

#Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc., a non-profit corporation, was formed in July, 2004 to educate citizens on the success of (TNR), Trap, Neuter and Return as advocated by Allie Cat Allies. (ACA) is a national non-profit organization based in Washington, DC. They promote non-lethal population reduction for feral cats through advocacy; workshops and conferences; print, video and web-based information and by being ready and able to help individuals, groups, agencies and institutions who work with feral cats. A feral cat is an un-socialized cat - a cat that was born outside and has never lived with a

human family or a house cat that strayed from home and over time, has thrown off the effects of domestication and reverted to a wild state. Feral cats are not like pet cats, they are closer to wildlife. They generally cannot be tamed and are most content living outside.

It is estimated that there are **tens of millions** of feral cats in North America. They often live in family groups called colonies. (TNR) Trap, Neuter and Return is the non-lethal population reduction plan in which entire colonies are humanely (and painlessly) trapped, vaccinated and neutered by veterinarians. Young kittens and tame cats (strays) are sterilized and then placed in good homes. Healthy adult feral cats are returned to live out their lives under the watchful care of volunteers.

TNR works. Cat populations gradually decrease. Nuisance behaviors associated with mating and breeding are virtually eliminated. The cats can live healthy, safe and peaceful lives in their territories.

If you are feeding stray or feral cats and would like to learn how to humanely trap them for medical care, Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. will assist you in your efforts. Please contact Kandi @ (304)482-9897 or Sue @ (304)482-8631. Our e-mail address is available on-line @ saveakittyferalcatprogram@yahoo.com.

DID YOU KNOW? One pair of cats and their offspring can produce 420,000 new kittens in a (7)

year period. Please spay and neuter your pets!

Spaying/neutering one cat will make a difference in an already over-populated world of cats and kittens. More than thirty years of documented proof shows that trap-and-kill policies have no lasting effect on reducing feral cat populations. Trap and kill is expensive, cruel and ineffective. TNR is cost effective, humane and the only method that works.

SAVE A KITTY FERAL CAT PROGRAM, INC.

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NEWSLETTER

On "National Feral Cat Day", October 16, 2004, caretakers will humanely trap feral cats. Veterinarians will sterilize the cats and the media will explain the long-term benefits of nonlethal control. Public officials will endorse TNR programs for their entire community to help cats. Feral cat caretakers advocate preventive programs such as early-age spay/neuter and neuter-before-adoption to control unwanted litters, thus reducing both the numbers of cats who are killed in shelters and the growth of feral cat colonies.

Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. educates caretakers on feeding and monitoring their individual colonies on a daily basis. The caretaker volunteers also provide insulated shelter houses and feeding stations for the cats when possible. All caretakers advocate the TNR approach and work to raise funds for their cats' surgeries. The organization holds bi-weekly meetings to educate citizens on the TNR approach. The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 11, 2004 @ the Knights of Columbus council home on Market Street in Parkersburg. The meeting time is 7 p.m. Funds are raised through raffle drawings, spay/neuter sponsorships and various other means. Food donations are needed to assist caretakers who feed many cats and will be picked up by volunteers. The organization has also started a foster program, which is responsible for taming and re-socializing kittens/cats in order to place them in to permanent homes. The foster/adoption

coordinator for the program is Senta. Senta has fostered many kittens and assisted in placing them in to loving, permanent homes. If you are interested in fostering a cat/kitten, please contact Senta @ (304) 428-4793. She will be happy to introduce you to the program requirements. The organization monitors cats and kittens after they are adopted. Phone calls and periodic home checks are made to see how the animal is doing in its new home and a follow-up is made for verification of the spay/neuter surgery.

The 2nd annual Pioneer Festival was held in Elizabeth, WV on Saturday, October 2, 2004. Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. and the Humane Society of Parkersburg were there to provide educational material to interested citizens.



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file tickets were sold to raise money for the spay/neuter program. The raffle drawing will take place on November 1, 2004. All ticket sales should be turned in by Sunday, October 31, 2004.

Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. is now on Petfinder.com. Petfinder.com is a tight community of people working for the promotion of animal welfare. Many adoptions have taken place through this wonderful website.

Trivia - After cats eat, they always immediately clean themselves. This is because their instinct tells them to get the food scent off them so that predators will not smell the food and come after them. Cat nose pads are unique like fingerprints. Cats can see up to 120 feet away. A cat can jump five to seven times its height.

Neonatal Kitten Care - Never feed a cold kitten. This can cause liver/kidney damage. Normal body temperature should be 100-102. Slowly raise body temperature by placing the kitten on a heating pad at a low setting that is covered with a towel or place it under a box or carrier. You can also use latex gloves filled with warm water. Massage the kitten with hand rubbing over the

kitten's entire body. When body temperature returns to normal, follow feeding instructions.

Weak or Lethargic kitten - Possible low blood sugar. Place 1 or 2 drops of karo syrup on the kitten's tongue. This should help return the blood sugar to normal.

Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. would like to thank Parkersburg Animal Hospital veterinarians and staff for all of the support received for our program. We really appreciate the caring service you have provided us. We hope to continue this relationship for a very long time. **Thank You !**

SAK statistics: To date, the program has spayed/neutered 25+ cats, placed 24 kittens in to loving, permanent homes and successfully relocated over 39 feral cats to safer locations. Although the program advocates feral colonies remaining in their chosen locations, sometimes their safety is jeopardized and they must be relocated. Feral cats/kittens should **never** be turned loose in a new location.

Top 10 ways to prevent animal cruelty - 1) Be aware. Keep your eyes and ears open. 2) Learn to recognize animal cruelty. 3) Know who to report animal cruelty to. Check with your local humane organization. 4) Report as much information as possible. 5) Call or write your local law enforcement department and ask them to make animal cruelty investigation a priority. 6) Know your state's animal cruelty laws. 7) Fight for the passage of strong anti-cruelty laws. 8) Set a good example for others. 9) Talk to your kids about how to treat animals with kindness and respect. 10) Support your local shelter or animal rescue organization.