

Community Cats Policy

It is estimated that there are approximately 100,000 community cats living in the Columbus regional area. Our goal at PAWS Humane is to humanely decrease the number of unwanted cats and kittens in our community through TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return).

Do I need an appointment to bring a feral/community cat for surgery?

You do not need an appointment to bring in a community cat for spay/neuter. We perform these surgeries Monday-Thursday. You can drop the cat off anytime between the hours of 7:30am-5:00pm. If you arrive after noon, we may board the cat overnight for surgery the following day.

How do I need to bring the cat in?

For the cat's safety, as well as the safety of the PAWS Humane staff, all cats must be in a humane live trap. If necessary, cats in appropriate cat carriers will be accepted, however there must be only one cat per carrier. Community cats will not be accepted in cardboard carriers, boxes, Tupperware containers or any other container.

What will PAWS do to the cat?

In addition to the spay/neuter surgery, all cats will be evaluated to ensure that they are healthy enough to be returned to their community and receive a 3 year rabies vaccine (dependent on age).

All cats will receive a left ear tip for future identification. Ear tipping provides immediate visual identification, which alerts animal control that a cat has been trapped and altered, and identifies new cats in an area which have not. Once a cat is trapped, caretakers should look for an ear tip. If the cat has been tipped, it should be released immediately. Ear tipping is completely safe and it is performed under general anesthetic.

How do I trap a cat?

Cats can be trapped using a humane trap. We do have a few traps available for rental, on a first come, first serve basis with a \$50 refundable deposit. Once trapped, please cover the trap with a towel to reduce stress.