

**Master the Art of**



**TNR**  
**Trap-Neuter-Return**  
**Workshop**

Presented by :

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and

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**Thank you for being  
here today to learn  
what you can do to  
help community  
cats, reduce  
unwanted  
litters, and end  
companion  
animal  
homelessness.**





# People for Animals Spay/Neuter Clinics

Now with 3 locations:

1 Sharon Rd, Robbinsville, NJ  
609-208-3252

401 Hillside Ave, Hillside, NJ  
973-282-0890

1200 North Delsea Drive, Clayton, NJ  
856-243-5211

- Largest Low Cost Spay Neuter Clinic Organization in NJ
- Opened 1985
- High Quality – Low Cost
- 20,000 animals altered annually
- Experienced Surgeons specializing in Spay/Neuter
- SpayShuttle



# Why T-N-R?

Because other methods of controlling the feral/free roaming cat overpopulation have proven ineffective.

- Other methods include
  - **Doing nothing**-Cats are not going to be going away, continue to breed
  - **Feeding bans**-Cats will find other sources of food. People will take any measure to be sure cats have food.
  - **Trap and remove**- creates a vacuum effect where new cats will move in to the territory



# Why T-N-R works?

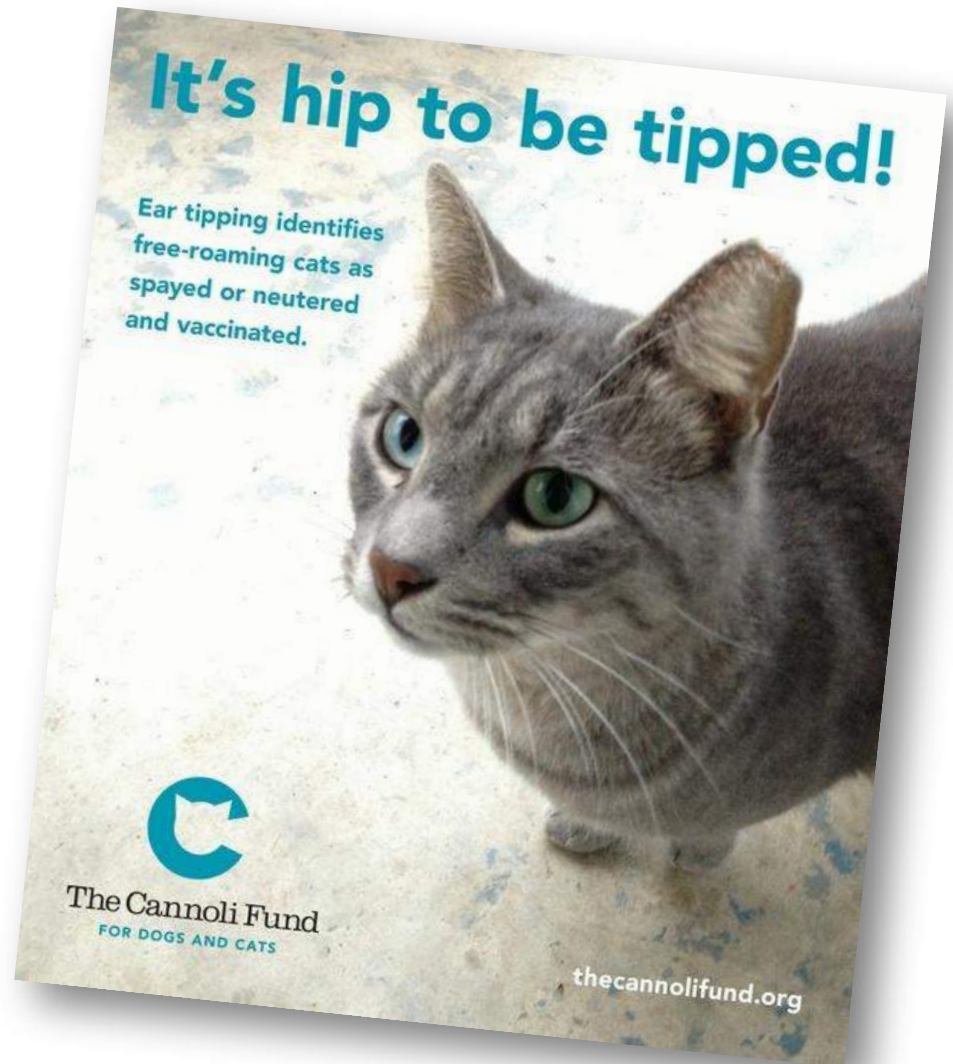
- T-N-R stops further reproduction
- Cats are vaccinated for Rabies and other diseases
- Cats that are spayed and neutered will not cause as much of a nuisance to neighbors
- Once a colony is completely spayed and neutered the numbers will naturally go down
- The colony can be monitored for new comers because existing members of colony will be ear tipped



# How to Perform T-N-R...



1. Prepare
2. **T**rap
3. **N**euter
4. Vaccinate
5. Recover
6. **R**eturn
7. Monitor





# PREPARATION IS KEY!

## Know what you need

Be ready for a little hard  
work,  
Satisfaction Guaranteed



# Know Your Project Area!

**Establish a feeding schedule-  
Know when the cats will be  
there.**

- the colony will be more easily trapped
- Make a list of all the cats so you will know how many cats need to be trapped
- Feeding during daytime hours reduces interactions with wildlife
- DO NOT leave traps in a place where they may be stolen, vandalized or worse.



# Prep



## Before trapping

- Have a spay/neuter appointment for each cat you intend to trap - this should be every cat in the colony
- Have holding space available for trapped cats before and after surgery
- Have the amount of traps you need, plus a few extra
- Notify neighbors to keep pet cats indoors on dates of trapping.
- Do not feed cats the day before trapping.





<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>S</b>
	<i>Call to make appts.</i>	<i>Feed 9am</i>	<i>Feed 9am</i>	<i>Feed 9am</i>	<i>Feed 9am</i>	<i>Feed 9am</i>
<i>Feed 9am</i>	<i>Feed 9am</i>	<i>Feed</i>	<i>Feed 9am</i>	<i>Feed 9am</i>	<i>Do Not feed</i>	<i>Trapping start at 9am</i>
<i>Trapping start at 9am</i>	<b>SPAY DAY!</b>					

### Important Notes:

- Leave fresh water even when not feeding.
- Don't leave food on any trapping days.  
**Exceptions to trapping early!**
- Withhold food the entire day before trapping if you have not been able to acclimate them to the trap. **(Exceptions)**

**Never leave traps out over night!**  
**Do not leave traps unattended!**



# Trapping *tips*



- Know how your trap works!  
Test it to make sure it is in good working order.
- Count how many traps you have prior to setting any before you set them up.
- Set traps up away from the trapping area.
- Place traps near feeding area, but not directly at the main feeding area. You will work your way in towards the main feeding area.
- Use the bait to make a trail leading to the back of the trap.
- Be patient and quiet.
- Watch at a safe distance, listen for traps to close.
- Never leave traps out without checking them often. On a hot day an animal can have heat stroke on a cold day they can get hypothermia.
- Do not leave traps that are set out overnight.

# Trapping



So now you have  
trapped a cat!  
Don't panic!

Cover the trap and  
the cat will calm  
down.

Label the trap,  
noting the  
trapping location.



*Buff and White  
Behind building at 3 Abc St*

# Trap *tips-hard to catch*



## Change the set up:

- Try to cover the trap
- Try newspaper or cardboard on the bottom
- Hide the trap with sticks and leaves
- Does your trap smell??
- Try using different types of traps- Bigger box traps and Drop traps are sometimes useful

## Bait:

- Popeye's chicken strips or Rotisserie Chicken
- Bacon cheese burger (\$1 menu)
- Warm tuna or sardines
- Some cats only like dry food
- Treats or Catnip





# Human safety first!



- If you are bitten by a cat, seek medical attention as soon as possible! The doctor may report the bite to the County Health Department.
  - The cat that bit should be trapped and held 10 days.
  - If the cat shows signs of illness or if it dies in that 10 days, you must contact the local health Dept. or animal control and their personal physician.
- Do not attempt to touch or handle cats
  - When a cat is in distress it may become aggressive as it tries to protect itself
- If it has teeth it will bite- **Even kittens!!**
- **Cats can carry Rabies - Rabies is not always presented as aggression!**
- Carry occupied traps by the handle only



# Human safety first!



- **If you catch wildlife– release safely**

If you catch a raccoon, do not move trap without bite gloves. They can reach through the bars and scratch you.

- **Make sure that rear door on trap is properly closed! Invest in some carabineers!**

- **If a cat escapes in your house:**

- DO NOT TRY TO GRAB IT
- Limit the amount of places it can go
- Set a trap with food and do not leave food elsewhere

# Holding Period

- Hold cats in their **covered** traps lined with newspaper
- Give fresh food and water (2x daily)
- Clean traps daily
- Use a trap divider when cleaning and feeding. Use caution!



# Neuter



- Sedated in the trap
- Examined and sexed before surgery
- **Vaccinated**, spayed or neutered and **ear tipped** while under anesthesia
- After surgery the cats will be placed back into clean traps to recover from anesthesia



Other services...!?



# Recovery

How long to hold a cat after surgery

Males- at least 24 hrs

Females- at least 48 hrs- unless they are nursing  
in which case they can be released once they  
have fully recovered from anesthesia



# Recovery

- Anesthesia interferes with the cat's ability to regulate their body temperature for 24 hours after surgery
- Recover in an environment that is protected from the elements (including wind)
- Keep the traps covered to reduce stress
- Offer food and water only after they have fully regained consciousness. This is usually around 8:00 pm.



# Recovery

- Check on the cats
- Look for bleeding, not waking up fully, difficulty breathing or excessive vomiting
  - A small amount of dry blood around the incision sight is normal, watch for excessive bleeding
  - Cats should be eating by the morning following surgery

*A veterinarian should be contacted if  
a cat is not recovering normally.*



Large  
covered  
crate

## Long term recovery

- holding time needs to exceed 1 week after surgery
- Do not let a feral cat loose in any part of your home

Carabineer  
clip to side  
of cage

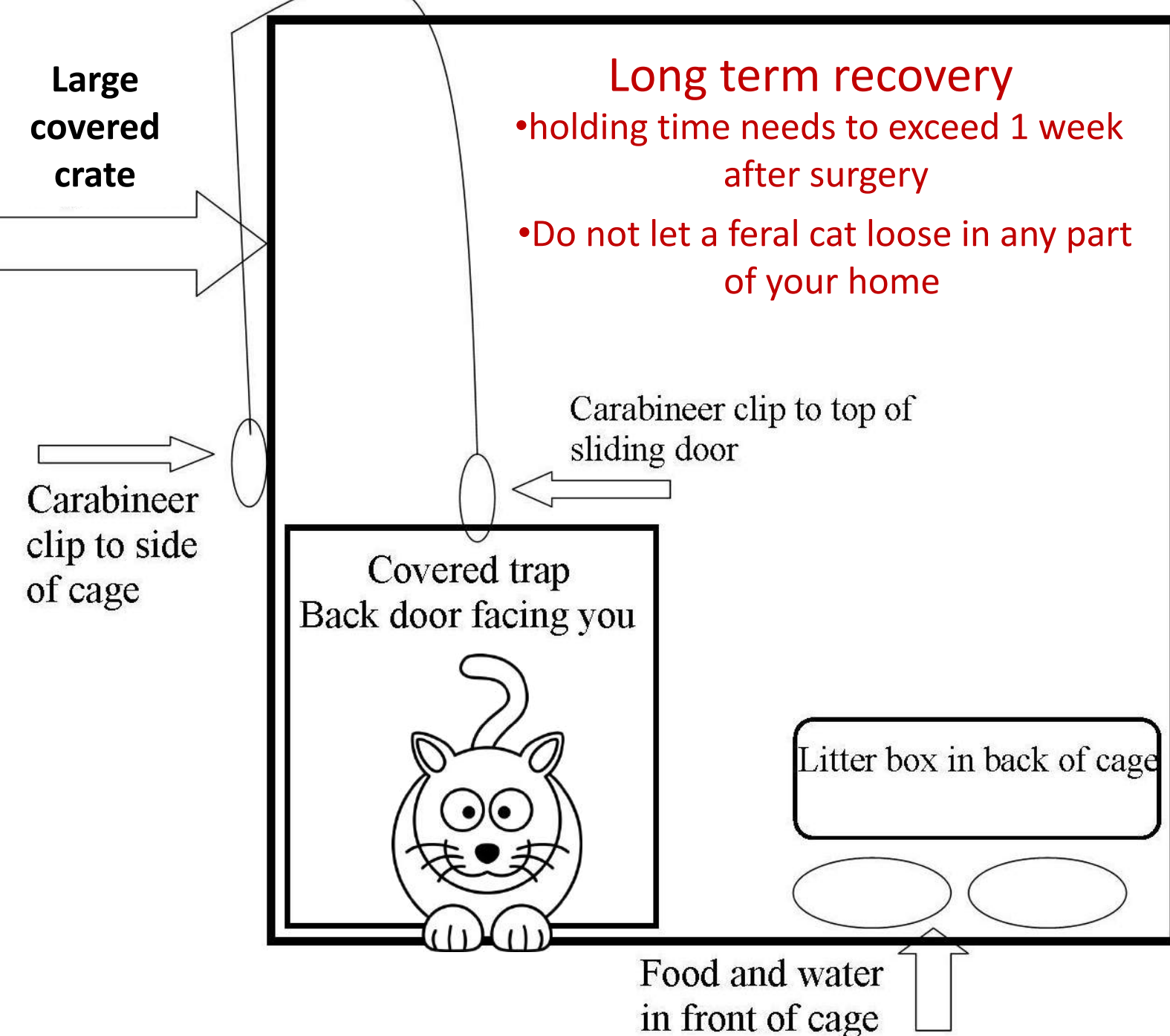
Carabineer clip to top of  
sliding door

Covered trap  
Back door facing you



Litter box in back of cage

Food and water  
in front of cage



# Return

- Always return cats to the exact location they came from.
- Releasing them in a different location could put them in danger.



# Cleaning

- When cats are stressed they will produce pheromones. If the trap is not clean the next time you use the trap, other cats will smell the pheromones.
- Clean with dish soap and rinse then 1:10 bleach solution (let sit 10 min.) and rinse





# Monitor



Check daily for the following:

- Newcomers - get them fixed, vaccinated and ear tipped immediately.
- Illness
- Vaccination status



(PFA will treat ferals for wellness)

# Colony Care Basics

## Food, Water, Shelter



### FOOD & WATER

- Only give enough food that the cats can finish in 20-30 minutes. It's best to feed during daylight hours.
- Pick up any left over food. Excessive food will attract wildlife.  
**Do not feed the wildlife!**
- In most cases  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of dry food is sufficient for one cat.  
(Check the nutrition facts on the bag)
- Increase food for nursing mothers, large cats, skinny cats, in the winter, ect.
- Decrease dry food if you are feeding wet food also
- Leave fresh water daily in a clean bowl.

**Feeding stations should be kept clean**

**YES!**



**NO, NO, NO!!!!**



**Shelters should be provided, especially for female cats if they are having surgery in the winter as their bellies will be shaved.**





# Use straw- NOT HAY





# SHELTERS



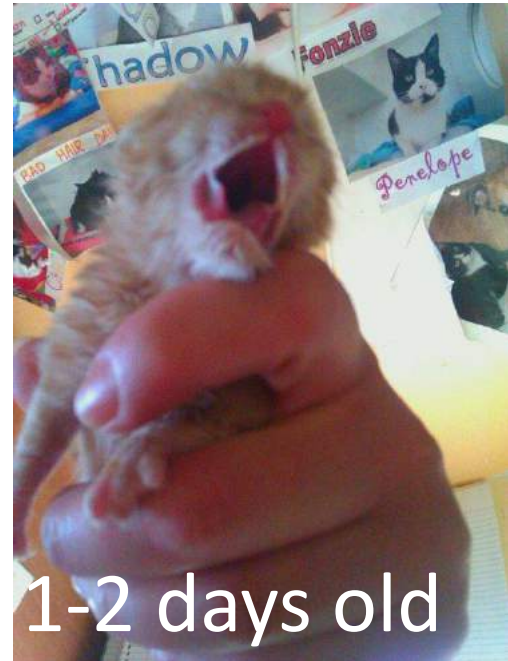
# How old is that kitten?



- Kittens need their mothers milk for the first 3 days
- A kitten will have its umbilical cord stub still attached until it is about 3-4 days old.
- At 7 days a kitten's eyes will open
- At 5 weeks a kittens eyes will start to change, be more defined and have specks of green  
(or whatever color the eyes are going to be). They will also start to play away from mom.







1-2 days old



7-10 days



About 2-3 weeks



4-5 weeks



7-8 weeks

# Notifying Neighbors – Community Relations

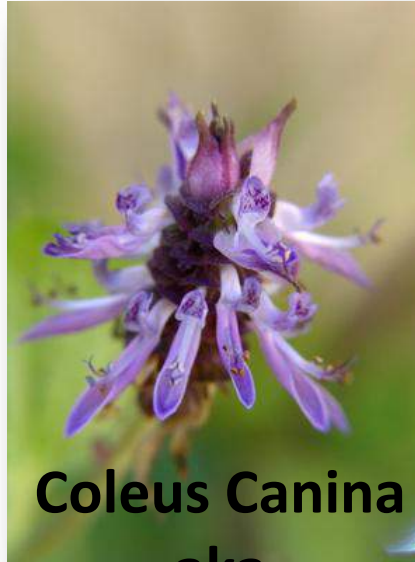
- Always
  - Stay positive
  - Listen!
  - Leave your information for further contact
  - Ask for their time
  - Thank for their time (even if you don't want to)
- Give one or two reasons
- Hand out written material for them to read later-especially if they are not interested in conversation
- Leave door hangers if not home



# I hate those cats, what do you mean they are going to come back?!



Havahart 5266  
Spray Away  
Motion  
Activated  
Sprinkler  
Animal  
Repellent



**Coleus Canina**  
aka  
**Scaredy Cat**



Contech  
CatStop  
Ultrasonic  
Outdoor  
Cat  
Deterrent



Cayenne pepper



# Spay/Neuter outreach



**Provide resources for pets**



# Helpful resources

Alley Cat Allies – [www.alleycat.org](http://www.alleycat.org)

Neighborhood Cats – [www.neighborhoodcats.org](http://www.neighborhoodcats.org)

Animal Protection League of NJ – [www.aplnj.org](http://www.aplnj.org)

Best Friends Animal Sanctuary (Utah) –  
[www.bestfriends.org](http://www.bestfriends.org)

The Humane Society of the United States –  
[www.humanesociety.org](http://www.humanesociety.org)

People for Animals – [www.pfaonline.org](http://www.pfaonline.org)

# Thank You!

People for Animals

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