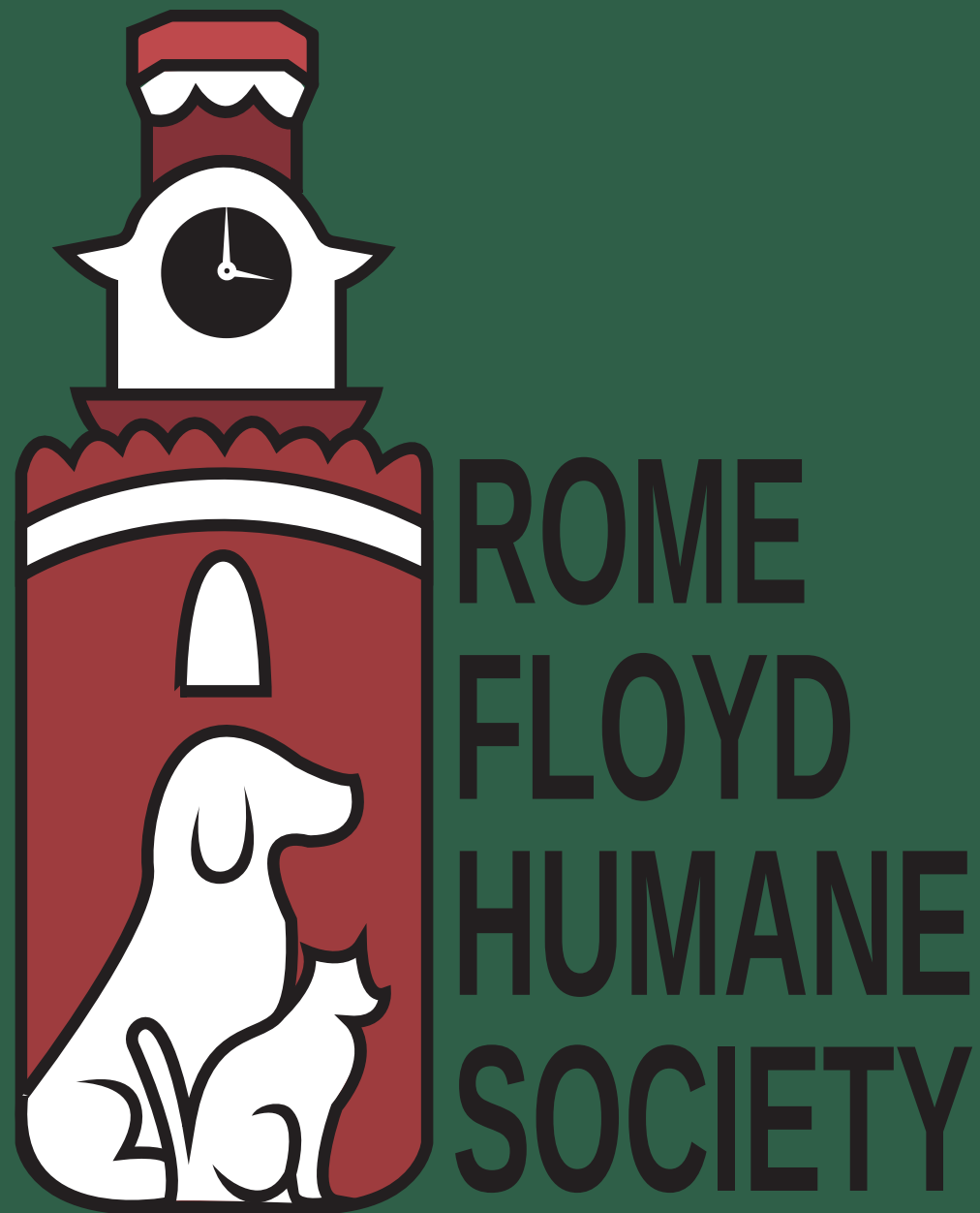




Cat Health Protocols



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Mission

Rome Floyd Humane Society is a 501(c)3 organization, created in 1996, that exists to support the health and safety of all animals in our local community. We achieve this mission by helping cats find homes, offering resources for low cost spay and neuter services and supporting a weekly Pet Food Pantry.

There are no paid positions at our Shelter and we rely solely on our Volunteers! We are located at 518 Broad Street in Rome, GA.



Health and Safety

Our goal is to keep our kitties AND our humans safe during their time with us. This document exists to share some of our protocols and expectations for Volunteers.





What new kitties need:

TIME

Our environment is peaceful to us, but frightening to new kitties. They remain in their kennels, able to hide in boxes until they demonstrate their readiness to engage. We listen to THEM.

QUARANTINE

While they adjust, our new residents need to be evaluated for worms, fleas, congestion, and other illnesses. After being treated preventively, they'll be allowed to interact, but not before then!

OBSERVATION

We're watching them, while they're watching us! Their time in quarantine allows them to adjust to our consistent schedule and the SMELL of us. They'll be much more at ease after a few days.

VACCINES

Our kitties receive a series of 3 FVRCP shots in total. After two shots, they are usually eligible to interact with our other vaccinated kitties. Shots are given in 3 week intervals. We are building health immune systems!

LOVE

STRESS causes illness. While they adjust, every kitty in the building needs as much affection as we can give. Patience and consistency are the foundations of well socialized kitties!

Reportable Illnesses:



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- **UPPER RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS**

Upper Respiratory Infections are a lot like the common cold, but in a shelter environment can affect everyone quickly and halt adoption opportunities and can cause some kitties to become very sick. Please report gunky eyes, runny noses, consistent sneezing, lethargy and lack of appetite to Leigh Bishop and in the GroupMe group chat.

- **DIARRHEA**

There are three types of cat stool: normal, soft and diarrhea. Normal stool is firm and has a definite shape. Soft stool is not firm but still has some shape. Diarrhea is liquid, with or without color to it. Diarrhea is common in kittens and can be caused by parasites, viruses, bacteria, food changes, stress, overfeeding and other issues. Diarrhea must be monitored as it can quickly lead to dehydration. If the kitten is active, mild diarrhea that occurs for 24 hours is not a concern. Quarantine any kitty that has diarrhea immediately and contact Leigh Bishop and report in the GroupMe group chat.

- **PARASITES/WORMS**

Kittens can sometimes get tapeworms either in their feces or on their anus. These look like grains of rice. Roundworms look like spaghetti and can be seen in the litter box or in vomit. Parasites are commonly found in the stool of kittens. Our kitties receive a biweekly deworming treatment and monthly flea medication. If you notice worms, call Leigh Bishop and report in the GroupMe group chat.



Protect Your Home:



01

Let's keep your pets at home safe too! When you arrive and between kennels, please use hand sanitizer. Use it again when you leave!

02

When you leave your shift, change and/or sanitize your shoes. Wash your hands. Change your clothes. Kitty germs can be highly contagious.

03

If you work with feral colonies, please consider wearing our shoe covers available at the door.





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In Short:

Things to watch:



Critical and also
unfortunate, but poop
tells us a lot!! Report any
ICK ASAP!!



Sneezes, goopy
eyes, lethargy.
Report end of shift.



Kennels with red cards cannot
interact with other kitties. Follow
instructions on kennel to avoid
contamination!

Contact Info:



www.romefloydhumanesociety.org



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