

# November is National Senior Pet and Adopt a Senior Pet Month



*Forever Friends Cat Rescue is a nonprofit organization based in Altona. We operate with volunteers, donations, and support from our community. Our mission is to rescue the lost, abandoned, and homeless cats in our community. We are dedicated to the care and wellbeing of our local feral cat population and to help educate the public on the need to spay/neuter pets, the prevention of animal cruelty, and the importance of responsible pet ownership.*

**D**ecan would like you to know that he is the oldest cat in our rescue.

We have guessed his age to be 7 years. Very often rescues don't see cats over 5 years of age because life on the streets is hard.

This month is important to help raise awareness that older cats need love and adoptive homes, too.

Senior cats are often passed over for adoption simply because the playful, cute kittens always get more attention. But senior cats are just as deserving of our love. They often stay for months, even years in our foster homes waiting to be adopted. The reality is, they need a forever home more than a kitten who can be moved several times without any issues. Senior cats need the stability of being in one place with people they can call their own.

We know that kittens are hard to resist, but senior cats have a lot to offer and should be considered when you are looking to add a furry family member.

There are many benefits in adopting a senior cat.

A senior cat will look like their picture! They are finished growing and there will be no surprises regarding their size. They will not outgrow your home or cost you extra money in food like a growing kitten does. In fact, most adult cats in our rescue have a regimented diet to keep from growing sideways.

You know what else won't be a surprise? Their personality! They have established personalities that are unlikely to change. You will know if you are getting a cuddly cat, a lap cat, one that is good with dogs, or a cat that likes to be an only pet. Knowing their personality makes senior cats easy

to match to your lifestyle and household.

Senior cats are still playful. When you find their activation button, they won't run out of battery once engaged. They will play their favourite game for as long as you have the energy to play. They won't be as rambunctious as a younger cat, but this usually means your drapes, shower curtain, hair and plants will be safe from being demolished.

Older cats are often more easygoing. They tend to be more sedate and respect the nighttime hours. This makes them the best companions for both nap time and nighttime. They get used to schedules and format their day to match your patterns, making them perfect companions for working families and retirees. They are often more content than kittens to be left alone during the workday and will greet you at the door when you come home.

Senior cats are often well behaved, polite and have good manners. They have already learned the dos and don'ts of being an inside cat and have mastered proper grooming, litter box etiquette, and that hands are for petting and not for biting.

Many people think that it's heartbreaking to adopt a senior cat because they won't live as long as a younger cat, but they still have plenty of life left. The average cat can live 12-18 years and up to 20 with a proper diet and being well cared for. Regardless of age, they still need you, your home and your love. They need that second chance that being rescued has offered them. Many of them know how good they have it now and are very appreciative of the indoor life that you can provide.

Decan would like you to know that he will enjoy your lap and attention no matter what your age. He has silver starting in his fur, so he won't judge you if you do too.

*Decan is a shorthaired, black male. His birthday is Oct 26, 2014. He has more character than the average cat! He is fully vetted and available for adoption. For more information, please contact us. Call/text 204-304-9173, email [forever\\_friends@icloud.com](mailto:forever_friends@icloud.com), visit our website [www.foreverfriendsaltona.com](http://www.foreverfriendsaltona.com), or find us on Facebook.*