



# Catio Tour

Oct. 12  
2019



Be inspired by the  
ingenuity of fifteen Santa  
Cruz County cat owners  
providing unique catios,  
outdoor enclosures for  
their cats!

*Program sponsored by New Leaf Community Markets*



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We are striving  
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to keep their  
pets, wildlife and  
ecosystems safe!



## Catios: Safe Space for All!

What do bird lovers and cat lovers all have in common? We all want what's best for the animals we love. Luckily for us there's a unique solution that keeps cats and birds safe at the same time, and many of our neighbors are using it. Our annual Catio Tour is a way to explore and celebrate the idea of catios!

A catio is an outdoor enclosure for cats, a place where cats can enjoy the outdoors and still be safe from predators. And just as important, birds can be safe from roaming cats.

We here in Santa Cruz are striving to be a model for other communities who want to work together to keep their pets, wildlife, and ecosystems safe. Birdwatchers, pet owners, protectors of wildlands, and wildlife rehabilitators all have roles in this revolutionary idea.

## Catio Tour Day Guidelines

**THE TOUR IS SELF-GUIDED FROM 10 AM - 2 PM:** You may start at any catio location and go in any order you prefer. Due to the distance between some catios, there may not be time during tour hours to visit all of the catios.

**YOUR FIRST CATIO STOP:** At your first catio, please stop at the check-in table and receive your wrist band for the day.

**CATIO HOSTS:** The Catio Hosts will be on-site to answer general questions about the tour. They will be wearing Catio Tour name badges for identification.

**LOOK FOR CATIO TOUR SIGNS:** In front of each home there will be a sign with the tour logo and the catio number.

**GET YOUR TICKETS:** Please consider supporting this fun educational event by purchasing your ticket. A suggested donation of \$5 per person to tour the 15 catios throughout the County is appreciated! Tickets will be available online at [www.scanimalshelter.org](http://www.scanimalshelter.org) and day of the event at all Catio Tour locations.

**IMPORTANT TOUR DETAILS:** Smoking is not allowed at any of the properties; restrooms are not available so please plan other pit stops accordingly; please leave all pets at home while taking the tour; when parking in the catio neighborhoods be mindful of parking restrictions and courteous to neighbors; ask questions, take notes, and have fun!

[www.nativeanimalrescue.org](http://www.nativeanimalrescue.org) • [www.scanimalshelter.org](http://www.scanimalshelter.org)  
*Together we can make a dramatic difference!*

# Catio Tour Sites - 2019



## Tour Site Addresses

- 1. The Mountain Life**  
222 Compass Ct., Boulder Creek
- 2. Kitty Lattice-in-Luxury**  
13850 Bear Creek Rd., Boulder Creek
- 3. Cat Cabana**  
158 Flintlock Lane, Ben Lomond
- 4. Poolside Purrfect**  
131 Loma Linda Ct., Scotts Valley
- 5. Feel the Ocean Breeze**  
326 John St., Santa Cruz
- 6. Catio with an Ocean View**  
303 Fair Ave., Santa Cruz
- 7. Bruce Wayne's Cat Condo**  
435 Bellevue St., Santa Cruz
- 8. Kitties with a Pool View**  
23 Acacia Way, Santa Cruz
- 9. Chillin Catos**  
1001 Rodriguez St., Santa Cruz
- 10. On Top of the World**  
4401 Hilltop Rd., Soquel
- 11. Green Garden Getaway**  
550 26th Ave., Santa Cruz
- 12. Jungle Cats in Opal Cliffs**  
4501 Nova Dr., Santa Cruz
- 13. Kitty Good Life in Capitola**  
416 Loma Ave., Capitola
- 14. Jungle Gym Kitty Playhouse**  
107 Hollister Ave., Capitola
- 15. Catio Lounge & Tea Room**  
10 Carita Ct., Watsonville

# 1. The Mountain Life



Photos by Lisa Jan Rose

## At a Glance

**OWNER:** Felicitas Johnson

**ADDRESS:** 222 Compass Court,  
Boulder Creek

**YEAR BUILT:** 2017

**TYPE:** Enclosure for cats only,  
attached to house

**MATERIALS:** Redwood and steel  
mesh

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$3000

**FEATURES:** Professionally built,  
redwood posts, strong steel mesh  
and plexiglass roof.

**DESIGNER:** Owner

**BUILDER:** Local builder, Cliff Evans

Mountain life can be a little bit on the wild side, but Johnny, Mickey and Freddy are living the high life in their strong and sturdy catio. Attached to the house, the catio can be entered by the cats via a sliding glass door that opens to an 8 ft. wide, 8 ft. tall and 5 ft. deep slice of paradise.

Owner Felicitas Johnson designed the catio herself and then had a local builder construct it out of redwood and wire mesh. She added cat condos, toys and scratching posts, and now her pets enjoy the outside comfortably and safely. The catio gets the perfect amount of sun and shade, allowing for tranquil naps and a close observation of nature.

Felicitas was worried about mountain lions or the cats wandering off. She wanted the cats to safely experience the outdoors, and the catio was the perfect solution. Johnny, Mickey and Freddy all agree and give two paws up.

## 2. Kitty Lattice-in-Luxury



### At a Glance

**OWNER:** Michelle Reynolds

**ADDRESS:** 13850 Bear Creek Road,  
Boulder Creek (close to town)

**YEAR BUILT:** 2014

**TYPE:** Enclosure for cats and humans

**MATERIALS:** Redwood fencing and lattice, clear poly ceiling, composite deck and lighting

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$1,200

**FEATURES:** Double deck cat benches, feeding station, live tree for scratching, clear fiberglass ceiling for natural light, and space for kitty boxes, chairs and a table for humans, lockable door and toys hanging from rafters

**DESIGNER:** Owner Michelle Reynolds

Michelle wanted to create a cozy safe catio where the cats could get sunshine and fresh air in their own catio living room. This catio is beautifully designed to be spacious so that her “fur babies,” grey tabby Larry, black cat Hasani and tuxedo kitty Jeter, can have room to play, and she can join the party. The cats’ favorite feature is hanging out on the high top bench. Her catio is a stand-alone structure just off the house under the redwoods, so it is cool in the summer. Michelle feels strongly that people should build a catio for the cat’s safety and their peace of mind. There are just too many risks and wild predators to let cats fend for themselves in the redwood forests of Santa Cruz County.

### 3. Cat Cabana



## At a Glance

**OWNER:** Cyndi Grazian

**ADDRESS:** 158 Flintlock Lane,  
Ben Lomond

**TYPE:** Enclosure for cats and  
humans attached to house

**YEAR BUILT:** 2016

**MATERIALS:** Redwood, galvanized  
wire

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$1100

**FEATURES:** Catio attached to house  
with cat door, two large platforms,  
ramp, and scratching posts

**DESIGNER:** Cyndi Grazian (owner)

**BUILDER:** Cyndi Grazian

After attending the 2016 catio tour, Cyndi designed a catio which is attached to their house with 24/7 indoor-outdoor access through a cat door. The catio has two large platforms, ramps, scratching posts, predator-proof large gauge wire, and even a pet-safe faux grass rug!

Their cats, Raylin, Pudi Tat, and Laci Lu, have a safe space with comfy perches to enjoy whenever they want!

“I was inspired to build a catio to have a safe, outdoor space for the kitties, and my cats love it!”

## 4. Poolside Purrfect



### At a Glance

**OWNERS:** Judy & Russ Patterson

**ADDRESS:** 131 Loma Linda Ct.,  
Scotts Valley

**YEAR BUILT:** 2003

**TYPE:** Enclosure attached to house  
for cats

**MATERIALS:** Wood and metal  
screen

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$100

**FEATURES:** An enclosure 14 ft. by  
13 ft. by 8 ft. high attached to the  
house

**DESIGNERS:** Judy & Russ Patterson

**BUILDER:** Russ Patterson

An enclosure on the lower corner of the house next to the swimming pool allows the cats to experience the outdoors and enjoy the company of people on the pool deck. There is a cat tree for sunbathing which also allows them to experience the smells of the outdoors, and see the birds and other creatures while keeping everyone safe.

“The cats, Henry and Joon, love it, and our backyard entertaining allows us to enjoy them while we are outside in the summer months. We highly recommend building one of your own.”



## 5. Feel the Ocean Breeze



### At a Glance

**OWNER:** Myra Finkelstein

**ADDRESS:** 326 John St., Santa Cruz

**YEAR BUILT:** 2018

**TYPE:** Enclosure for cats only, attached to house

**MATERIALS:** Wire and Wood

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$500

**FEATURES:** Attached to a window, double deck platform

**DESIGNER:** Catspaces

**BUILDER:** Owner



Being indoor cats, Manny and Mojo yearned to have an outdoor space and feel the breeze through their whiskers. Owner Myra Finkelstein agreed and built them a catio that is attached right to the house. It's a simple, yet effective, design that gives Manny and Mojo access to the catio through a window from the house. This allows them to go outside to lie comfortably on the platform deck or the deck below and catch that breeze.

The 7 ft. x 2 ft. design was purchased from a catio vendor, and they were able to install the catio themselves. Myra loves this catio for her cats.

“It is a great way to provide enrichment for my indoor cats, and they can come and go as they please.”



## 6. Catio with an Ocean View



Photos by Kelly Menehan & Ann Miya

### At a Glance

**OWNER:** Julie Tower

**ADDRESS:** 303 Fair Ave., Santa Cruz

**YEAR BUILT:** 2013

**TYPE:** Enclosure for cats and humans attached to the house with tunnels

**MATERIALS:** Redwood, wire and latticework

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$1000

**FEATURES:** Latticework on the fence top angles in to prevent the cats from leaving. The backyard has chairs for people.

**DESIGNER:** Cam Crane (cousin)

**BUILDER:** Cam Crane

When Julie and her husband moved to Santa Cruz a few years ago, they wanted to ensure their cats Bob and Suki had a safe place to relax and enjoy the outdoors. Although they live just a couple of blocks from the ocean, the only ocean view at their house is from the catio.

Julie's home features two catios in one. Their smaller catio is about 5 ft. x 6 ft. and is accessed from the house by a cat door. It is completely screened so the cats can have access 24/7 safely. There are shelves for watching the neighborhood and the sunset over the ocean. There is a human-size door to the backyard patio/catio that is left open during the day so the cats can have the run of the whole area. The patio is landscaped and has seating so humans and cats can relax together.

“Build one if you possibly can. A catio prevents cats from becoming furry couch potatoes.”

## 7. Bruce Wayne's Cat Condo



Photos by Kelly Menehan & Ann Miya

### At a Glance

**OWNER:** Rebecca Moreno

**ADDRESS:** 435 Bellevue, Santa Cruz

**YEAR BUILT:** 2016

**TYPE:** An enclosure (6 ft. x 6 ft. and 8 ft. tall) for cats and humans attached to house with a tunnel

**MATERIALS:** Painted wire and wood, custom order from Habitat Haven website

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$1,500

**FEATURES:** Prefab wire cat condo with perches and wire tunnel attached to the house.

**DESIGNER:** Owner

**BUILDERS:** Owner and handyman

Rebecca ordered a custom catio kit online from Habitat Haven. Bruce was an outdoor cat, and he defended his territory aggressively, bringing in two rodents a week. One day he was injured with a hurt leg and broken jaw.

When Rebecca moved, she wanted to create a safe and controlled environment. Now there are no fights, fewer kills, and no injuries.

“It gives me great peace of mind and gives my cat fresh air and exercise with much more safety. It was much easier to convert him to an indoor kitty knowing he'd have this outlet. When I work in the yard or go out there for coffee, Bruce hangs out with me. He enjoys lying in the sun in his tunnel or watching the neighborhood from the highest perch.”

## 8. Kitties with a Pool View



Photos by Kelly Menehan & Ann Miya

### At a Glance

**OWNER:** Elene Johas Teener

**ADDRESS:** 23 Acacia Way, Santa Cruz

**YEAR BUILT:** 2018

**TYPE:** Enclosure for cats and humans attached to the house and side fencing

**MATERIALS:** Redwood, metal screening and a sunshade

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$4000

**FEATURES:** A large space (15 ft. x 30 ft.) between the house and side fence. Walls have been constructed with gates and screening to enclose the pathway to the backyard. The area has been landscaped and has a cat door from the house and a bench for hanging out together.

**DESIGNER:** Elene and her husband

**BUILDER:** Fence contractor

Elene and her husband did a large backyard project putting in a swimming pool and decided it was an opportunity to also do something for their cats, Piper, Maddie and Frankie. So in 2017, after hearing about the Catio Tour, they decided to see what was possible. They got some good ideas from the tour about how they could easily incorporate a catio into their project.

The access to the pool from their front yard is along the side of the house, so it was easy to enclose an area of the pathway to create a catio. They built a solid wall with a gate for privacy from the street. The back wall is mostly wire screen so the kitties can have a view of the backyard and pool activity. It is nicely landscaped and has a bench for kitties and people to share.

## 9. Chillin Catos



### At a Glance

**OWNER:** Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter

**ADDRESS:** 1001 Rodriguez St., Santa Cruz

**YEAR BUILT:** 2014

**TYPE:** Enclosures for cats and humans

**MATERIALS:** Douglas fir lumber, wire screening, plastic corrugated roofing and hardware

**APPROXIMATE COST:** Donated

**FEATURES:** Three large attached catios with perches, space to play with toys and chairs for humans

Three years ago Google donated a multi-room, stand-alone catio structure to the Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter. It was installed on the back patio behind the Shelter's meeting room. Shelter volunteers take adoptable cats into interior playrooms on a daily basis, but on pleasant days, selected cats enjoy a visit to our screened catios, to enjoy an outdoor experience that eases the stress of a Shelter stay.

Our catios have also been used as a classroom for clicker and positive association training, to help make cats more adoptable. It is a great outlet for high energy cats who don't particularly care for small spaces and enjoy the smells, sounds and closer interaction in a semi-natural setting. Cats who enjoy the catio are usually restless in their kennel, but when they return from a day outside in the sun they are relaxed and ready for a nap.

# 10. On Top of the World



## At a Glance

**OWNERS:** Lilli Colbasso & Scott Biggane

**ADDRESS:** 4401 Hilltop Rd., Soquel

**YEAR BUILT:** 2015

**TYPE:** Fenced enclosure attached to the house for cats and humans

**MATERIALS:** Fence brackets purchased from Affordable Cat Fence in San Antonio, TX. Ties and netting from Home Depot.

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$250

**FEATURES:** Breezeway with chairs to lounge on and an outdoor garden area with shrubs and fruit trees. The area is large enough for humans and cats to spend time together in a safe outdoor environment.

**DESIGNERS:** Owners

**BUILDERS:** Owners

Lilli lives at the top of a hill overlooking Soquel where open space comes right up to her home, and wildlife is all around. Lilli was concerned about the safety of her cats Catia, Fiona, Enzo and Annika because of the coyotes. Also, the street where they live is at the top of a hill where people often speed.

The catio is a large fenced-off area of her backyard. She and her partner attached fencing to the top of the standard fence; this prevents the cats from getting out but allows them to enjoy exploring the garden. In the beginning Enzo figured out that it was possible to climb a tree to escape, so it took a bit more wire around the tree to prevent this from happening. The cats love finding hiding places in the garden, and Lilli loves having the peace of mind knowing they are safe, which is priceless.

# 11. Green Garden Getaway



## At a Glance

**OWNER:** Lisa Williams

**ADDRESS:** 550 26th Ave.,  
Santa Cruz

**YEAR BUILT:** 2016

**TYPE:** Window box attached to house, enclosure for cats and humans attached to house with tunnels

**MATERIALS:** Hardware cloth, redwood, metal screening, chicken wire and wire fencing

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$300

**FEATURES:** Window box attached to master bedroom that can be closed off.

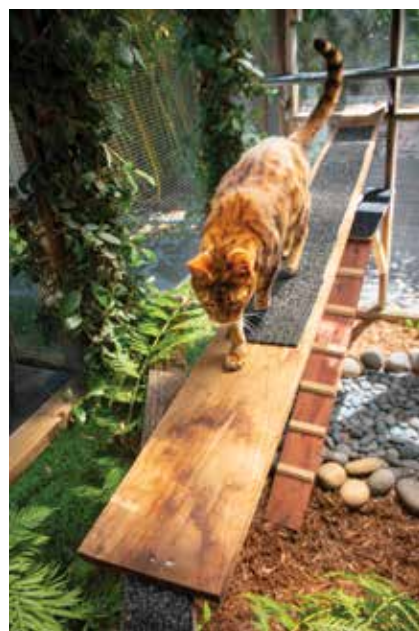
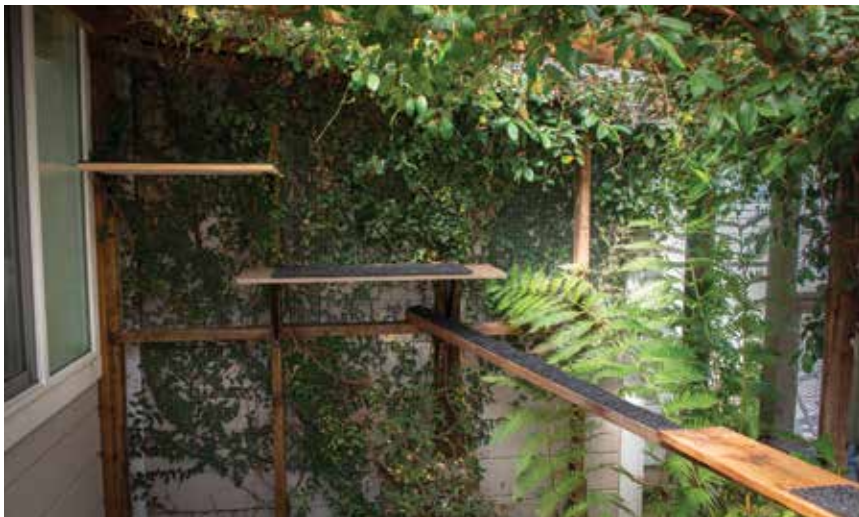
**DESIGNER:** George Williams

**BUILDER:** George Williams

This innovative catio is set in Lisa and George's beautiful backyard with their lush garden. The catio is set up in three stages, the first area being a window box accessible through the bedroom window which can also be closed off. Stage two is a long tunnel leading to stage three which is an enclosure behind the garden with a screen door for human access. In the window box the cats, Toki, Cybele, and Ashlan, can sit behind the camellia trees where they can observe the birds without causing any harm to them.

“The tunnel allows for high up observance of human, cat, and dog traffic, and the main area has bushes to hide under, a dead tree to claw, and grass to eat! Our desire is to ensure the cats are safe, but allow them to be outside. This keeps three cats happy and well exercised, chasing each other through the stages.”

## 12. Jungle Cats in Opal Cliffs



### At a Glance

**OWNERS:** Terry & Lorna Campion

**ADDRESS:** 4501 Nova Dr., Santa Cruz

**YEAR BUILT:** 2010

**TYPE:** Enclosure for cats only attached to house

**MATERIALS:** Pressure treated wood, fiberglass roof panels, gate hardware, recycled green house window.

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$1,100

**FEATURES:** Plantings which give a jungle-like feel

**DESIGNER:** Terry & Lorna Campion

**BUILDERS:** Terry Campion & Chris Chapman

To protect their two furry family members while still giving them a taste of the wild, Lorna and Terry Campion built a catio that is attached to their home. While the Campions know the dangers of coyotes in the Santa Cruz community, their cats, Roon and Jada, still want to explore outdoors.

Using pressure-treated wood, wire mesh, fiberglass corrugated roof panels, and even a recycled greenhouse window, they created a jungle-like catio the cats love! The plants and rocks used inside the catio make Roon and Jada feel like they are outside and give them the opportunity to explore. Shelves and carpet were also used inside the catio, and in the photos you can see their cat Roon patrolling his territory. There are climbing shelves and a recycled greenhouse window and a cat door that allows the cats inside the house.

“It took some time, effort, and money, but the finished product created an area that makes our cats stoked. It keeps our cats safe and our minds at ease.”



## 13. Kitty Good Life in Capitola



Photos by Thomas Burke

### At a Glance

**OWNER:** Anita Alvarez

**ADDRESS:** 416 Loma Ave., Capitola

**YEAR BUILT:** 2019

**TYPE:** Enclosure for cats and humans attached to the house with wire runs along the fence

**MATERIALS:** Redwood, wire and cedar planks

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$1,400

**FEATURES:** 7x15 ft. by 9 ft. high covered enclosure with attached wire tunnels that run along the fence line

**DESIGNER:** Anita Alvarez

**BUILDER:** Angel Velasco

The enclosure is wider in the front and narrows to the corner of the backyard. It has plantings, a bench and a small sofa with shelves and perches for the cats. There is a short ramp that accesses the long wire run that goes along the fence line. There is a hinged door for easy access into the catio for humans. It is all completely enclosed so the cats can be out day or night.

Anita lives in a neighborhood in Capitola that has been having increased sightings of coyotes as well as cat deaths due to coyotes and raccoons. Her house is also across the street from the middle school and during drop-offs and pick-ups, there is a lot of hectic driving. The cats Nico and Jayda love the wire runs and spend time in them where they can get a view of the neighborhood, especially at night. They also love hanging out in the catio in the afternoon, sunbathing.

“I wish I had done it sooner. My cats were indoor/outdoor cats, and it did take time for them to adjust. Just be patient. They do adapt. Now I know they are safe”

## 14. Jungle Gym Kitty Playhouse



### At a Glance

**OWNER:** Diana Mercer

**ADDRESS:** 107 Hollister Ave.,  
Capitola

**YEAR BUILT:** 2018

**TYPE:** Covered deck with special heavy wire netting to create a safe enclosure

**MATERIALS:** Painted wood, carpeted perches and wire netting.

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$2,500

**FEATURES:** Walkways, platforms, carpeted tubes, and a hanging tunnel

**DESIGNER:** Shelley Hanson

**BUILDER:** Shelley Hanson

The enclosure is a lovely large covered outdoor deck attached to the second floor of the house with access either through a door off the living room or a sliding door off the master bedroom. It is an L shaped area, with its two sections measuring 14 ft. x 7 ft. and 14 ft. x 10 ft. From a height of about 15 ft., the top slopes down to the decking.

Diana lives in a house where the main living area is on the second floor. Her catio is a covered/enclosed deck off the main living area. She has gone to great lengths to create a safe area with lots of enrichment areas and toys to keep her young cats, Hudson and Max, and old man Ben entertained and active. They all love to sit on the platforms and look out to the street as people walk by.

“Depot Hill is a neighborhood frequented by coyotes and other wildlife. Now I know they will be safe and they can enjoy the fresh air.”

# 15. Catio Lounge & Tea Room



**AFTER**



**BEFORE**



Photos by John Pianavilla



## At a Glance

**OWNER:** Elizabeth Munroz

**ADDRESS:** 10 Carita Court, Watsonville

**YEAR BUILT:** 2014

**TYPE:** Enclosure for cats and humans

**MATERIALS:** Metal garden gazebo frame, fir lumber, 4" fence wire, plastic wall panels, corrugated roofing

**APPROXIMATE COST:** \$2,500 for materials

**FEATURES:** Padded cat walkway and access shelves, five hidden kitty litter boxes, two chairs for human cuddling, view of the Japanese garden

**DESIGNER:** Owner Elizabeth Munroz and contractor John Pianavilla

**BUILDER:** John Pianavilla, owner of Purr "D" cat condos

After Elizabeth's beloved 20-year-old cat was killed by a dog, she felt that, for her own sanity, she had to create a safe environment, overlooking the garden, for her other cats. Each of the cats enjoys the catio in a unique way. Buffy the calico prefers the little heated cat house while Sunny Boy loves to get attention from whoever is visiting. Georgie and Pinky have become best friends and play on the carpeted floor. Bambi prefers one of the lower access shelves while Timmy moves around the catio with the sun. Comfy chairs and tables allow human visitors to sit and enjoy a cup of hot tea while all enjoy the views of the Japanese garden and Bonsai collection.

“The cats love it. They come and go as they please day and night and I know they are safe.”

# Resources for Your Inspiration

## FEATURED BUILDER

### DAVID CARNAGHE

[www.facebook.com/bayareacatios](http://www.facebook.com/bayareacatios)  
License #682438  
831.227.3133

## DESIGNERS/CONTRACTORS

### CLIFF EVANS

408.802.3843  
[cevens270@aol.com](mailto:cevens270@aol.com)

### SHIRLEY HANSON

619.850.9850

### WESLEY KOENIG: RENT-A-HUSBAND

License #655819  
831.438.5200

### ABEL RODAS TORRES: CATIOS, PATIOS, FENCES, FLAGSTONE & RETAINING WALLS

831.435.0067  
[rodasabel08@gmail.com](mailto:rodasabel08@gmail.com)

### ANGEL VELASCO: VELASCO LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION

License #1051265  
831.227.6555

## CATIO KITS AND PLANS

### C & D PET PRODUCTS

[www.cdpets.com](http://www.cdpets.com)  
Redwood and galvanized steel wire kits  
starting at \$465.

### HABITAT HAVEN

[www.habitathaven.com](http://www.habitathaven.com)  
Variety of galvanized steel wire structure kits

### CATS ON DECK

[www.catsondeck.com](http://www.catsondeck.com)  
Modular kits made of PVC pipe and steel  
mesh panels

### CATIO SPACES

[www.catiospaces.com](http://www.catiospaces.com)  
Window box and full-size catio plans

## CAT FENCING

### PURRFECT CAT FENCING

[www.purrfectfence.com](http://www.purrfectfence.com)  
Three types: Free-standing fencing, existing  
fence conversion system or portable  
enclosures.

### CAT FENCE IN

[www.catfencein.com](http://www.catfencein.com)  
Existing fence conversion system.

## CAT BIBS

### CAT GOODS, INC.

[www.catgoods.com](http://www.catgoods.com)  
This is the most effective way to stop cats  
from killing birds for those who have open  
yards that allow birds in.