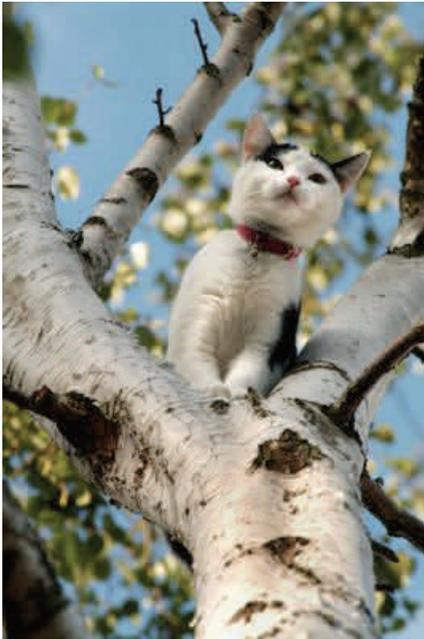


Cats Stuck in Trees



THINGS TO AVOID

- **Do not call the Fire Department.** Their response to the scene will only make the cat more nervous and make getting the cat down from the tree more difficult.
- **Do not spray the cat with water.** This could cause the cat to fall out of the tree and possibly injure it.

Cats can easily make their way up trees (or on rooftops). However, getting down tends to be a bit more difficult. Sometimes the more you try to help a cat down a tree, the more stressed and scared it becomes. What should you do if you discover a cat stuck in a tree? There are a few different methods to try.

- * Ask anyone not directly involved in the situation to leave—The cat is probably experiencing a high level of stress and nerves, and should be left alone for awhile. If any dogs are in the area, try to remove if possible.
- * It is important that any person in the area remains calm—to include the owner or any family member. People panicking or acting anxious around the cat will only make the situation worse.
- * If there is an owner or familiar person around, that person can try to coax the cat down. A cat is more likely to come to a person it knows. An additional incentive would be to use some cat food, treats, or a laser pointer to sidetrack the cat. You could try putting a bowl of food by the tree and leaving the area for a half hour.
- * Lay something against the tree that the cat can climb down. This could be a long, fallen branch or an extension ladder. Give the cat time to use this method.
- * Buy a couple cans of wet dog food. At the highest point you can reach, spread some canned dog food against the bark of the tree. Run a line of it all the way down to the ground, if possible. Dog food has a stronger scent than cat food and will hopefully grab the cat's attention.
- * Sprinkle a large amount of bird seed at the base of the tree. This will attract birds and those birds might be enough motivation for the cat to climb down the tree.
- * If the cat isn't very high, you might attempt to get the cat yourself. Be aware this may be a feral cat and might fight you trying to help it down or climb higher up the tree. Take precautions to protect yourself.
- * Give the cat time to come down on its own—most times cats do climb down on their own as long as they are given enough time and space.

THE CITY OF
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