



It's much better to maintain a fixed and healthy colony and let the colony decline through natural attrition than to allow unfixed ferals to move in and have a population explosion.

In certain circumstances where it may be dangerous to return the cats to where they came from, we can try to relocate them to a safe area. Unfortunately, suitable relocation sites are hard to find; they usually already have their share of feral cats. Relocation is also very stressful on the cats. Even with diligent efforts to "imprint" the cats to the new location, they often run off or try to find their way "home" after release.

What about all that annoying howling, fighting and spraying?

Once fixed, most (if not all) of that annoying behavior will disappear. Fixed ferals are very shy - you probably won't see much of them and they'll do a fabulous job of ridding the area of rodents - an added bonus!

It takes a community effort.

Feral cats belong to the "community" in which they live and we encourage you to work with your neighbors to take a proactive approach in the control of "community cats". We can help with equipment loans, trapping assistance, low and no cost spay/neuter, and education on how to successfully "manage" a feral colony.

Don't Wait - Call Today!
916-434-6022

OK! You've convinced me! I'll get the cats fixed through SNAP, but, I don't have any idea how to do all this TNR stuff.

No problem! Our SNAP and TNR teams will help you each step of the way. We loan equipment (traps, carriers, cages, etc) with a refundable deposit and provide support throughout the process. We have a lot of experience with helping beginner TNR'ers. The TNR team is also available to come to your site and help with the trapping, transport, recovery, etc. if you live within our services areas. This team has a lot of experience convincing even the most resistant cats to step into the trap. They are also experts at determining if a cat is truly feral or just a very fearful domestic cat that has lost its home.

Just call us to get started on this wonderful and rewarding adventure.

Save a Life—Fix a Feral or Stray Cat



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FieldHaven Feline Center

SNAP

(Spay/Neuter Assistance Program)

TNR

(Trap-Neuter-Return)

Fact Sheet



FieldHaven's Spay Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP)

This program provides low and no cost spay and neuter for cats that reside in or are under the care of residents in Lincoln, Sheridan, Wheatland and Newcastle and depending on funding, is often available to other Placer Country residents as well. This program provides a valuable service to our community and supports a major effort toward addressing the devastating problem of homeless cats. Each year, thousands of cats are euthanized in Placer County and surrounding areas because there are not enough homes. The solution is simple, Spay and Neuter!

FieldHaven is proud that SNAP, first introduced in 2005, has had a significant impact in the number of stray and feral cats from our community being euthanized. But our work is far from done. We need your help. This is a community-wide effort that will require everyone's help. This brochure should answer many of your questions about SNAP.

How much does SNAP cost?

We will cover the cost of spaying or neutering your cat as well as provide FVRCP and Rabies vaccines. You are not required to pay anything. However, we do encourage you to contribute whatever you can afford towards the cost. Your contribution will help us to continue offering the service should our grant funds be depleted.

Where do funds for SNAP come from?

Funding for SNAP is generously provided by several foundations, trust funds and corporations. Each year we reapply for funds and the amount of funds available varies from year to year. We are always looking for additional sources of funding, so if you have knowledge of a funding source, please let us know.

How do I get my cat spayed/neutered through SNAP?

We use the Animal Spay and Neuter (ASN) clinic in Auburn for our SNAP services. Here's how to use this service:

- 1) Contact FieldHaven at 916-434-6022 or email info@fieldhaven.com to schedule an appointment and transport your cats directly to ASN on your scheduled day and time.
- 2) If you need assistance with transportation, FieldHaven provides a shuttle service to ASN each Tuesday on a space available basis. You must drop your cat off at FieldHaven by 8:00 am in the morning and pick them up at 5:00 pm that evening. This service is very limited, so please understand if we cannot accommodate your cat right away.

There is a stray unfixed cat in my neighborhood. What should I do?

First of all, thank you for caring about this homeless cat. The most important thing to do is to get the cat fixed. Secondly, we need to figure out how to get this cat "off the street". FieldHaven has very limited space to bring cats in, so it is very likely we won't have room immediately for the cat after surgery. This is where you can really help us. Depending on the details of the cat (is it friendly or feral? Is it highly adoptable?, etc) perhaps you can foster the cat while we try to find a home. Or, if you can't foster it, maybe you know someone who can. If it's feral (wild) can it safely live in your yard after it's been fixed and can you provide it with food, shelter and water? Our volunteers can work with you to come up with the best solution, just contact us to get started. The worst thing you can do is ignore the situation because next week your single homeless cat may be a whole litter of homeless kittens!

Why can't I just call Animal Control to come pick-up the feral cats?

Placer County Animal Services (PCAS) works very hard to place every animal that is brought to the shelter. But, they just don't have the resources to find placement for feral cats so feral cats are euthanized. With all of us working together, we can put a stop to the needless killing of feral cats.

What is TNR?

Trap-Neuter-Return is the practice of humanely capturing a cat in a safe box trap. They are then transported to the veterinarian for spaying/neutering, vaccinating and other medical care as needed. They will also be "ear-tipped" so that they are easily identified as having been fixed and vaccinated. After surgery they are returned to the location they were trapped from.

Why can't the cats just be relocated somewhere else?

The Vacuum Effect.

Feral cats choose a particular location because it has the things they require - water, a food source, and shelter. When you remove the ferals from that area, people think that's the end of the story - but it's not. Other ferals will move in (hence the term the vacuum effect) and the cycle will continue. If you return the original ferals to the location after spaying/neutering and vaccinating, they will generally keep new ferals from moving in.

