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**CITY OF PASSAIC
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF HEALTH**

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STRAY CATS PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

March 2, 2007

Dear Resident:

The City of Passaic Division of Health and its Animal Control Program receive numerous complaints regarding stray cats causing damage and health nuisances to property on a routine basis. With the arrival of warmer weather, the number of homeless strays will likely increase. In an effort to combat this problem, residents are advised of the following:

1. In accordance with the City Code, cats which are owned by property owners and are kept outdoors must be licensed and must wear elastic or break-away collars with an official registration tag. For information on licensing, please see the enclosed flyer.
2. The owner of a licensed cat must not permit his or her cat to trespass onto, soil, and or cause damage to other private and/or public property.
3. Feeding of stray cats is prohibited. Food may only be placed outside for cats or dogs which are licensed. Such food must be removed within 2 hours after placement and under no circumstances is food to remain outdoors 30 minutes after sunset or before sunrise.
4. Garbage cans left outdoors must be tightly secured with proper lids to prevent entry of stray cats or other animals. Garbage storage areas must be kept clean.
5. To prevent harborage of stray cats, outdoor sheds should be maintained in a secure manner. Crawl spaces beneath decks, porches, and sheds should be inspected and secured to prevent the entry of stray cats.
6. Spay and neuter your cat if you have not already done so. Spaying and neutering prevents unwanted litters and greatly aids in reducing the number of homeless cats on city streets.

For more information or assistance concerning this advisory, please contact the City Health Division at (973) 365-5606 and/or Animal Control Services at (973) 365-5669.