

## Saving Lives Humanely

### Estimates are 60-100 million

roaming the United States. Shelters routinely euthanize these cats/kittens because they have no place for them. They are not adoptable and there are not enough homes. Why did this happen? Most people think that cats can survive on their own. Many do but they lead difficult lives. Hunger, disease and litter after litter of kittens. It is not a glamorous life. There average life span is 3-5 years, if they are lucky. The problem is, shelters can not euthanize fast enough. The cats continue to breed and outpace the killing. It is also not a "humane society" to continually kill cats. They have just as much right to live as squirrels, birds and other wildlife. It also cost taxpayers millions of dollars each year to destroy these animals. On average housing, feeding and then destroying a cat because it is un-adoptable cost you and I \$50. We could have easily sterilized the cat for this cost. It is also extremely hard on shelter workers with millions of dollars spent on counseling and a high turn-over rate on the job. These cats/kittens did not ask to be born or abandoned. Ask your legislators to spend your tax dollars wisely and support Trap, Neuter, Return (TNR) programs for feral and free-roaming cats.

**It's your tax payer \$.**  
**Make sure it is spent wisely**  
**and humanely.**

**501©3 Non Profit Corp.**  
**Fed.tax id 20-135-6147-001**

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## **Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program**

**Managing Feral and Free-  
Roaming Cats.**

**Statistics and supporter information.**

## Local Statistics

Over 1,000 sterilized.

Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program has sterilized over 1,000 cats/kittens to date. Since our inception in July, 2004 we have vigorously raised funds to spay and neuter feral and free-roaming cats that produce unwanted litters of kittens. It has also enhanced their lives by providing them with shelters, daily feedings and on-going medical care.

According to wildlife biologists the reproductive and offspring mortality rates of free-roaming cats are similar to wild carnivores. They believe one female cat produces (6) kittens per year and 75% of those die before reproductive age.

When using this criteria, math experts believe that one female and her surviving offspring will produce 100 cats in (7) years, assuming that all adult cats survive during the seven years.

Our own evaluation of colony sites has produced different criteria based on the location of the colonies. In some of the safer areas, many of the kittens born, go on to adult hood. Various factors play a large part in colony size, dependent on geographic location, sympathetic residents who feed the cats and other factors known to affect the cats' lives.



### The Truth About Feral and Free-Roaming Cats.

Feral cats have about the same lifespan as house cats.

Feral cats are generally healthy. The incidence of disease in feral cat colonies is no higher than among house cats.

Feral cats are not pets and will be euthanized at most shelters.

Feral cats are not dangerous to you, your children or your pets. They do not interact with people or other animals.

Humans domesticated the cat many, many years ago. Now that we have irresponsibly allowed them to reproduce, we have opted for a quick fix, EUTHANASIA! It does not work! They can breed faster. It is also inhumane! Trap, Neuter, Return is the humane and effective solution.

## Local Humane Society Statistics.

### SAKFCP Target Areas

Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program has continually targeted residential areas of over-populated cats. Most of the cats have been abandoned by their owners but remained in their living area. Many neighborhoods have become over-populated with continual litters of kittens that go on to breed and add to the population. As seen by the local humane society numbers, our sterilization program has directly impacted the intake at the local shelter and saved taxpayer \$.

	<u>INTAKE</u>	<u>EUTHANIZED</u>
2006	1688	1081
2007	1577	944
2008	1418	899
2009 YTD	1467	996

According to the shelter, 2009 statistics are directly related to the economy and the effect it has had on pet owners. An increase in **owned** cat and dogs being surrendered by owners is noted.