

## What is TNR?

Community cats are the most significant source of cat over population. Solano County Animal Care supports a non-lethal strategy known as Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) as a solution to reduce community cat overpopulation. Trap Neuter Return is the most humane and effective way of reducing community cat populations. The overabundance of outdoor cats is a community issue with a community based solution and we have developed a program to help bridge the gap between concerned citizens, animal advocates and people caring for the outdoor cats.




## Why does TNR help?

Returning community cats outdoors is the best live outcome for individual cats and for the community. Because most community cats are not suited to live as indoor pets, confinement in a shelter, even for a short period of time, can be extremely stressful and detrimental to their health and quality of life.

### BENEFITS:

- \* It helps reduce nuisance cat behaviors associated with mating such as spraying, yowling, and fighting.
- \* It stabilizes the cat population by eliminating new litters.
- \* Gain more weight and live healthier lives.
- \* Spayed females are less likely to develop breast cancer and will not be at risk for ovarian or uterine cancer. Spaying also means the female cat will not go into heat, which attracts fewer male cats to the area.
- \* Neutered males will not develop testicular cancer and reduces the risk of injury and infection, since intact males have a natural instinct to fight with other cats.
- \* It reduces the number of cats at animal shelters. As a result, animal shelters have more resources for other life saving and community outreach programs.

 A male and female cat who are not spayed or neutered and all of their offspring producing 2 litters per year, with a survival rate of 2.8 kittens per litter can total:



# Solano County Animal Care Community Cat Program



2510 Clay Bank Rd  
Fairfield, CA 94533  
707-784-1356

Tuesday- Friday 10am – 6pm  
Saturday 9am – 5pm  
Closed for lunch 1pm – 2pm

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## What is a Community Cat?

A community cat is a free-roaming, unowned cat that lives outside. It can be social, semi-social, or unsocial (not accustomed to human touch or interaction). They exist in most communities around our State and in every country in the world, regardless of climate. They also make up the most significant number of animals euthanized in California shelters. Death is not a better outcome than a healthy life outdoors.



## Can't Community Cats Just be moved or relocated?

The answer is no. Removal or relocation efforts for community cats are ineffective, dangerous for the cats and impractical. Community cats live in an area because of the resources -- food, water, shelter -- are there to support them. These resources may or may not be provided by humans. Data shows that rounding up cats and bringing them to shelters, rescues, or sanctuaries does not solve the issue of cat overpopulation, because new cats will continue to fill the spaces in communities created by removed cats, as long as there are resource(s) available. Additionally, there is not enough room anywhere for all the cats who would need to be rounded up. Relocation is also not a viable option. It is important that cats know their environment and are aware of any threats and resources in the area for their own protection.

## How is Solano County Animal Care assisting our community?

We offer low cost TNR appointments through our public spay/neuter clinic. To schedule an appointment BEFORE trapping, please contact our clinic at: (707) 784-4720 or [AnimalCareClinic@SolanoCounty.com](mailto:AnimalCareClinic@SolanoCounty.com). All of our appointments are scheduled in the order they were received.

Solano County Animal Care does NOT euthanize healthy cats. We scan every friendly cat that is brought to the shelter in search of a microchip and determine the best live outcome. Impoundment of healthy adult cats reduces the likelihood of reuniting families with pets; Because lost cats are 10-50 times more likely to be reunited with their owners in the neighborhood of origin than through an animal shelter. Return to owner rates are extremely low for cats (national average is 2-5%). Many owners allow their cats outdoors and don't necessarily realize when they've gone "missing" for days, even weeks. If it is determined the cat is a candidate to be an official community cat due to his/her behavior, we can assist with scheduling a TNR (Trap Neuter Return) appointment. If it is determined the cat is to be impounded at the shelter and is healthy enough, we will spay/neuter, give age appropriate vaccines, microchip, ear notch, and release back to the area he/she has acclimated to – RTF "Return To Field".

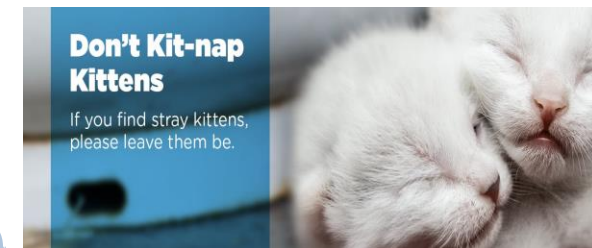
As a result, traditional sheltering does not present the best opportunity for success for community cats.



## What about Kittens?

When we find a litter of kittens, our good-hearted instincts tell us to rush to the aid of these fragile felines. Thankfully, human intervention is typically not required. In fact, **the best thing we can do is leave the kittens alone.** Mom will likely return shortly, and **it's critical that the kittens remain in her care as she offers the best chance for survival.**

Remember that no two scenarios are alike, and there are numerous lifesaving pathways depending on the kitten's condition, age, situation, and the abilities and resources at your disposal.



**\*\*Our mission and goal is to partner WITH our community to provide comfort, care, and compassion to animals in need through shelter, education, adoption, spay/neuter, and community outreach.**