MYTH: FERAL CATS ARE DISEASED AND CAN MAKE PET CATS OR CHILDREN SICK.

REALITY: Feral cats are generally healthy. The incidence of disease in feral cat colonies is no higher than among owned cats. Feral cats shun human contact, especially with unfamiliar people. They aren't interested in interacting with you or your children. They are afraid of you!

#### THE TRUTH ABOUT FERAL 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 you pets. They do not interact with people or other animals.

## Trap-Neuter-Return.

This humane, non-lethal method of population control, is more effective than trap-and-kill, and is more reflective of a <u>caring society</u>. Any solution other than Trap-Neuter-Return results, sooner or later, in the destruction of these beautiful, wild creatures. Trap, Neuter, Return is an answer you can feel good about.

## THE TNR METHOD

(Trap, Neuter and Return)
The humane and effective solution
to controlling the
feral/free-roaming cat -population.

## WE NEED YOU.

If you love cats/kittens and are interested in helping our program, visit our Website at <a href="https://www.saveakitty.org">www.saveakitty.org</a> for volunteer opportunities.

If you would like to support our efforts, donations may be mailed to PO Box 1442, Parkersburg, WV 26102

All donations are tax-deductible.

## HELP US, HELP THEM.

Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. needs your help. Our volunteers educate caretakers on how to humanely trap and transport feral and free-roaming cats for sterilization surgery and how to provide proper care for their colonies. If you would like more information, see our Website at

# www.saveakitty.org

Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program Non-Profit Program 20-135-6147



PO Box 1442 PARKERSBURG, WV 26102

Do you believe she deserves to live....even though she is <u>afraid</u> of humans?



Don't buy into the cruel myths about feral cats and kittens. Discover the compassionate solution that really works...

Improving the lives of community cats through TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return)

Non-Profit 501(c)3 Organization

IT'S HAPPENING RIGHT IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD... Maybe you've seen them behind a restaurant or in an alley or park. Feral (un-socialized) cats live everywhere, forming colonies wherever they find scraps of food and a bit of shelter, be it in dumpsters or under a building. Tens of millions of feral cats now live in the U.S.

### FERAL...OR STRAY?

FERAL IS NOT ANOTHER WORD FOR "STRAY." A STRAY IS A CAT WHO HAS BEEN ABANDONED OR WHO HAS STRAYED FROM HOME AND BECOME LOST. STRAY CATS CAN USUALLY BE RE-SOCIALIZED AND ADOPTED. ADULT FERAL CATS USUALLY CAN'T BE SOCIALIZED AND WON'T ADJUST TO LIVING INDOORS OR WITH A HUMAN FAMILY. RATHER THAN ATTEMPTING TO TAME ONE OR A FEW FERAL CATS, YOUR TIME AND EFFORT ARE BETTER SPENT STERILIZING MANY FERAL CATS TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF REPRODUCTION. MILLIONS OF FERAL CATS ARE KILLED IN SHELTERS EACH YEAR BECAUSE THEY ARE UN-ADOPTABLE. THEY HAVE A HOME - OUTDOORS. ADULT FERAL CATS ARE LIKE WILDLIFE. THEY USUALLY CANNOT BE SOCIALIZED AND ARE MOST CONTENT LIVING OUTSIDE. ON THE OTHER HAND, FERAL KITTENS UP TO 9 WEEKS OF AGE CAN OFTEN BE TAMED AND PLACED IN HOMES

#### What is a feral cat?

A feral cat is an un-socialized cat that has never had human contact. Feral cats are those born outside, never living with a human family or a former house cat that has strayed from home and no longer retains characteristics of a domesticated cat. These cats live in colonies outdoors and usually cannot be socialized to become house pets. When domesticated cats are forced to live outdoors and fend for themselves, extremely large numbers of these animals die from exposure, accidents or poisonings. The survivors turn feral and if not sterilized, give birth to feral kittens, allowing the cycle to continue.

#### What is the TNR Method?

TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) is a proven procedure in which entire colonies of stray and feral cats are humanely trapped, evaluated, vaccinated and sterilized by veterinarians. Kittens and tame cats are adopted into approved inside homes. Adult cats too wild to be adopted are returned to live out their lives with the help of colony caretakers.

# Why return the feral cats to their colonies?

If a feral cat colony is removed from its environment and euthanized, other feral cats will move in to take advantage of the resources. In addition to moving in, they will breed immediately to form a new colony. Removing and destroying these animals is not only inhumane, it does nothing to solve the problem of overpopulation.

MYTH: FERAL CATS LEAD SHORT,
MISERABLE LIVES SO IT'S BEST TO TRAP
AND EUTHANIZE THEM.

REALITY: STUDIES SHOW THAT FERAL CATS HAVE ABOUT THE SAME LIFESPAN AS PET CATS. AND THEY CONTRACT DISEASES AT ABOUT THE SAME RATE. IT IS SIMPLY NOT HUMANE OR PRUDENT TO KILL A HEALTHY FERAL CAT AND THIS PRACTICE DOES NOT REDUCE THEIR POPULATIONS OVER



THE LONG-TERM BECAUSE OTHER CATS MOVE IN AND START BREEDING.

DISCOVER THE HUMANE AND EFFECTIVE SOLUTION. TRAP, NEUTER, RETURN (TNR) IS MORE EFFECTIVE THAN EUTHANASIA AND MORE COMPASSIONATE OF A CARING SOCIETY.

Feral and Free-Roaming cats have a home. It's outdoors. There are not enough homes for them all. They don't belong in shelters. Will you help save these beautiful cats?