Overview

• Review benefits of TNR
• Provide trapping tips and advice
• Provide local resources
What is TNR?

• Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is a humane and effective approach for stray and community cats.

• Process:
  • Cats are trapped and taken to a veterinarian to be neutered and vaccinated.
  • After recovery, the cats are returned to their home—outdoors.
  • Kittens and cats who are friendly/socialized to people may be adopted into homes.
  • TNR improves the lives of outdoor cats and improves their relationships with the people who live near them.
Benefits of TNR

• Colonies diminish in size over time
• Unpleasant behaviors cease, like roaming, yowling, spraying, and fighting
• The cats’ physical health improves (e.g. vaccinations, reduced fighting)
• More sustainable than relocating (opens up territorial void)
• Reduces need for and is less expensive than euthanasia
• Creates opportunities for community outreach and education
How To Trap Cats for TNR: Before You Trap

- Identify the spots where the cats spend their time.
- Communicate with neighbors about your TNR plans and find out who and when they are feeding.
  - If they are being fed, coordinate with them on trapping plans
  - If no one is currently feeding the cats, it may be helpful to start feeding on schedule and in a designated area, if only temporarily
- Borrow traps and make spay/neuter appointments (if needed)
Before You Trap (continued)

• Create a plan and schedule for the trapping, transport, and return of the cats.

• Determine a safe, indoor location where you will be able to hold the cats after surgery while they recover.

• Gather and prepare all of the appropriate equipment and understand how it works ahead of time. Test traps each time to ensure that the trip plate works.

• Line the back seat of the transport vehicle with a plastic tarp.

• Have anyone who is feeding the cats withhold food for at least 24 hours before trapping.
Trapping Tips

- Trap at the time of feeding (usually dawn or dusk)
- Prepare the traps by lining the bottom with newspaper
- Set “bait” in the back corner of the trap (tuna packed in oil, sardines in oil, or Original Recipe KFC)
- Make a trail of bait from the front to the back of the trap. Also drizzle some outside of the entrance of the trap
- Be sure the back door is latched properly!
- Set the traps and watch them from afar
- Once a cat is trapped, cover the trap immediately and remove the cat from the feeding area.
- Secure the traps in your vehicle and head to the veterinarian or clinic
Suggested Trapping Supplies

- Traps
- Old towels or sheet to cover each trap
- Newspaper to line the trap
- Masking tape (to secure newspaper to trap if it is windy)
- Smelly bait (tuna packed in oil, sardines in oil, KFC)
- Can opener
- Plastic spoon (to drizzle oil, scoop out bait)
- Flashlight
- Plastic tarp (to line floor or seat of transport vehicle)
- Book to read while you wait -- trapping takes patience!
Post-Surgery

- After surgery keep the cats in the covered trap at all times
- Transport the cats safely back to a secure, indoor location for recovery
- Monitor the cats for illness
- Feed the cats 8 hours or so after surgery and return the cats after 1 night (males) or 24+hrs (females)
- Return the cats to the exact location where they were trapped
Next Steps

- Clean the traps well in between trapping sessions
- Check all future cats for ear tips
- Be patient and persistent!
- Difficult cats may need other methods like drop trapping.
  Get advice from an experienced TNR volunteer
- Contact us to volunteer!
Feral Cat Spay/Neuter Resources
In Santa Clara County. Eff. 1/15/20. See: www.13thstcats.org/spayneuter

• City of San Jose Animal Care Services (2750 Monterey Rd., San Jose)
  • Eligible: Residents of San Jose, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Milpitas, and Saratoga
  • Cost: Free if you surrender cat to be returned by volunteers (no appt. needed, 7 days/wk, 7am-7pm). Cats must weigh at least 4 lbs.
  • $25 if you want to pick up and return the cat yourself (no appt. needed, drop off 8:00AM to 8:30AM – Tuesday through Thursday only)

• Humane Society of Silicon Valley (901 Ames Ave., Milpitas)
  • Eligible: Anyone. Cats must weigh at least 1.5 lbs.
  • Cost: Free to Santa Clara County residents; $50 from out of county. No appt. needed. (Drop off 7am-8am, Tuesday through Saturday)

• Silicon Valley Animal Care Authority (3370 Thomas Rd., Santa Clara)
  • Eligible: Residents of Santa Clara, Campbell, Monte Sereno & Mountain View
  • Cost: Free if you surrender cat to be returned by volunteers (no appt. needed, Tues, Thurs, Sat, or Sunday 8pm-5pm, or Wed 8am-7pm)

• Local veterinarians that participate in county subsidy program (Including San Jose Animal Hospital - see list at www.13thstcats.org/spayneuter)
  • Eligible: Anyone in Santa Clara County. Cost: $10 or $25, depending on city of residence. Appointments needed. Weight minimum varies -- call to check.
Where To Get Traps

• Contact us to borrow a trap for a $50 refundable deposit
  TNR@13thstcats.org
• You can also borrow traps from the City of San Jose Animal Care Center or the Humane Society
• To buy traps, look online for Tomahawk Brand Traps. We like this model:
Questions?

Contact Us:
TNR@13thstcats.org
www.13thstcats.org/TNR

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