

Living With Our Neighborhood Cats

A number of residents have reported growing numbers of free-roaming cats around the community. Here are trusted, low-cost resources for spay/neuter and colony management — the most effective way to bring the population back down over time.

Free-roaming cats without an owner are usually called **community cats**. Trap-Neuter-Return, or **TNR**, is the trapping, sterilizing, vaccinating, and ear-tipping of these cats before returning them to where they were found — it's the method every major shelter and rescue group in Jacksonville uses because it actually stops colonies from growing, unlike relocation or removal alone.

Ear-tipping — the small, painless notch removed from a cat's left ear under anesthesia during TNR surgery — is how a cat is identified at a glance as already sterilized and vaccinated. If you see an ear-tipped cat, it has already been through the program.

WHERE TO GET HELP

First Coast No More Homeless Pets

Runs the region's Feral Freedom program with the City of Jacksonville — free or low-cost spay/neuter, vaccination, and ear-tipping for community cats, with return to their original location.

WEB fcnmdp.org **PHONE** (904) 425-0005

Jacksonville Humane Society — Community Cats

Publishes the annual Community Cat Resource Guide and answers questions on identifying, feeding responsibly, and managing a colony.

WEB jaxhumane.org/pet-help/community-cats

Duval Cat Fix (EveryPet)

Low-cost spay/neuter surgery specifically for feral and community cats.

PHONE (904) 425-0005

Alley Cat Allies

National nonprofit with step-by-step guides on humane trapping, colony setup, and living alongside community cats as a neighbor or caretaker.

WEB alleycat.org

Jacksonville Animal Care & Protective Services

The city office that can connect residents to TNR partners and pick up community cats for the Feral Freedom program.

PHONE 630-CITY (630-2489)

IF YOU'D LIKE TO HELP

- 1** Call First Coast No More Homeless Pets or the Jacksonville Humane Society to ask about scheduling a TNR appointment for cats in your area.
- 2** Borrow or buy a humane trap — Alley Cat Allies has step-by-step trapping instructions if you've never done it before.
- 3** After surgery, return the cat to where it was found — moving it elsewhere disrupts the colony and isn't recommended.
- 4** Continue feeding on a regular schedule if you choose, on your own property, in a way that doesn't create mess or draw pests for neighbors.

Dunns Creek Plantation Owners Association

c/o Florida Property and Association Management · (800) 435-8718 · jaxoffice@fpaamjax.com