



FERAL FELINE DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS

RETURNING

Returning a cat to its original location is generally the best approach after TNR. Relocating cats is only recommended as a last resort, usually when the cats are in immediate danger. If relocation is necessary, it should be done carefully, ensuring the new location is suitable and the cats are properly introduced to any new animals or environment.

To release a feral cat from a trap, ensure the cat is safely contained and then open the trap door from a distance, allowing the cat to exit on its own. Never put your hand in the trap. If the cat is hesitant, try covering the trap with a towel and then uncovering the exit to encourage it to leave.

MALE FELINES

Male cats may be released the evening following the surgical procedure. To ensure the cat's safety and comfort during periods of extremely cold or wet weather, please consider keeping the cat(s) for additional nights, if feasible.

If you are able to accommodate the cat(s) for additional nights until the weather becomes fair, please follow the instructions below.

FEMALE FELINES

Female cats may be released 48 hours following the surgical procedure, if feasible. This allows the body to effectively heal and recover from the effects of anesthesia. If the cat(s) were pregnant, consider extending the recovery time to 72 hours. On the contrary, if clinical staff confirms the cat is likely nursing, it is crucial to release her immediately to reduce disruption to the nursing routine and milk production.

DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS

Feral cats have a heightened stress response, making the post-surgical period a crucial time for careful monitoring and stress mitigation. Following these discharge instructions meticulously is crucial for a smooth and stress-free recovery.

- Cats should remain in the humane trap during the recovery period. Do not attempt to remove the feral cat from the trap, as this can lead to injury to both the cat and the handler.
- Please ensure the cat is kept in a climate-controlled area, free from drafts, for the duration of their recovery. If there is nothing else, try to keep the cat(s) in a sheltered area protected from the elements.
- Ensure the traps remained covered to provide protection and security. Use newspaper to line the trap, absorbing any moisture and keeping the cat dry.
- Upon arriving home, offer the cat(s) food and water. Remember to be extremely cautious if you must open the trap, even slightly, to avoid escape.
- **Contact our office or emergency services (if after hours) immediately if your pet exhibits any of the following signs during recovery: active bleeding or drainage from the surgical site, foul odors emanating from the area, excessive licking or chewing at the incision, lack of appetite or thirst, inability to urinate or defecate, or persistent lethargy beyond what is expected after surgery.**
- If you have any additional questions or concerns about the recovery of the cat(s), please do not hesitate to contact our office at 336-444-2725 or info.spayneuterroco@gmail.com.

Thank you for going the extra mile to support cats in need. Your actions are a testament to your compassion, both for preventing the suffering of unwanted litters and ensuring a better quality of life for these animals.

- Spay Neuter RoCo Veterinary Clinic, PLLC