



TRAP, NEUTER & RETURN

WHAT IS TNR?

1. Trap-Neuter-Return, commonly referred to as "TNR," is a proven humane and effective method at managing the community street cat population growth. Using this technique, community street cats in a colony are trapped, neutered, ear tipped and returned to their territory where caretakers provide them with regular food and shelter.
2. Community street cats are unowned or stray cats living outside. More and more, community street cats are acknowledged as having a place in urban and rural communities and TNR recognizes this balance. TNR seeks to manage population growth with enlightened techniques that allow cats to live out their lives and fulfill their natures.
3. TNR has many advantages. TNR stabilizes the size of the colony by eliminating new litters. The nuisance behavior often associated with community street cats is dramatically reduced; including the yowling and fighting that come with mating activity and the odor of unneutered males spraying to mark their territory. The stable colony also guards its territory, preventing unneutered cats from moving in and beginning the cycle of overpopulation and problem behavior. The cats continue to provide natural rodent control, particularly in urban areas.
4. When practiced on a large scale, TNR lessens the number of kittens and cats flowing into local shelters increasing the demand for "forever homes". Not all community street cats are suitable for adoption.
5. TNR is not only the best alternative to managing community street cat populations - it works. Doing nothing has resulted in the current overpopulation crisis. Trying to "rescue" the cats and find them all homes is not realistic given the high number of community street cats and the futility of trying to socialize them for adoption.
6. TNR is a movement that will continue to grow as more and more caring people see its potential and, in time, it will become the predominant method of community street cat management.

Any inquires can be directed to mmacnab@hbspca.com or read about our program on our website at www.hbspca.com

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