

APA! Feline Free Time

To mitigate the risks of infectious diseases, Austin Pets Alive! will have the following protocol regarding allowing free roaming of cats within each APA! cattery.

Diseases that can be spread via indirect contact include, but are not limited to:

- Respiratory disease (calicivirus, including virulent strain calicivirus; URI, herpesvirus)
- GI disease (panleukopenia, coccidia, giardia, hookworms, roundworms)
- Skin disease (ringworm, sarcoptic mange)

Following this protocol will accomplish the following:

- Keep cats healthy and happy!
- Get cats adopted faster
- Decrease use of resources for medical needs and transport

For these reasons, the following rules will be implemented:

1. *Only catteries with SINGLE cages will be allowed to let cats out for exercise.* This includes only Petsmarts - at 51st and Lakeline.
2. For these catteries, only one cage should be let out at a time. The floor should be *mopped between each cage* using a swiffer-type mop and the PetSmart Watchdog Product.
3. *The following catteries have group rooms and should not be letting cats out into a common area:*
 - a. Tarrytown
 - b. PETCO (Brodie, Lakeline, Hancock)
 - c. TLAC is also included in this list - despite having single cages, these cats are not let out due to higher risk of infectious disease transmission.
4. If offsite catteries are added in the future, the same rules apply: no cats living in a group room should be let out into a common area.