



Trap Neuter Return (TNR) for Stray or Feral Cats

Hudson Valley SPCA

940 Little Britain Road
New Windsor, NY 12553
845-564-6810

cats@hudsonvalleyspca.org

Each spay or neuter costs us \$50

If you can help offset that cost with a donation, that allows us to help more cats!

Stray cats at one time in their life had a home and were used to socializing with humans. They may have gotten out and become lost or left behind when someone moved away. They may run, hide, even hiss at people but will not usually attack by biting or scratching.

Feral cats have never socialized with humans and are terrified of being touched or handled. They are usually the product of at least one generation of cats who have lived entirely on their own away from people. They may appear calm but can quickly attack by biting or scratching.

For your safety, always wear long sleeves, long pants, and heavy gloves.

Trap: Establish a regular feeding schedule so the cats you are trying to trap get used to seeing you at a specific time of day and associate you with food.

Set the trap on level ground, place some folded newspaper in the trap so the cat doesn't feel metal on their feet when they enter. Cover the entire trap with a sheet or towel except for the entrance.

Place a small amount of "bait" at the far end of the trap away from the entrance, on a paper dish. Good bait includes tuna fish, sardines, cooked chicken, or a very fishy / strong smelling canned cat food.

Place a tablespoon of bait just inside the entrance to the trap to encourage the cat to go all the way in.

Only trap the night before you have a spay or neuter appointment. A cat should never be left in a trap more than 12 hours. Keep the trap covered the entire time the cat is inside. You may want to place newspaper or a tarp under the trap especially when you transport the cat in your car.

Neuter: Bring the cat in the trap to us here at the SPCA. We have appointments with the mobile spay neuter van (TARA) which is in Newburgh the first 3 Mondays of each month. Cats must be dropped off between 8-8:30 am and picked up the same day between 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Please contact us to confirm that we have appointments for the week you want to bring the cat(s) in. Call for Ellen at 845-564-6810 or send email to: cats@hudsonvalleyspca.org

Aftercare: *Male* cats need to be kept in a crate at least over night before being released back outside. A 24 hour healing period helps ensure their incision will not open up and bleed. *Female* cats must be kept in a crate 72 hours to allow the incision to begin healing and make sure the stitches are not pulled out. We can loan you a crate, litter pan, and even food and litter if need be for the aftercare process.

Return: If you have provided aftercare near where the cat was trapped, open the crate door and stand back. If you need to bring the cat somewhere else to release, place a carrier inside the crate and cover it up, making it an inviting place for the cat to hide. Keep the carrier covered while transporting, bring to the cat's previous outdoor area and open the carrier door.

TNR is proven to be the most cost effective and only humane method to decrease cat overpopulation in free roaming (community) cats. Thank you for helping!