

NAME: Theodore

GENDER: Male

DATE OF BIRTH: October 12, 2016



Theodore was an owner turn-in when the woman who raised him from a kitten had to move out of state. Theodore took the separation very hard, became depressed and stopped eating. When a cat stops eating or cannot access food, fatal conditions affecting the liver and pancreas can develop. Unfortunately, Theodore became very sick and was admitted into an emergency hospital. When he was discharged, he needed intensive foster care.

The biggest challenge was to get Theodore to eat on his own and gain weight back. Over the course of 8 weeks, his foster fed and medicated him through a tube inserted into his esophagus. This ensured he was getting nutritious calories and medications. He slowly regained strength and recovered. He was taken off one medication at a time, gradually regained his appetite and began enjoying his new life in northern Virginia.

Theodore's personality has remained unchanged throughout his ordeal; he wants – no, *needs* – to be around a person most of the day. He craves affection and attention from his person. He is agnostic to other animals and apart from some initial hissing will ignore other cats and dogs. If separated from people, he will sit at the door and scratch and cry to be let in where they are. Because he is older Theodore would not do well with younger children but would love a home with respectful older kids. He would be an ideal companion to someone who is home all day with no other obligations, such as a retiree or in a multi-generational household. He likes rolling around with large catnip toys and is obsessed with plastic shopping bags, pulling them out of trash cans and dragging them around.

Theodore eats both wet and dry food. He likes Sheba and Fancy Feast classic pate. If given Fancy Feast it is best to give a half can at a time and refrigerate the other half for later as Theodore likes to graze throughout the day. He will sometimes eat dry food too fast and vomit a small portion, so dry food is best served to Theodore in a wide, shallow bowl to slow him down. He likes the Purina One Indoor served at Meows Corner but also eats Purina Cat Chow Indoor formula.

Theo has had his vaccinations, is microchipped, and has been neutered. He has tested negative for FeLV and FIV.