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Blind Cat Rescue: The Blind Cats Feel it Coming - Do You?

Does Your Cat Drink Enough Water?

Spring is in the air and that means warmer days are coming! Warmer temperatures mean it's more important than ever to make sure your cats are drinking enough fresh water. But, even on the colder days, do you keep track of how much water your cat drinks? Should you? Is it important?

The answer is yes. Like humans, some cats just don't drink enough and some love it. Some cats will spend long minutes over a bowl of water and some won't touch it unless it's running from a faucet or fountain. Lovey and the rest of the BCR cats enjoy their water fountains!



For cats, again just like humans, urinary tract health is related to water consumption. Cats who don't drink enough water are at risk for a number of problems, including dehydration, urinary blockages and crystals, and infections.

From a [great Catster.com article](#), here are 10 things you can do to help your cat stay hydrated year-round:

1. Switch to a mostly wet-food diet

Canned food simply has more moisture. According to my vet, this is the easiest way to get your cat to drink more water and avoid a dehydrated cat.

If your cat won't eat wet food, add water or broth to dry food and see if he'll eat that. If your cat digs canned food, add water or broth to it to make it even wetter. Some cats love the soupy consistency this creates.

2. Try ice cubes in your cat's food

It adds moisture and it's like a little treat for the cat. The cube takes on the food's flavor, and while your cat's licking the cube, he's getting more water, too. Ice cubes in your cat's water bowl might work with a cat not drinking water, too. Some cats prefer icy-cold water, just like some humans do.

3. Serve smaller, more frequent meals

Eating prompts thirst, so a cat not drinking water might drink more water if he gets food more often.

4. Place water bowls throughout the house

Make it super easy for your cat to get himself a drink by offering multiple agua stations throughout the house. A cat not drinking water might have trouble accessing the water in question. My cat Romeo loves drinking water out of my cups. Leaving a few strategically placed drinking glasses around might entice your cat to drink more water, too.

5. Be aware of the water bowl's location

A cat not drinking water might not like his water bowl's location. Keep your cat's water bowl away from his litter box. Would you want to drink near your toilet?

6. Make sure the bowls are refilled regularly

Cats like fresh water — and who can blame them? Make sure to change the water at least once a day and wash out the bowl completely with soap and water regularly to keep it from getting slimy and gross.

7. Tap into the faucet

If your cat is attracted to running water, use this as a great opportunity to get him to drink more! A cat not drinking water might just need you to turn drinking water into a fun game. Try running the faucet a few minutes several times a day. Build it into your morning and evening routine, for example, and create some good bonding time ... over a long, cold drink of water!

8. Flavor the water

A cat not drinking water might drink flavored water! You can try to make your cats drink more water by flavoring it with a bit of tuna juice or chicken broth.

9. Use cat fountains

Many cats like drinking out of fountains. It might take a while for them to get the hang of it, but once they do, they'll love it! Fountains are attractive because the moving water is interesting to the cat and it stays fresh. This definitely helps if you forget to change your cat's bowl every day.

10. Experiment with different types of cat bowls

Cats are finicky about just about everything (big shocker!), and you can go ahead and add drinking bowls to that list. Test a few out (glass, stainless steel, ceramic or plastic) and you might discover your cat has a definite preference.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the whole Caster.com article!

So, Wet Food or Dry - Which is Best?



Now that we've covered cats and drinking water, let's look at their food. The great debate has long been which is better for the cat, wet or dry food? As with most things, there are advantages and disadvantages with both. The discussion is even more complicated today with so many varieties of food on the market that promise specific nutrition and health benefits.

Bottom line from most experts is that it's really a cat's choice! Cats have fewer taste buds than dogs or people and they pay a lot more attention to food texture, feel, size and smell. (Some cats will only eat pate-style canned food and some really like the slices and gravy.) All of those things will impact what a cat chooses to eat.

From the [Catster.com article](#), here are the basics facts on wet and dry food.

"Dry food:

- * Tends to cost less than wet

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- * Is easier to store because it does not need to be refrigerated
- * Enables cats to gobble down calories quickly due to being nutritionally dense."

The authors note that dry food has one-third of the moisture of canned food, so if your cat tends not to drink a lot of water, a dry-only diet would probably not be an ideal plan.

As for wet food:

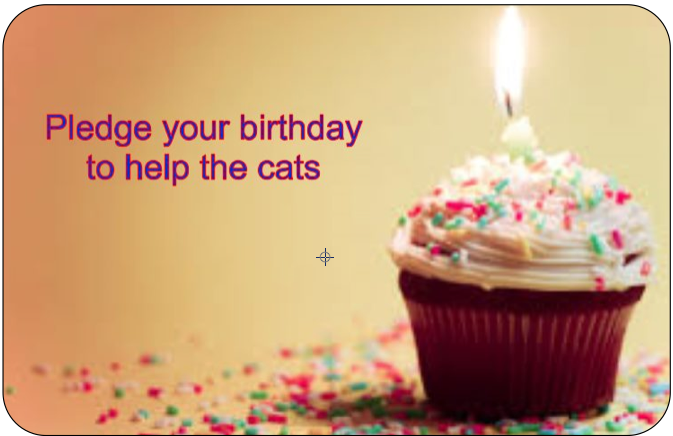
- "* It's easier to hide medication in wet food for cats with medical issues
- * Wet food contains more water content than dried food
- * It tends to emit a more beckoning aroma that could attract older cats who may have trouble eating kibble."

On the down side, the authors note that wet food is also more expensive than dry, and, once a can is opened, it needs to be refrigerated.

Taking in all the facts and experience, in general wet food is best for cats. It's better for their kidneys by helping them stay hydrated and good quality wet food doesn't have the added starch products like corn that cats don't need.

Pet parents need to be observant, flexible and patient! Be aware of how much water your cat drinks. Be sure to note what foods - dry and wet - they like and tolerate. Age, condition of your cat's teeth and medical status should be considerations for finding both the wet and dry the foods your cat will eat. Finally, take your nutrition questions and concerns to your vet!

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the whole article.



This year on your birthday, have your cake and eat it, too! You can if having your cake means doing something good for someone else on your birthday. Your special day can "give back" by creating a Facebook birthday fundraiser for the BCR cats. It's super easy, costs you nothing and has a BIG impact on the cats!

Every BCR birthday fundraiser helps get the cats the food they need, the medicines they take and even the regular checkup and dental vet visits that keep them healthy. You can help make it possible for them to continue to have the healthy and happy lives they deserve.

Set up is easy - [use this link to go to Facebook](#) and follow the instructions. You can personalize your message, ask your friends and family to donate to your special cause, set a target, and even monitor how it's going!

Make 2020 the year you donate your birthday to help the cats!



The BCR family is full of wonderful people who truly love the cats and we want you to meet them!
Each BCR cat sponsor is given a set of questions to answer and asked to send along their favorite photos of their sponsor cat.
Are you interested in being in the Sponsor Spotlight? [Email us and let us know!](#)

How did you first learn about BCR?

I was flipping through an old *Catster* magazine and a paragraph caught my eye that mentioned Alana and BCR. I jumped onto BCR's website and I was very intrigued by the video of the numerous blind cats on a tower "watching" the birds fly by. Their heads turned as if they could see, just from hearing the birds flapping wings! I was hooked.

Have you visited and, if so, what did you enjoy most? What surprised you most?

I have visited BCR twice. I loved that four cats tried to sit on my lap all at the same time, I found that very relaxing. Also I was

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astonished the first time I saw a blind cat walking across the top rim of the litter boxes without falling in. I was very pleasantly surprised when I was asked to do "boxes" for the live stream. I am sure I was a little unorthodox, I sure was nervous!

If you haven't yet visited, what are you most excited about when you do?

My goal the next time I come is to get up early enough to help clean in the morning!



What cat or cats do you sponsor? Why did you choose them?

I sponsor Peanut. He is such a cutie! It was really just a random choice based on those who had fewer sponsors than others and then I was drawn to his "sideways" mustache.

If you could tell people one thing about BCR, what would it be?

I have fostered a blind cat since being involved with BCR. Believe Alana when she says they are not any different than those who can see. Every day I watched my foster master another skill and easily adjust to his blindness. The cats are truly amazing, nothing prevents them from being a regular cat.

The SCOOP

Did you know?



Alana on "Talking Animals!"

Alana recently joined radio host Duncan Strauss on WNMF-FM for his show, "Talking Animals." Their conversation included how BCR was started, what blind cats are like, what they can accomplish and she even took some questions from the listeners. [CLICK HERE](#) to hear the podcast - when you get to the page, scroll to the bottom to listen!

The Cats send BIG Thanks, Head Bonks and Shout Outs to ...

Weruva!!

[Weruva](#) recently donated 30,000 meals to the BCR cats! We were happy to share the donation with eight other shelters and a local pet food bank that helped feed more than 900 cats!



Stella & Chewy's!!

[Stella & Chewy's](#), through their Journey Home Fund that provides meals for adult and senior pets, donated a big box of food to the BCR cats. Stella & Chewy's raw foods are very popular and a big help for our cats with special dietary needs.

Chester was eady to dive in!





We Remember...

One of the hardest things about being a loving home for and family to so many cats is saying goodbye. Sometimes, despite all our efforts to restore their health, they cross the Rainbow Bridge. This is especially true of our leukemia-positive cats.

It never gets easier to let them go and we do everything possible for them until they tell us that it's time. We've recently said goodbye to several cats who have joined their fellow BCR kitties across the Rainbow Bridge. While we miss them and remember them with great love, we'll always be thankful that they found their way to BCR. ❤️



What will you find in the Friends of BCR Facebook group? Well, Pearl and the other BCR kitties along with lots of kindred spirits, pals and cat lovers. It's not just about BCR - it's about YOU, too! Chat with fellow cat fans, share stories and photos and find lots of useful cat info! [Join our Friends of Blind Cat Rescue Facebook page today!](#)

BONUS FACEBOOK HINT!

Ever wonder why you don't see BCR in your Facebook feed? Facebook's algorithm changes have made it harder and harder for you to see our

posts! [CLICK HERE](#) for some great instructions to make sure you see the BCR cats!



Are you a regular online shopper? If you are, then the cats ask you to please [use Amazon Smile](#) and choose Blind Cat Rescue as your charity of choice! When you do that, every purchase you make helps the cats! With BCR as your chosen charity, The Amazon Smile Foundation contributes a percentage of each purchase you make on that site back to the cats. It really adds up when everyone shops there. With spring coming and all those graduations, weddings, baby showers and just purchasing things you need, the cats thank you for using Amazon Smile!

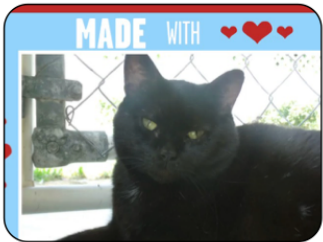


BCR Cats in Action!

The dedicated BCR staffers spend every day with our very wonderful resident cats, seeing them play, learning about their personalities and finding out what they love! We want you to see what they see so we hope you enjoy these video clips of the BCR cats in action - doing what they do best! To view a video, just click where it says [CLICK HERE](#) or on the photos and sample life with the BCR cats!



She's one of the quickest and most playful kitties in the Crazy Kitten Room (House 1, Room 4). If you watch the [Zmodo 24-hour cameras](#), you might see [Emily](#) zipping up and down the climbers and playing. She started early! [CLICK HERE](#) to see baby Emily in action.



BCR is full of very sweet cats and this boy is certainly among the sweetest. [Licorice](#) loves belly rubs and reaching up for attention standing on his back legs. He'll do whatever it takes to share some love with you. He's called the "Pantster" because sometimes when he's reaching up for attention, pants can head down! [CLICK HERE](#) for some Licorice love!

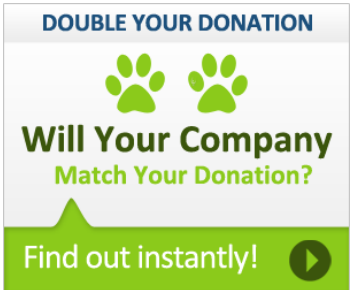


Did you BCR's new shelter video? Catch it now and please share it with your friends so they can get to know BCR like you do! [CLICK HERE](#) to see the video!



We LOVE our ebay sellers! When you purchase from one of our great sellers on ebay, they donate a portion of the sale back to us! Have a wedding or a baby shower coming up? [Try ebay!](#)

Are You an ebay Seller who supports BCR?
Please let us know so we can thank you and shine some light on your special ebay auction page! [Just email us](#) and we'll be in touch with you!



Matching gifts are a great way to [double your BCR donation!](#)



Honey hopes that you're a Fresh Step Litter user! If you are and you don't use your [Fresh Step Litter](#) paw points, please donate them to the cats! You'll help provide shelters with free litter in exchange for paw points!! We use more than 90 boxes of litter every month! Your points help us get free litter for the cats!! [CLICK HERE](#) for details.



Wonder what to do with your old car? Donate it and help the cats! If you have an old car, truck, van, SUV, boat, motorcycle, ATV, RV, trailer or even an airplane, you can donate it BCR. [Find out how here.](#)



Are you an Alexa user? Did you know that you can **make charitable donations using Alexa**? It's true. It's very easy and secure! All you have to say is: Alexa, make a donation to Blind Cat Rescue! She'll take it from there. Need more information on how this works? [CLICK HERE.](#)



Are you a runner, walker or biker? You can get your daily exercise, track your route and help the BCR cats at the same time! Sponsored by [BestFriends](#), ResQwalk is a free app you can put on any phone.



Check out our very own cat-tastic dedicated site, [BCR on YouTube](#) - the home channel for the latest

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kitty videos, helpful cat-care hints, shelter tours and boxes sessions and even the history of BCR and its resident cats.



For all things cats - [follow BCR on Pinterest!](#) From DIY cat projects to articles and stories on cat health to cat tattoos and just fun photos, you'll find it all here!



Sargent will salute you and share some purrs at BCR's next Open House!

Join him and all the cats on
Saturday, March 14
noon - 4 p.m.

Important Reminder!
Please remember to add blindcat@blindcatrescue.com to your email "safe" list so we don't wind up in your Junk Mail box!



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