



Toxoplasma gondii is a microscopic parasite that causes the disease toxoplasmosis. It only reproduces in the digestive system of a cat.

By allowing pet cats to roam outdoors, and abandoning unwanted cats **Humans contribute to the spread of *T. gondii***

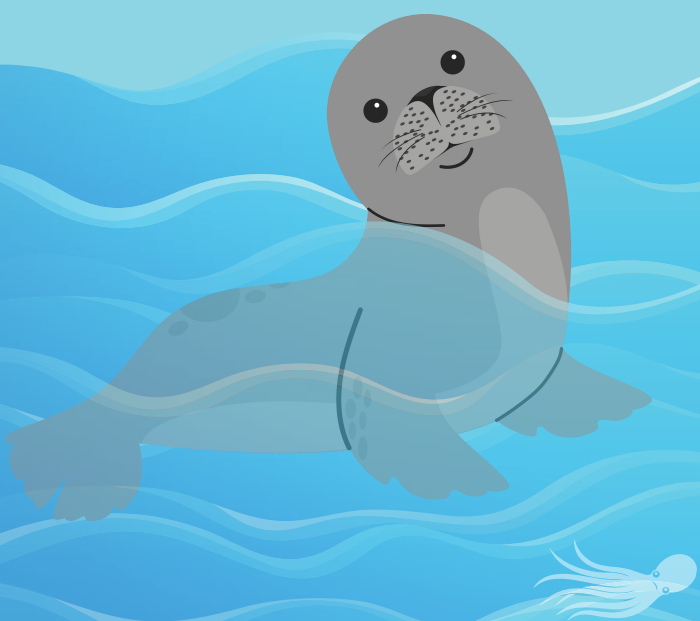
Millions of eggs can be spread into the environment from one cat's feces. These eggs are the source of *T. gondii* infection in monk seals. **It only takes one egg to cause an infection.**



T. gondii eggs contaminate water, and soil along with the plants that grow in it. **Humans wildlife and livestock can consume the eggs and become infected** by accidentally ingesting cat litter/fecal particles or consuming under-cooked meat or unwashed produce.



Eggs are capable of surviving in soil or water (fresh and salt) up to 2 years. **Rainwater transports the eggs to the ocean through streams and gutters.**



When Hawaiian Monk Seals consume contaminated prey or water they become infected with *T. gondii*. **Toxoplasmosis is one of the biggest threats to monk seals - and is almost always lethal.**



RESPONSIBLE CAT OWNERSHIP

MCBHO 5233.2 Pet and Wildlife Regulations

All pets must be microchipped and registered with MCBH Animal Control Officers (bldg3099)

No pet is allowed to roam free. All pets must be kept leashed and under your physical control at all times.

Do not feed any animals on base unless they are your personal, domesticated pet.

On average outdoor cats kill 2 animals per week.



MCBHawaii is home to 5 endangered bird species, and many other protected & native species of birds.

On average Indoor cats live **260%** longer than outdoor cats.

Indoor Cat Lifespan

12-18 years

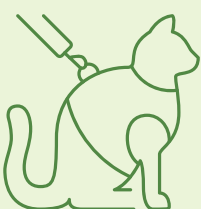
Outdoor Cat Lifespan

2-5 years

Free roaming cats can transmit fleas, roundworm, hook worm, cat scratch fever, and toxoplasmosis which can cause serious complications for pregnant women and those with weakened immune systems.

Keeping cats indoors is better for the cats health, human health, and the health of local ecosystems!

Studies show indoor cats are just as happy as outdoor cats!



Leash training your cat can allow them to safely enjoy the outdoors.



Playing with your cat regularly and having toys satisfies their hunting instincts.



Providing your cat with places to climb adds vertical space and increases their territory.

To register your pets call Animal Control Officers at **808.257.1821**
Report missing or lost pets call
PMO **808.257.2123** or NR Wildlife Tech **808.285.6464**