

Animal Matters' TAR Program for Feral Cats

OBJECTIVE: To reduce the number of homeless cats in the tri-county area. This program will help the community by paying for expenses that are involved in trapping, neutering and releasing feral cats as well as teaching the community the benefits of doing this program.

It is available to anyone in south Florida who wants to help the never-ending feline population of feral cats.

When Animal Matters is contacted we will start by recommending that the person feed the cats at the same time daily for at least one week prior to the trapping time. During this time the pet advocate must meet with us so we can loan them one of our humane traps. To borrow a trap the person must leave a refundable safety deposit with us to ensure that the trap is returned. Also, the person will receive a guide for the Humane Trapping Instructions for Feral Cats and a can of sardines and or a can of wet cat food to lure the cat into the trap. We will also physically show the people how to use the trap. Then we will set an appointment with a vet to have the cat spayed or neutered and receive a rabies vaccine; all of this will be funded by Animal Matters. The pet advocate must drop off and pick up the cat from the vet, also, this person will be asked to keep the female cats for 24 hours and the male cats for 12 hours to recover after surgery. The person will then release the cat at the exact spot where it was trapped and they must agree to provide ongoing food and shelter for the cats.

The Animal Matters' TNR Program for Feral Cats is very unique because unlike some other programs, we fund the TNR expenses 100%! We just want the job done and the only way to get it done is to fund it completely. We also will contact food companies asking for their expired and damaged food for low-income people who cannot afford to continue feeding the feral cats.

Animal Matters have gotten many phone calls from people who have feral cats in their communities and with this program we will tell them about the benefits of the TNR program and how if they have animal control remove the cats, not only will they be euthanized but cats from surrounding areas will come in and take over.

Animal Matters will pay the vets directly instead of giving out money. We do this to ensure the money will go towards the sterilization.

This program will not only be available through the animal matters' website and through other rescues and humane societies, but, we will also place ads in local newspapers and magazines in order save as many lives as we can.

The only way for Animal Matters to succeed with this program would be with generous funds and donations. Animal Matters wants to help the community and the feral cat population!