

ABOUT TNR

WHAT IS IT?

Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is the humane approach to controlling the community cat overpopulation. It's a community-based program that involves concerned and caring citizens or groups who trap free-roaming cats, bringing them to a spay/neuter clinic, then returning them to the exact location where they were trapped so they can live out the rest of their natural lives, ideally with a caregiver also providing food, water and shelter for them.



WHY IS IT?

A large population of homeless feral and stray cats exists. Given their strong survival capabilities and prolific breeding, if nothing is done, this population will simply continue to grow. The old approach of **Trap and Remove does NOT work**. Extermination or euthanasia may temporarily reduce their numbers, but does not solve the problem for long. Cats are in the environment for two main reasons: 1) there is a food source (intended or not), and 2) there is some sort-of shelter. When cats are removed from a location, it creates a **"vacuum" effect** - meaning the surrounding cats can sense it and they breed rapidly to fill the gap, plus new cats move in to take advantage of the natural food and shelter sources. Trapping and removing cats often results in having even more unsterilized cats in the location than when you started. Catch and kill is very costly, doesn't work, and ultimately, is inhumane.

SOLUTION

Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) programs are a very successful method of decreasing and controlling community cat populations. **TNR programs succeed at the least cost to public and provide the best possible life for the cats themselves.**



Ear-tip



T

After adequate preparations, including educating the community about TNR, colony cats are trapped using humane traps.





N

Trapped cats are brought to a spay/neuter clinic. Typically, TNR programs also offer Rabies vaccines and disease testing. This may be the only medical treatment cats receive in their lives. The tip of the left ear is removed; this is the universal sign for spay/neuter and will prevent unnecessary trapping and surgery in the future.

R

After recovery from surgery, cats are returned to where they were trapped and supplied with ongoing access to food, water, and shelter.

BENEFITS

-  Population control by **permanently reducing** the number of cats in an area
-  Lowering cat intake into shelters, thereby **lowering shelter costs, overcrowding, and euthanasia rates**
-  **Reducing the spread of disease** and suffering of already infected cats
-  The returned, spayed/neuter colony guards its territory, **discouraging unneutered cats from moving in and beginning the cycle of overpopulation again**