

## **YOUR NEW KITTEN/CAT WILL NEED...**

### **Litter Box:**

Storage containers (about 23 X 16) or 32 quart) and generally are less expensive than the pet store litter boxes. Cats like the larger boxes. DO NOT use covered or self-cleaning boxes.

### **Litter:**

Scoopable, UNSCENTED litter is strongly recommended as cats have an aversion to perfume fragrances. OAHS recommends unscented Pet Gold. It can only be purchased at Petco and the pail can be refilled, so it is a very reasonable price.

**\*\*\*Do not skimp on the litter box or litter, as these are the most important items to your new kitten or cat.**

### **Food Dishes:**

Should have two separate metal or ceramic dishes. Plastic is not recommended as some animals are allergic to the plastic and the plastic does tend to retain some germs. Cats usually like their food dish in a different place than their water dish.

### **Collar:**

Purchase a breakaway collar and an ID tag. If your cat or kitten gets caught on something during play, the collar will snap loose and the cat will not be trapped.

### **Food:**

Feed a good quality food. Check the list of ingredients on the bag. The first ingredient should be meat, not a byproduct. A good quality food will produce less stool, produce a shinier coat and prevent health problems in the future.

### **Toys:**

Cats enjoy the small balls with the bells in them, small soft toys and toys with catnip. Don't give them too many at one time. Rotate their toys so they always have something they think is new. Cats and kittens enjoy the ball-in-the-track-type toy that has the cardboard scratcher in the middle.

### **Scratching Post and/or furniture:**

The Oshkosh Area Humane Society sells a good quality sisal post. Purchase a post that is made of sisal rope and at least 36" tall. Carpet posts are not necessarily a good idea as they may encourage cats to scratch floor carpet. Cats also love horizontal cardboard scratchers that can be placed on the floor. OAHS also sells cat-friendly furniture that includes a hiding box, perches and a sisal scratching post. If a cat has its own furniture, it will spend less time on yours.

### **Nail Caps:**

OAHS sells nail caps that will help train your cat to scratch on appropriate objects. These are plastic covers that are glued to the nails and will have to be replaced about every 4 weeks. OAHS will put these on for no charge.

### **Clip & Go Service:**

OAHS will clip your cat's nails at no charge. Call for an appointment, bring your cat in and be on your way in about 5 minutes; it's that easy to keep your cat's nails trimmed.