

Animal Shelter to Become Cat-Only Facility

Arizona facility will become one of the few in the state to accept only felines.

Over the next several months, Maricopa County Animal Care & Control will convert its West Phoenix, Ariz., shelter into the sole cat-only adoption center in the county. The all-cat facility will open in early 2007. The atmosphere at the cat-only facility will be much more serene with no barking dogs around, according to Julie Bank, deputy director for county animal control. It should help the cats feel better both emotionally and physically, which in turn should make them more appealing to potential adopters, Bank said. Already planned for the facility is a colony cat room, where many cats will be in one room, and can mingle and interact with potential human adopters. To help pay for the \$400,000 cost for renovations, the county is partnering with rescue groups for adoption drives and other fundraisers. Posted: June 10, 2006, 5:00 a.m. EST