

Colby Holloway

6<sup>th</sup> Grade

If my ecosystem got overpopulated with stray dogs and cats it would be really bad for our environment. Animal overpopulation is a concern throughout the United States today and is only getting worse as time goes on. The number of stray dogs and cats is growing every day and this is not a good thing. In the following paragraphs, there are several reasons that show the negative effects the increase in stray dogs and cats has on our environment.

The first reason is that not one person would really be taking care of the dogs or cats. Dogs and cats would be left completely on their own. Animals can't take care of themselves. Most of the stray dogs and cats would end up carrying rabies, other diseases, or get very sick, which means they could give this disease or sickness to the human population very easily. This is because without owners they can't get their shots or checkups from the vet. Also, without owners to take care of the dogs and cats they would not have regular baths so they would be filthy and start to smell really bad. These things would all make our environment seem unclean, nasty, and unhealthy.

Second, our communities would be filled with animal feces and urine. All of the stray dogs and cats would be left alone to use the restroom wherever they want. Without any owner's to clean up their feces, it would be left behind everywhere and on everything. It has been proven that dog and cat feces carry diseases that can be given to humans. Too many stray animals leaving their feces behind would be a terrible thing because it would be very messy and disgusting as well as destroy our ecosystem, causing breathing problems, and spread disease throughout communities.

Finally, our environment would be over crowded with stray dogs and cats. There would be dogs and cats everywhere. Animal shelters are not very big and could not hold all of the stray dogs and cats. Many animals would have to be put to sleep and the other dogs and cats would be roaming the around the streets alone. Dogs and cats roaming the streets would make out ecosystem unclean. Often times this is a major problem because dogs and cats get into trash and spread it around making an unhealthy environment, and they also destroy personal property. These things are not good for our community at all.

As you have read, dog and cat overpopulation is a major concern. There are many issues when there are many stray dogs and cats in our communities. We are facing many environmental issues and even health issues if the stray dog and cat population gets out of control. Too many

stray dogs and cats roaming around would destroy the environment, cause a lot of health problems and be very bad for our ecosystem. Our ecosystem an environment is definitely in danger if the number of stray dogs and cats continues to grow.