



# TNR

TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN

## The Problem

It is estimated that millions of feral and stray cats freely roam the streets of the United States and breed rapidly. Doing nothing and using ineffective approaches have resulted in the current overpopulation problem. Trying to rescue all feral cats and find them homes is impossible, given their numbers and their limited socialization. Removing or relocating a colony of feral cats creates a vacuum, allowing new cats to move in and the cycle of reproduction to start again.

## The Solution

TNR is the only method proven to be humane and effective in controlling free-roaming cat population growth. TNR is about:

- Population control—permanently reducing the number of cats in an area.
- Lowering intake into shelters, thereby lowering shelter euthanasia rates.
- Reducing the spread of disease.
- The returned spayed/neutered colony guards its territory, discouraging unneutered cats from moving in and beginning the cycle of overpopulation anew.

- Requirements:**
- Current clients
  - Be in a live trap
  - Ear Notched during surgery
  - Must have rabies and pain medication
  - Barn cat, Stray cat or Feral cat



## TRAP

After adequate preparations, including educating the community about the TNR process, these cats are caught using humane traps.



## NEUTER

The captured cats are brought in their traps to a spay/neuter provider. They are vetted, vaccinated, and tipped. The universal sign of a fixed feral cat.



## RETURN

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

## The Difference

### Stray Cat

A socialized cat that may have been abandoned or lost and can usually be re-homed.

### Feral Cat

An unsocialized cat who has never lived indoors and cannot be placed in homes.

### Barn Cat

A barn cat, also known as a farm cat, is a cat who lives permanently outdoors.



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