

Myth: Feral cats are diseased and can make pet cats or children sick.

Reality: Feral cats are generally healthy. The incidence of disease in feral cat colonies is no higher than among owned cats. Feral cats shun human contact, especially with unfamiliar people. They aren't interested in interacting with you or your children. They are afraid of you!

THE TRUTH ABOUT FERAL CATS

- Feral cats have about the same lifespan as house cats.
- Feral cats are generally healthy. The incidence of disease in feral cat colonies is no higher than among house cats.
- Feral cats are not pets and will be euthanized at most shelters.
- Feral cats are not dangerous to you, your children, or your pets. They do not interact with people or other animals.

Trap-Neuter-Return

This humane, non-lethal method of population control is more effective than trap-and-kill, and is more reflective of a **caring society**. Any solution other than Trap-Neuter-Return results, sooner or later, in the destruction of these beautiful, wild creatures. Trap-Neuter-Return is an answer you can feel good about.

THE TNR METHOD

(Trap, Neuter, Return)

The humane and effective solution to controlling the feral/free-roaming cat population.

WE NEED YOU.

If you love cats/kittens and are interested in helping our program, visit our website at www.saveakitty.org for volunteer opportunities.

If you would like to support our efforts, donations may be mailed to **P.O. Box 1442, Parkersburg, WV 26102** or via our website www.saveakitty.org

All donations are tax-deductible.

HELP US, HELP THEM.

Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. needs your help. Our volunteers educate caretakers on how to humanely trap and transport feral and free-roaming cats for sterilization surgery and how to provide proper care for their colonies. If you would like more information, see our website at

www.saveakitty.org



501(c)3 Non-Profit Program 20-135-6147
304.480.9242



Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program

**Save a Kitty
Feral Cat Program
P.O. Box 1442
Parkersburg, WV 26102**

**Do you believe she deserves
to live... even though she is
afraid of humans?**



**Don't buy into the cruel myths about
feral cats and kittens. Discover the
compassionate solution that really works...**



Improving the lives of community cats
through TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return)
Non-Profit 501(c)3 Organization

**It's Happening Right in
Your Own Backyard...**

What is a feral cat?

Maybe you've seen them behind a restaurant or in an alley or park. Feral (un-socialized) cats live everywhere, forming colonies wherever they find scraps of food and a bit of shelter, be it in dumpsters or under a building. Tens of millions of feral cats now live in the United States.

FERAL... OR STRAY?

Feral is not another word for "stray." A stray is a cat who has been abandoned or who has strayed from home and become lost. Stray cats can usually be re-socialized and adopted. Adult feral cats usually can't be socialized and won't adjust to living indoors or with a human family. Rather than attempting to tame one or a few feral cats, your time and effort are better spent sterilizing many feral cats to break the cycle of reproduction.

Millions of feral cats are killed in shelters each year because they are un-adoptable. They have a home – **outdoors**. Adult feral cats are like wildlife. They usually cannot be socialized and are most content living outside. On the other hand, feral kittens up to 9 weeks of age can often be tamed and placed in homes.

A feral cat is an un-socialized cat that has never had human contact. Feral cats are those born outside, never living with a human family, or a former house cat that has strayed from home and no longer retains characteristics of a domesticated cat. These cats live in colonies outdoors and usually cannot be socialized to become house pets. When domesticated cats are forced to live outdoors and fend for themselves, extremely large numbers of these animals die from exposure, accidents, or poisonings. The survivors turn feral if not sterilized and give birth to feral kittens, allowing the cycle to continue.

What is the TNR Method?

TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) is a proven procedure in which entire colonies of stray and feral cats are humanely trapped, evaluated, vaccinated, and sterilized by veterinarians. Kittens and tame cats are adopted into approved inside homes. Adult cats too wild to be adopted are returned to live out their lives with the help of colony caretakers.

Why return the feral cats to their colonies?

If a feral cat colony is removed from its environment and euthanized, other feral cats will move in to take advantage of the resources. In addition to moving in, they will breed immediately to form a new colony. Removing and destroying these animals is not only inhumane, it does nothing to solve the problem of overpopulation. This is called the "vacuum effect."

Myth: Feral cats lead short, miserable lives so it's best to trap and euthanize them.

Reality: Studies show that feral cats have about the same lifespan as pet cats. And they contract diseases at about the same rate. It is simply not humane or prudent to kill a healthy feral cat. This practice does not reduce the populations over the long-term because other cats will move in and start breeding.



DISCOVER THE HUMANE AND EFFECTIVE SOLUTION. TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN (TNR) IS MORE EFFECTIVE THAN EUTHANASIA AND MORE COMPASSIONATE OF A CARING SOCIETY.

Feral and free-roaming cats have a home. It's outdoors. There are not enough homes for them all. They don't belong in shelters. Will you help save these beautiful cats?