

HUMANE TRAPPING METHODS AND INSTRUCTIONS

Feral Cat Program

Preparation for Trapping. Get the target cat(s) used to being fed at the same place and time of day. Do not feed the cats for 24 hours before you are going to trap.

Practice setting and tripping the trap at home: There is a small hook attached to the right side of the trap top. It hooks onto a tiny metal cylinder on the right side of the door. Open the trap door by pushing the top of the door in and pulling the bottom of the door upward. The hook holds the door open, which raises the trip plate. When the cat steps on the trip plate, the hook will release the door and close the trap.

Plan to trap so that you don't have to keep the cat too long before surgery. Prior to transport to the veterinary clinic, hold the animal in an area that is sheltered, not too hot or cold, and ventilated.

Plan your evening of trapping carefully. If you trap an animal and need to release it prior to surgery, it is unlikely that you will be able to catch it again.

Setting the Trap: Dusk is the best time to set traps and evening is the best time to catch cats. Set traps just before or at the cat's normal feeding time.

Because cats do not like walking on the wire surface, line the bottom of the trap with a thin layer of newspaper just to the point of covering the trip plate. Place the trap on a level surface, because cats are less likely to enter if the trap wobbles.

Use smelly food to bait the trap. Canned mackerel or a sardine is very effective and relatively inexpensive. Do not put any bowls in the trap. Place a small amount of food directly on the wire at the back of the trap. Do not place a water bowl in the trap. After baiting the trap, secure the door in the open position.

After setting the trap, cover it with a large towel or dark material. Fold the material at the front end of the trap to expose the opening while still covering the top, sides and back of the trap. The cover helps to camouflage the trap and serves to calm the cat after it is caught.

Waiting for Success. Do not leave the trap unattended in unprotected areas. Do not hang around within sight of the cats or you will scare them off. Check traps every 30 -60 minutes. As soon as the cat is trapped, lift the cover and check that you indeed have a feral cat (is it scared, hissing, trying to escape?). If you have caught a tame cat or a feral cat with its right ear tip squared off (it has already had surgery), release it immediately. If you have a feral cat without its ear squared off, completely cover the trap with the material and remove it from the area.

Holding Procedures. Place the cat in a cool, dry and well ventilated holding area. Do not attempt to feed or water the cat. Trapped feral cats are extremely adept at escape or may try to bite or scratch. Also, cats should not eat for 12 hours prior to surgery. Keep the trap covered so the cat will remain calm and quiet. Do not put fingers in the trap or allow children or pets near the trap. These cats are wild and will try to defensively bite or scratch.

ALL CAT BITES ARE SERIOUS! IF YOU ARE BITTEN, SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION AND DO NOT RELEASE THE CAT. CALL ANIMAL CONTROL (532-5966) TO REPORT THE BITE. YOU WILL BE GIVEN QUARANTINE INSTRUCTIONS. IF THE CAT IS RELEASED FROM THE TRAP, YOU WILL HAVE TO UNDERGO RABIES VACCINATIONS. Neither Pets Barn Valley Feed Pet Food Centers nor the Pets Alive – El Paso, Inc. Feral Cat Program will be held responsible or liable for any injury or subsequent medical treatment received while trapping or transporting feral cats.

The next morning, call a participating veterinarian to make a special appointment and transport the trapped cat to the veterinary clinic. A health status evaluation, surgery and rabies vaccination will be performed at no cost to you, if the cat is deemed acceptable for release. You, the trapper, will pay for any optional blood tests, medical treatment or vaccinations.

Releasing the Cat. When you pick up the cat, you will be provided with a handout called Important Discharge and Recovery Information. Read it carefully and ask your veterinarian any questions you might have.

It is very important that you release the cat in the same place that you trapped it. DO NOT RELOCATE THE CAT!

After releasing the cat, hose the trap off and return it. You must return the trap to the Pets Barn Valley Feed Pet Food Center that you borrowed it from to receive your deposit.

Helpful Hints. Bring a flashlight with you when trapping at dusk/night. It will come in handy for setting the traps and checking them from a distance.

Bring a piece of wood or a bungee cord to help hold the trap door open.

If you trap an opossum or skunk, approach and inspect the trap quietly and calmly. Slowly open the door so as not to startle the animal or place it in a defensive posture. Prop the door open to allow escape and leave the area immediately.

Feral Cat Program

Date _____

Store _____

By my signature below, I acknowledge the following:

1. The humane trap(s) (maximum of 3) that I am borrowing is/are the property of Pets Barn Valley Feed Pet Food Centers and the Pets Alive–El Paso, Inc. Feral Cat Program.
2. The trap(s) is/are borrowed by:
Name _____
Address _____
Telephone (home) _____ (work) _____
3. The traps will be returned by (date) _____ (no more than 14 days).
4. The value of each trap is \$50.00 and a refundable security deposit of \$50.00 per trap will be left as a deposit.
5. The traps are to be used by the borrower for the purpose of the Pets Alive–El Paso, Inc. Feral Cat Program, that the trapped animals are wild/unowned, and that trapping procedures will be in accordance with the Humane Trapping Methods and Instructions handout provided.
6. All trapped cats will be handled in a humane and respectful manner in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Humane Trapping Methods and Instructions handout provided.
7. I will not use the trap(s) to capture any owned or tame cats, or for any unlawful purpose. I agree that any cats so trapped by accident, unless it is deemed medically inappropriate, shall be released in a lawful and humane manner. Under no circumstances shall traps be used to capture a healthy cat for destruction or surrender to animal control agencies.
8. I will trap on personally owned or leased property, or get permission to trap cats from the landowner.
9. Trapping feral cats is inherently dangerous and carries risk of injury, including, but not limited to, being bitten by an unvaccinated cat.
10. I indemnify Pets Barn Valley Feed Pet Food Centers and the Pets Alive–El Paso, Inc. Feral Cat Program, its members and associated facilities from any liability on my use of the trap(s).

Signature _____

Date _____

For store use only:

Trap ID numbers _____

Return date: _____

Deposit: \$ _____

Deposit returned: Date: _____

Check no. _____

By: _____

Credit card _____

Received by _____

My deposit was returned to me on _____ Signature _____

Pets Alive – El Paso, Inc.

VETERINARY CLINIC ENROLLMENT FORM

Feral Cat Program

Practice Name _____

Practice Address _____

Participating Veterinarians _____

Telephone Number _____

I will participate In the Pets Alive-El Paso, Inc. Feral Cat Program. I agree to:

1. Neuter only feral cats - those cats presented in a trap because they are unable to be handled.
2. Neuter the feral cat within 48 hours of presentation with the option of transferring the cat (via the trapper) to another participating clinic if needed.
3. Use absorbable suture material.
4. Tip the cat's right ear, 1/4 to 1/2 inch, squared off, in order to identify cats already spayed or castrated by The Program and to control duplication of surgeries.
5. Vaccinate every cat with 3 year rabies vaccine.
6. Only have staff with the pre-exposure rabies vaccinations handle feral cats (limited contact through cage wires only).
7. Neuter only cats 12 weeks of age or older.
8. Fill out the Veterinary Reimbursement Form/Medical Record for each cat neutered.
9. Have my clinic name, address and phone number utilized in any or all Program print and promotional materials.

Signature _____

Date _____

LIST OF PARTICIPATING VETERINARIANS

Adobe Animal Hospital
3140 Trawood
855-6966

Americas Animal Clinic
630 Americas Ave.
858-1971

Animal Clinic
7184 Alameda
778-5355

Anthony Animal Clinic
901 Franklin
886-4558

Chaparral Animal Clinic
215 Calle Del Norte
(505) 824-2000

Coronado Animal Clinic
6328 N. Mesa
581-3327

Crossroads Animal Hospital
4910 Crossroads
584-3459

Desert East Animal Hospital
11635 Pellicano Dr.
855-4100

Dog, Cat and Bird Hospital
3233 N. Mesa
533-9070

East El Paso Animal Hospital
3370 Wedgewood
593-1712

Eastwood Animal Clinic
9509 Montana
593-0713

El Abrigado Animal Clinic
900 Country Club Rd.
(505) 589-1818

El Paso Veterinary Hospital
4101 Montana
566-7387

Fairbanks Animal Hospital
5320-C Fairbanks
757-8387

Foothills Animal Clinic
710 Belvidere
833-4833

Harwood Veterinary Clinic
4404-A Edgar Park
755-5653

Johnsen Animal Hospital
1851 N. Lee Trevino
592-6200

McCombs Veterinary Clinic
9204 McCombs
755-2357

Mesa Veterinary Clinic
5355 N. Mesa
584-4491

Montana Animal Clinic
1015 Chelsea
778-9588

Northeast Veterinary Clinic
9405 Dyer St.
755-2231

Skyline Veterinary Hospital
4424 Titanic
755-7647

Southwest Animal Care Complex
1111 Country Club
(505) 589-4417

Sun Valley Animal Clinic
10050 McCombs
751-8817

Vista Hills Animal Hospital
1426 Lomaland
592-5867

FERAL CAT TRAPPER RELEASE FORM

Feral Cat Program

Date: _____

By my signature below, I acknowledge the following:

- 1) To be eligible for the Pets Alive – El Paso, Inc. Feral Cat Program I understand that spay (ovano hysterectomy) or neuter (castration) is available solely for wild, unowned cats, and I certify that to the best of my knowledge these cats are unowned.
- 2) I recognize the risks feral cats face during handling, anesthesia, and surgery and hold the Pets Alive – El Paso, Inc. Feral Cat Program and its associated members, veterinarians, staff and facilities harmless should a cat experience complications, injury, escape, or death. Any cat deemed by the veterinarian to be severely ill or injured will be humanely euthanized. I also release Pets Alive – El Paso, Inc. Feral Cat Program and its associated members, veterinarians, staff and facilities from any liability for injuries that I may incur or cause while trapping, transporting or caring for these cats.
- 3) I promise to see that all cats will be released in the location from which they are taken following surgery, and I acknowledge the possibility that once released, some cats may not return.
- 4) I agree to return to pick up the listed feral cats. Any cats not picked up will be considered abandoned and taken to El Paso County Animal Control and a report of illegal animal abandonment will be made. I understand that any cat abandoned at the veterinary facility will be a candidate for euthanasia.

Cat Name (if applicable)	Cat Description/Color	Trap ID Number
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- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Trapper’s Name (print) _____

Signature _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: home _____ work _____

Location where cat trapped _____

Do you own or lease this property or have permission from the landowner to trap cat(s) on the property? Yes No

Please consider making a donation. Donation amount \$_____ (tax deductible).
Make checks payable to “Pets Alive – El Paso, Inc. Feral Cat Program.” Thank you.

VETERINARY CLINIC ENROLLMENT FORM

Feral Cat Program

Practice Name _____

Practice Address _____

Participating Veterinarians _____

Telephone Number _____

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1. Neuter only feral cats - those cats presented in a trap because they are unable to be handled.
2. Neuter the feral cat within 48 hours of presentation with the option of transferring the cat (via the trapper) to another participating clinic if needed.
3. Use absorbable suture material.
4. Tip the cat's right ear, 1/4 to 1/2 inch, squared off, in order to identify cats already spayed or castrated by the program and to control duplication of surgeries.
5. Vaccinate every cat with 3 year rabies vaccine.
6. Only have staff with the pre-exposure rabies vaccinations handle feral cats (limited contact through cage wires only).
7. Neuter only cats 12 weeks of age or older.
8. Fill out the Veterinary Reimbursement Form/Medical Record for each cat neutered.
9. Have my clinic name, address and phone number utilized in any or all program print and promotional materials.

Signature _____

Date _____

IMPORTANT DISCHARGE AND RECOVERY INFORMATION

Feral Cat Program

Make sure the cat seems sufficiently recovered from surgery and anesthesia prior to release. If it seems disoriented or wobbly, keep the cat in the trap in a safe, quiet area, covered with a towel, until it is completely recovered. Return the cat to the veterinarian for re-evaluation if you have any questions or concerns.

IMPORTANT: When the cat is ready for release, return the trap to the area in which the animal was originally captured and release it there. **DO NOT RELOCATE** the cat or it will be disoriented and will not adapt well in the new environment.

Keep the trap covered until you are ready for release. Pick a safe and secure spot in the area you caught the cat for release. When ready, place the trap on the ground with the door facing away from you. Stand clear and lift the door open. A bungee cord is useful for holding the door open. The cat will often bolt immediately out of the trap. **NEVER** put your hand into the trap or in front of the exit door! If the cat will not leave the trap, prop the door open with a stick or use the bungee cord to secure the open door to the top of the trap. Then, tap on the back of the trap to scare the cat out the door or leave the trap alone for a while.

After releasing the cat, hose off and clean the trap and return it to the Pets Barn Valley Feed Pet Food Center that you borrowed it from.

COMO SOLTAR AL GATO

Feral Cat Program

Asegurese de que el gato este suficientemente recuperado de la cirugía y anestesia antes de soltarlo. Si el gato se ve desorientado mantenga la trampa en un lugar seguro, tranquilo y envuelta en una toalla hasta que el gato este completamente recuperado. Si tiene alguna duda o preocupación llame el veterinario.

IMPORTANTE: Cuando el gato este listo para soltarse, regrese la trampa al lugar de la captura y suéltelo ahí. **NO REUBIQUE** al gato porque estará confundido y no se adaptara al nuevo lugar.

Mantenga la trampa cubierta hasta que usted este listo para soltarlo. Cuando este listo, ponga la trampa en el piso, con la puerta dirigida en dirección contraria a usted. Un cordón elástico puede ser útil para mantener la puerta abierta. Usualmente los gatos salen inmediatamente. **NUNCA** meta la mano en la trampa o enfrente de la puerta. Si el gato no sale de la trampa, mantenga la puerta abierta, puede usar el cordón elástico o un trozo de madera para asegurar la puerta. Después golpee ligeramente la parte posterior de la trampa para asustar al gato para que salga o pueda dejar la jaula sola por un rato.

Después de haber liberado al gato limpie la trampa y regrésela a Pets Barn Valley Feed Pet Food Center de donde la pidió prestada.

MÉTODOS HUMANOS DE CAPTURA E INSTRUCCIONES

Feral Cat Program

Preparación para la Captura: Haga que el gato (o gatos) se acostumbren a ser alimentados en el mismo lugar y hora. No alimente a los gatos las 24 horas antes de que vaya a capturarlos.

Practique la preparación de las trampas. A la derecha de la parte superior de la trampa hay un gancho, este sujeta un pequeño cilindro de metal que esta a la derecha de la puerta. Para abrir la puerta de la trampa empuje la parte superior de esta y jale la parte inferior al mismo tiempo. El gancho mantiene la puerta abierta, la cual levanta una placa de metal dentro de la trampa, cuando el gato pise esta placa, el gancho va a soltar la puerta y así la trampa se cerrará.

Planee el atrapar al gato, para que así no lo tenga mucho tiempo antes de la cirugía. Antes de la transportación a la clínica veterinaria mantenga al animal en una área protegida, no caliente, ni fría y que este ventilada.

Cuidadosamente planee la noche que lo va atrapar. Si usted atrapa al animal y lo suelta antes de la cirugía, probablemente no lo va poder atrapar otra vez.

Preparación de la Trampa. Al oscurecer es el mejor momento para la preparación de la trampa y la noche es el mejor momento para atrapar gatos. Prepare la trampa justo antes de la hora que normalmente el animal come.

A los gatos no les gusta caminar sobre superficies de alambre, así que ponga una capa delgada de periódico suficiente para cubrir la placa metálica. Ponga la trampa en una superficie plana, porque a los gatos no les gustaría entrar si la jaula se mueve.

Use alimento atractivo como carnada. Sardina es muy efectiva y relativamente barata. No ponga platos en el interior de la trampa. Ponga pocas cantidades de comida sobre el alambre al fondo de la trampa. No coloque platos con agua en la trampa. Después de poner la carnada abra la puerta y asegúrela.

Después de asegurada la trampa cubrala con una toalla o cobertor oscuro. Envuelva la trampa (con la toalla dejando la entrada libre) cubriendo los lados y la parte de atrás. El cobertor o toalla ayuda a ocultar la trampa y sirve para calmar al gato después de ser atrapado.

Paciencia para el Éxito. No deje la trampa sola en un lugar desprotegido. No se quede a la vista del gato porque lo puede asustar. Revise la trampa cada 30 a 60 minutos. Tan pronto como el gato sea atrapado, levante el cobertor y revise si es un gato salvaje lo que esta dentro (este estará asustado, haciendo ruidos y tratando de escapar). Si usted ha atrapado un gato domesticado o un gato salvaje con la punta de la oreja derecha cortada (este ya ha sido operado) suéltelo inmediatamente. Si usted tiene un gato salvaje que no tenga la punta de la oreja derecha cortada, envuelva completamente la trampa y retirela del lugar.

Manejo. Ponga al gato en un lugar fresco, seco y bien ventilado. No intente alimentarlo ni darle agua. Los gatos salvajes son adeptos a escapar o pueden tratar de morder o arañar. También los gatos no deben ser alimentados 12 horas antes de la cirugía. Mantenga la trampa cubierta así el gato estará quieto y tranquilo. No ponga los dedos en la trampa, ni deje que los niños u otros animales se acerquen. Estos gatos son agresivos y pueden defensivamente morder o arañar.

TODAS LA MORDIDAS DE GATOS SON SERIAS. SI HA SIDO MORDIDO, BUSQUE ATENCIÓN MEDICA Y NO SUELTE AL GATO. LLAME A ANIMAL CONTROL (532-5966) PARA REPORTAR LA MORDIDA. Se le dará instrucciones de cuarentena. SI SUELTA AL GATO USTED TENDRÁ QUE SER SOMETIDO A LAS VACUNAS ANTIRRÁBICAS. Pets Barn Valley Feed Pet Food Centers y Pets Alive – El Paso, Inc. Feral Cat Program

NO serán responsables por cualquier lastimadura o tratamiento medico, durante la captura y transportación de los gatos salvajes.

La mañana siguiente llame a un veterinario participante para hacer una cita especial y transportar al gato capturado a la clínica veterinaria. La evaluación del estado de salud, cirugía y vacunación antirrábica serán sin costo alguno. Usted, el capturador pagara por cualquier análisis de sangre opcional, tratamiento medico o vacunas.

Soltar el Gato Cuando usted recoja al gato se le dará un volante llamado "Como Soltar al Gato". Léalo cuidadosamente y pregunte al veterinario si tiene alguna duda.

Es importante soltar al gato en el lugar donde lo atrapo. NO REUBIQUE AL GATO.

Después de haber soltado al gato, enjuague la trampa y regrésela. Usted deberá regresar la trampa a Valley Feed Pet Food Center de donde la pidió prestada para que se le entregue su deposito.

Concejos útiles. Cargue con usted una lámpara de mano cuando lo atrape al oscurecer o en la noche. Esta lámpara puede ser útil para preparar la trampa y revisarla de lejos.

Cargue también un trozo de madera para mantener la puerta de la trampa abierta.

Si atrapa un zorrillo o tlacuache para no asustar al animal acérquese silenciosamente y revise la trampa. Lentamente abra la puerta, mantenga la puerta abierta para dejarlo salir y abandone el lugar inmediatamente.