**WHEN CAN YOUR KITTEN GO HOME?**

We are often asked, when can my kitten go home? Kittens may go to their new forever home at 12-13 weeks of age. The closer to 12 to 13 weeks, the better off the kitten will be. Your kitten’s chances of being healthy, well-socialized and properly developed are dramatically increased by allowing it to spend extra time with its mother and littermates.

A kitten that is removed from its mother too soon may have trouble adjusting to its new home with you. Growing up with its mother and littermates is an essential part of a kitten’s socialization. Without proper socialization at a young age, the kitten may grow up to be fearful, skittish or even aggressive. It also may not know how to properly communicate with other cats. You will need to spend significant amounts of time working with a kitten that did not spend adequate time with its mother and littermates. This will help it to adapt to its new home and learn appropriate behaviors.

In addition to health concerns, behavioral issues may arise in kittens that were removed from their mother too early in life. Mother cats teach their kittens lifelong lessons and give off calming pheromones. Kittens who are removed from their mothers too soon, may have trouble grooming themselves, not understand how to bury their waste in the litter box andmay play too rough or have other behavioral problems.

Our kittens stay with their mother for 12 to 13 weeks of age, no exceptions. ☺At 12 weeks, our Ragdoll kittens will be spayed or neutered and girls will go to their foreverhome one-week postop and boys will go home three-days postop, **no exceptions**.

At 12-13 weeks, our Burmese and Bombay kittens can go to their forever home, **no exceptions**. Adopters will agree in writing to spay or neuter their kitten at six months, but no later than seven months and provide evidence of this by providing the medical record from your veterinarian’s office and faxing it to 606-324-0668. At this time, the blue sheet for registration with TICA will be provided.