

Feral Cat Foundation



SUMMER
2018

An all-volunteer non-profit organization

OUR COMMITMENT

The overpopulation and suffering of homeless and unwanted cats in our society demands a humane solution. Feral Cat Foundation (FCF) accepts the challenge to promote public recognition of this problem, to pursue workable solutions and, without euthanasia, to humanely reduce the population while improving the quality of life for these innocent victims of human neglect.

Oh No! It's kitten season again, already. The members of Feral Cat Foundation are already swamped with kittens. It's only the middle of June, and our house has 21 kittens—a cage in every room. And most of the members in FCF are in the same boat (or should I say cradle?) Many of our members are lucky enough to get a mother with her kittens. That makes life a little easier. There is nothing even close to a mother cat's attention to her little ones. It does not matter if the mother is tame or feral. They take excellent care of the babies.

A lady we helped last year with some trap, neuter, release (TNR) called again in May to say she had been feeding many cats on her front porch. Unfortunately, most of them were female and of course, they got pregnant and delivered babies before we could trap them. So now we are scrambling to find the babies, use them to trap the mothers, and hold them until the babies are weaned. This way the babies will not grow up to be afraid of people and the mothers will be spayed and returned (TNR works!)

Last year FCF spayed and neutered 1,500 cats. We adopted 315 to good, indoor, forever homes. We work in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, scouring parking lots, business complexes, apartments, bicycle and walking trails, parks, and anywhere feral cats might seek refuge. How do they get there? Often cats are abandoned by the people who were supposed to love them for their entire lives. We find tame cats in our feeding colonies weekly. Just last week someone found three adorable, very tame kittens in the parking lot at Las Positas Collage in Livermore. Usually these abandoned cats are not spayed or neutered, and the cycle of feral cats continues.

I have said, many times, that trapping feral cats is the best lesson in humility I have ever had. The cats are so much smarter than the person trying to trap them. One of our members spent almost all night, the night before Thanksgiving, trying to trap a cat that had been thrown out of the house because it had scratched a child. Newly adopted, this cat had no idea where it was, or where to find shelter or food. As our member sat in her car in the pouring down rain,

the cat had great fun playing around the trap and trying to catch its tail through the holes in the trap. No, the cat did not care that this member had 15 people coming for dinner in about 12 hours. Cats don't like pumpkin pie anyway. But that cat finally took pity on our member and went into the trap far enough to trip it. Success! This is what we do—out of concern for our animal friends, out of love, and out of dedication.

The primary mission of Feral Cat Foundation is to rescue neglected and abandoned cats, and to improve the lives of the feral and stray cats in colonies. We practice the nationally-recognized, humane and very effective method of TNR, and we are very proud of the difference we have made in our communities. The work that we do yearly translates into hundreds of kittens not born into feral colonies, or in private yards where they are not wanted.

We are in our 20th year of helping the feral cats in our communities. We are one of the few all-volunteer, feral cat organizations in our area. And the members of Feral Cat Foundation are often there to help when no other help is available to the public. One of our members was recently told that a member of the public contacted ten different organizations for help with an injured feral ranch cat. FCF was the only one that responded to her plea, and we were able to help her.

We realize that we are preaching to the choir when talking about TNR. We have many dedicated, long time donors who realize how important our work is. We cannot thank you enough for your continued support. We would also like to sincerely thank those people who have remembered us in their wills or trusts. Without this kind of support we could not do the very important work that we accomplish each year. But do you know someone in your circle of friends who does not understand the importance of spaying and neutering their animal? Please pass this letter on to someone you think might need our help with their feral cats.

Our raffle tickets are enclosed. Tickets are \$2 each—or a book of six for \$10. Just fill out the stubs and mail the small stubs (you keep the larger end) to FCF with your check in the enclosed envelope. If you can purchase or sell more tickets, please leave a message at (925)829-9098. Or you can send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to FCF, PO Box 1173, Alamo, Ca. 94507. Our email address is: feralhelp@feralcatfoundation.org if you would like to order books online. Won't you please help us continue this important work by purchasing these tickets? We have many wonderful prizes, ALL DONATED. How about a week in Maui—you have two chances to win that fabulous prize. What could you do with an extra \$1000? Two chances here, too! Or a week in the wine country or gold country? You get to choose if you win 5th prize. We also have many other cash prizes. All proceeds from our raffle are spent directly on the cats and kittens we rescue. We know there are many worthy causes that ask for your help—but your purchase of these raffle tickets has a tremendous impact on the work we do. Feral Cat Foundation thanks you in advance for your donation, and we hope you win a prize!