

## **Public Health & Safety Announcement – Feral Cats**

Residents are reminded that **feral and free-roaming outdoor cats** may carry bacteria and other pathogens that can cause illness in humans. Contact with these animals through **bites, scratches, or saliva contacting broken skin** may lead to infection, some of which can require medical care.

To protect your health and the well-being of others, please take the following precautions:

### **Important Safety Information**

- **Do not handle, feed, or attempt to relocate feral cats.**
- **Avoid direct contact with cats you do not know.**
- If you accidentally have contact with a cat's mouth or saliva, **wash the area thoroughly with soap and water.**
- **Seek prompt medical attention** for any bite or scratch from an animal.

### **Reporting & Assistance**

If you encounter a stray, sick, or aggressive animal, or a situation that feels unsafe:

- Contact **Martin County Animal Services Unit** at **(772) 463-3211** (Animal Services/Animal Control)