QVfvPT)



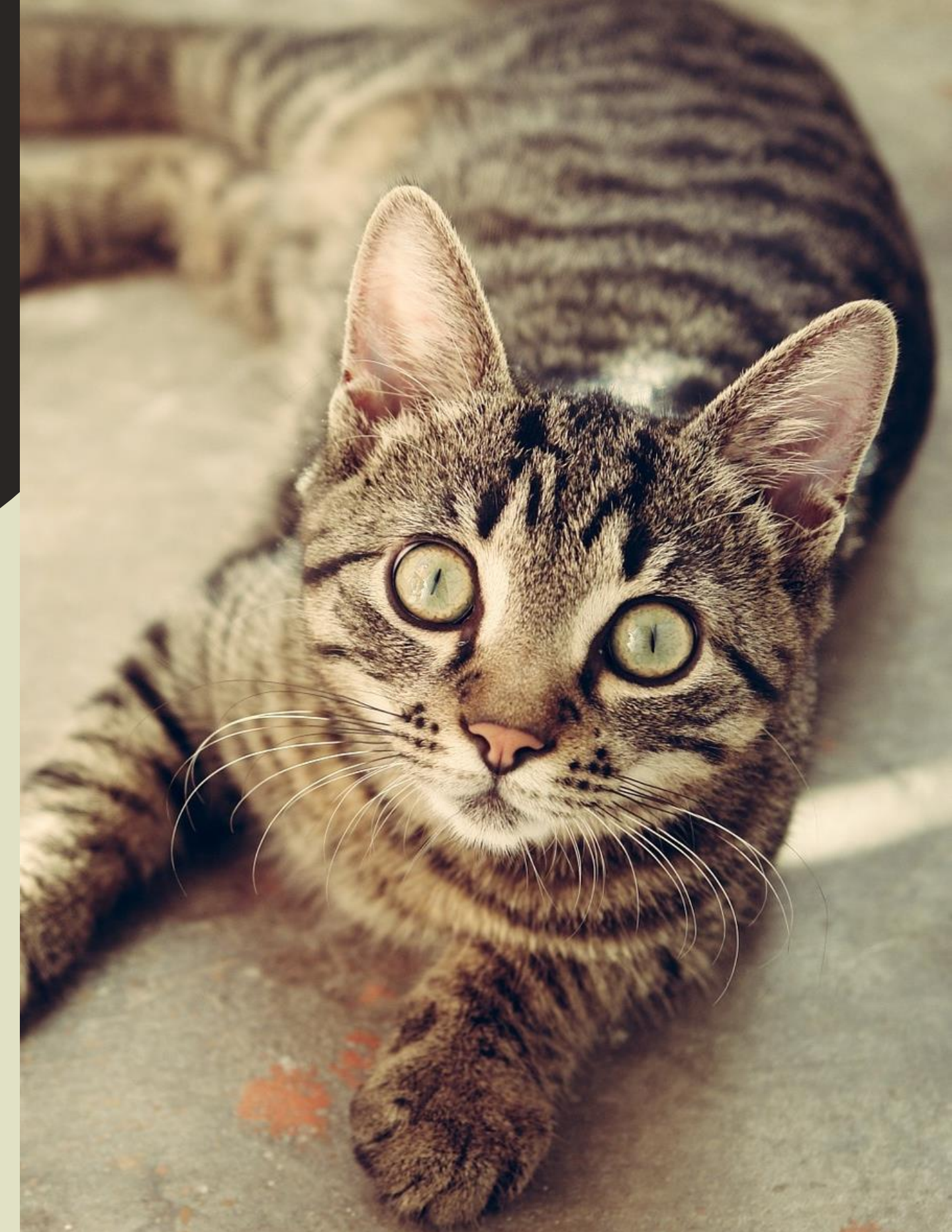
[petfinder.com/cats/cat-care](http://petfinder.com/cats/cat-care)



@TakingCareofCatsandBirds



@SafeCatSafeBird



# IS YOUR CAT SAFE OUTDOORS?

Know the risks and how to protect your pet, local birds, and our natural heritage.



[catsandbirds.ca](http://catsandbirds.ca)



## Your cat is in **DANGER** outside

As many as 40% of domestic cats spend time roaming outdoors, but these cats encounter many dangers and have significantly lower life expectancies.

### RISKS TO CATS OUTDOORS:

- Being hit by a car
- Disease (e.g. feline leukemia, feline aids, heartworm, rabies)
- Abuse
- Poisoning (e.g. from garden plants, antifreeze, rat poison)
- Frostbite
- Injury from fights with other animals
- Parasites (e.g. fleas, ticks)

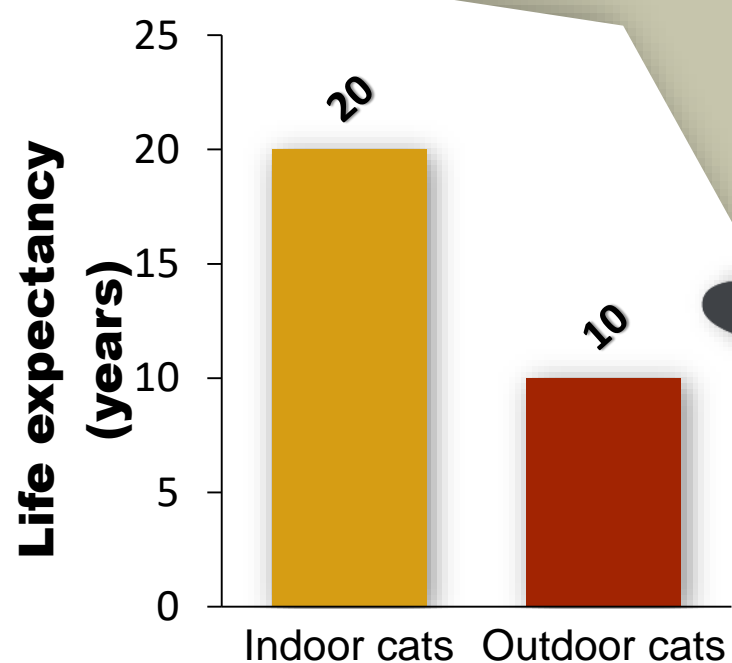
### DID YOU KNOW?

London by-laws forbid domestic pets to roam beyond the owner's property

in CANADA  
**50,000**  
HOMELESS CATS  
EUTHANIZED  
in 1 YEAR

**1300** DEAD  
CATS  
COLLECTED OFF  
the STREETS of  
TORONTO  
in 1 YEAR

**CATS**  
that roam free  
ARE EXPOSED TO  
**DISEASES,  
TOXINS,  
VEHICLE COLLISIONS**  
and OTHER CATS



## **BIRDS** are at risk

**BIRD SPECIES AT RISK UP FROM 47 to 86 BETWEEN 2001 & 2014**

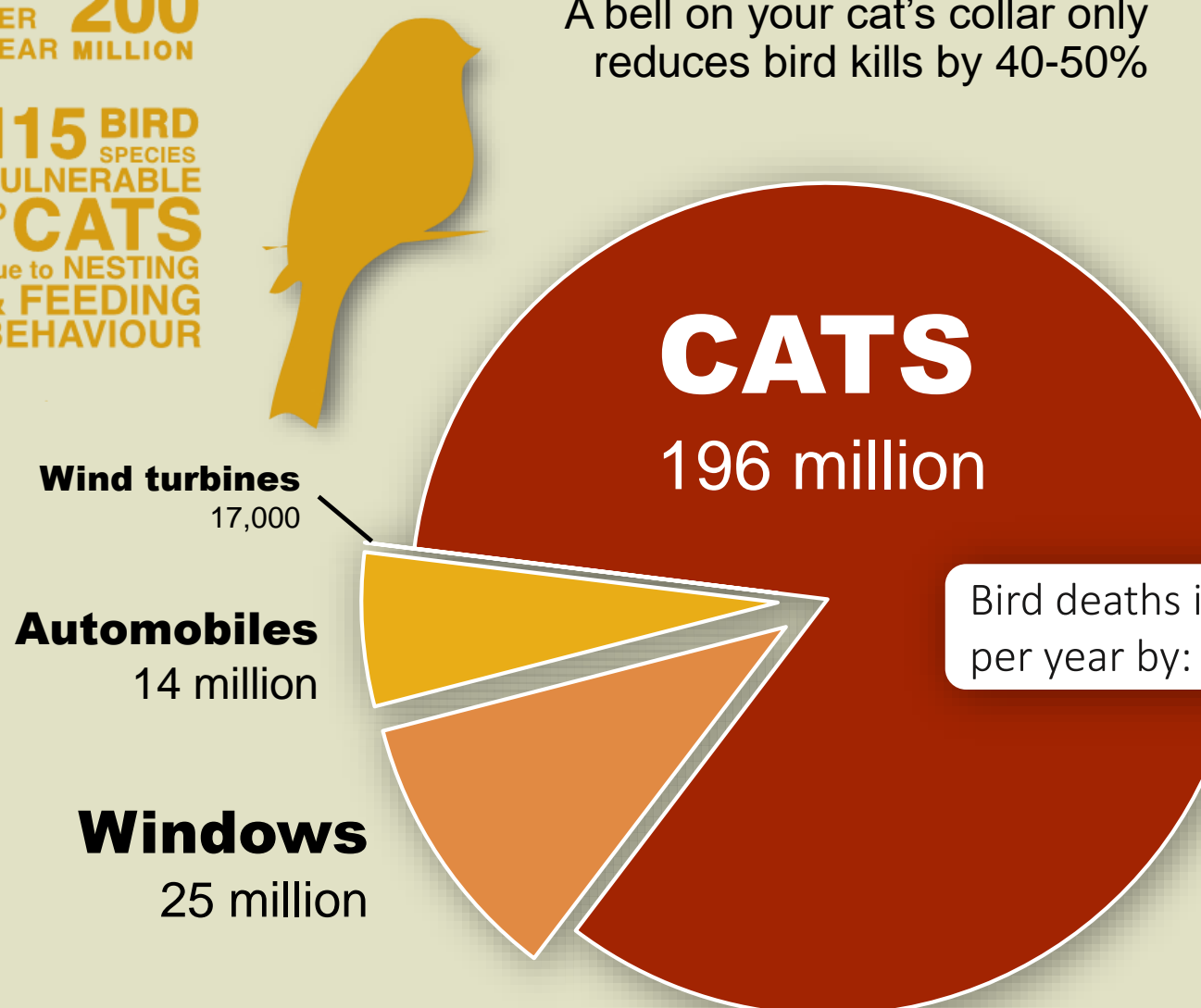
**75% OF HUMAN-RELATED BIRD DEATHS CAUSED BY CATS**  
approx. **200** PER YEAR MILLION

**115 BIRD SPECIES VULNERABLE to CATS**  
due to NESTING & FEEDING BEHAVIOUR

Birds are more than just a pretty song; they help to pollinate plants, disperse seeds, and control insect pests. Unfortunately, cats are the leading cause of direct, human-related songbird mortality. Vulnerable birds include many species at risk (e.g. Barn Swallow and Wood Thrush). Roaming cats have already contributed to the extinction of 34 species of birds.

### DID YOU KNOW?

A bell on your cat's collar only reduces bird kills by 40-50%



## Our **NATURAL HERITAGE** is at risk

Cats are a non-native species in North America and can negatively impact local ecosystems. In addition to killing birds, cats prey on other wildlife including small mammals, reptiles, and amphibians, and can also transmit diseases. Loss of wildlife impacts other species such as native carnivores, and destabilizes the food web. This problem is exacerbated by increasing numbers of stray and feral cats.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Each domestic outdoor cat kills an estimated 4-18 birds and 8-21 small mammals per year

