

# Berkeley Animal Center TNVR Community Cat Program

Trap, Neuter/Spay, Vaccinate, Return

Berkeley County has started a TNVR Community Cat Program to address the stray cat population, reduce the over population of outdoor cats and reduce the euthanasia rate.

Trap and removal has not been effective in decreasing the cat population. TNVR has shown to be a proven strategy to reduce the cat population, reduce disease and common issues (spraying, fighting, yowling, etc.) related to stray cats who have not been sterilized. TNVR will decrease the amount of stray cats over time.

Berkeley Animal Center will have select dates when trapped cats can be brought in for surgery, vaccines, ear tip and microchip. You may rent a trap from Berkeley Animal Center, as they are available. You can also purchase one from a local feed or hardware store, or borrow one from a friend.

Healthy cats and kittens will no longer be taken to the shelter. They will be trapped, neutered, vaccinated, ear tipped and returned to the location found.

## For Information Please Call

843-719-5050 Press # 3  
[www.berkeleyanimalcenter.org](http://www.berkeleyanimalcenter.org)

Please leave a message with your phone number and you will receive a call back within 72 hours, excluding weekends and holidays.



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Trap-neuter-return: What is it?**

Trap-neuter-return is a humane, non-lethal alternative to the trap-and-kill method of controlling cat populations. Trap-neuter-return (TNR) is a management technique in which homeless, free-roaming (community) cats are humanely trapped, evaluated and sterilized by a licensed veterinarian, vaccinated against rabies, and then returned to their original habitat.

## **What is the primary benefit of TNR?**

In the long term, TNR lowers the numbers of cats in the community more effectively than trap-and-kill.

The benefits to both cats and communities are numerous.

The benefits include:

- TNR reduces shelter admissions and operating costs. Also, fewer community cats in shelters increases shelter adoption rates, as more cage space opens up for adoptable cats.
- These programs create safer communities and promote public health by reducing the number of unvaccinated cats.
- TNR programs improve the lives of free-roaming cats. When males are neutered, they are no longer compelled to maintain a large territory or fight over mates, and females are no longer forced to endure the physical and mental demands of giving birth and fending for their young.
- Sterilizing community cats reduces or even eliminates the behaviors that can lead to nuisance complaints.

## **Populations rebound to previous levels following trap-and-kill.**

Every habitat has a carrying capacity, the maximum population size of a given species that can be sustained in a particular area. This carrying capacity is determined by the availability of food sources, water, shelter and other environmental necessities. When a portion of the sustainable population is removed (e.g., by trapping and killing them) and the availability of resources is unaltered, the remaining animals respond through increased birthing and higher survivability rates.

Because of this biological certainty, trapping and removing cats from a given area does little more than ensure that the cat population will rebound to its original level, necessitating additional trapping and killing. While lethal control may rid an area of cats temporarily, it is not an effective long-term solution because new cats will quickly fill the vacated area and breed, resulting in a perpetual cycle of killing.

## **Are there any tools to help keep community cats out of designated areas?**

Non-lethal deterrents for cats are effective and readily accessible. We can help you find what will work best for your property.

**To schedule TNVR for community cats please call 843-719-5050 # 3 and leave a message with your name and phone number. We will return your call within 72 hours excluding weekends and holidays.**