

**ANIMAL  
RESCUE  
LEAGUE  
of BOSTON**



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## **ARL Seeing Explosion in Community Cat/Kitten Intake**

*Community cat intake up 30 percent over 2023*

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) continues to see a steady influx of kittens born in the wild from communities throughout Massachusetts, and to date, ARL has taken in 833 community cats in 2024, a 30 percent increase over 2023. Kitten specific intake has also seen a 30 percent increase in 2024 as well.

ARL invites members of the media to meet some of the kittens recently taken in and learn more about ARL's efforts to care for these vulnerable animals.

### **Media Availability**

**When: Tuesday, September 24, 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Where: ARL's Dedham Animal Care and Adoption Center, 55 Anna's Place,  
Dedham**

**Interview Opportunities: ARL staff**

Since May 1, ARL has taken in nearly 600 community cats, 117 in September alone, the majority being kittens, and the organization is seeing no slow-down in the numbers of kittens being born in community cat colonies over the coming weeks and months.

ARL is the only large animal welfare organization in Massachusetts with a dedicated Community Cat Program, focusing on community cat colonies in numerous communities throughout the state. Once colony is assessed, a trap-neuter-return plan is formulated, and ARL will provide these animals medical care, vaccinations, spay/neuter surgery, and finding homes for the vast majority. For those cats that are truly feral, they are returned to the colony they were found, healthy and no longer able to reproduce, which will help end the cycle of homelessness among the colony.

With relatively mild winters become the norm in Massachusetts, there is no such thing as kitten season anymore, and caring for these animals is now a year-round effort. Community cats are incredibly resourceful, and litters of kittens can be born anywhere a mom cat can find a dry, warm and safe environment.

ARL advises anyone who notices a colony or kittens in and around their home or neighborhood, to contact ARL's Field Services Department for assistance at (617) 426-9170 x563.

ARL does not receive any government funding for this important work, so these cats and kittens must rely generosity of people to get their best chance for a happy and healthy life. To help support their care, please visit [support.arlboston.org/communitycats](https://support.arlboston.org/communitycats).

For photos of kittens recently in ARL's care, please click the Dropbox link below:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/b33zz8xr3bxqilaa7htui/AM9Ji7od9Yn4kaG2FuQd374?rlkey=ztg8uhhkn3av5kidyafmkrpe5&st=lot9h98g&dl=0>

#### **ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:**

***The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes.*** Founded in 1899, ARL provides high-quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2023, ARL served 20,964 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The Animal Rescue League of Boston does not receive government grants or public funding and relies on the generosity of our supporters to help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at [arlboston.org](https://arlboston.org); and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#).

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