

### What Do Our Colonies Need?

At BCASAC, we support numerous colonies throughout Bergen County. These colonies range in size from 6-60, and in addition to the TNR programs, we also provide:

- Education and support
- Traps through Animal Control
- Homes for adoptable cats and kittens from the colonies

### How can you help us?

We rely on the generous support of our community to keep our programs running smoothly. On a regular basis, we request donations of the following to support TNR cats:

- **Dry Cat Food\*** – large bags, any flavor
- Wet Cat Food – small or large cans, any flavor
- Large Rubbermaid storage bins
- Mylar blankets
- Medium Styrofoam coolers (i.e., Omaha Steaks, etc.)
- Straw (not hay)
- Open your home as a foster

Donations can be dropped off to the Shelter seven days a week.

**\*Most in need**

**Thank you so much for your support of our Shelter Programs.**

### Ear-Tipped Cat



**Ear-tipping is the universal sign of an altered feral cat.** While the cat is sedated for the spay or neuter surgery, a quarter of an inch is removed from the tip of the left ear in a straight line cut. The procedure is swift and painless and healing is rapid.

#### COUNTY OF BERGEN

James J. Tedesco III  
County Executive  
and

The Board of Chosen Freeholders

#### BERGEN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hansel Asmar  
Director/Health Officer

### For More Information Contact:

**Bergen County Animal  
Shelter and Adoption Center**

100 United Lane  
Teterboro, NJ 07608

[www.co.bergen.nj.us/bcas](http://www.co.bergen.nj.us/bcas)

201-229-4600



## Trap-Neuter- Return (TNR) Programs

*A Solution that Works!*



*Bergen County  
Animal Shelter  
and Adoption Center*

### What are Feral Cats?

Feral cats are members of the domestic cat species, but are **not socialized to humans and are therefore unadoptable**. Feral cats choose to reside in locations for two reasons: one, there is a **food** source—intended or not—and two, there is **shelter**. Feral cats can lead healthy, natural lives on their own, content to be outdoors.

### What is TNR?

**Trap-neuter-return (TNR)** is a program through which free-roaming cats (not belonging to particular humans) are humanely trapped, sterilized and medically treated, and returned to the outdoor locations where they were found.

### TNR is about:

- **Population control** and permanently reducing the number of cats in an area
- **Lowering cat intake into shelters**, thereby lowering shelter euthanasia rates
- **Reducing the spread of disease**
- The returned spayed/neutered colony guards its territory, discouraging unneutered cats from moving in and restarting the cycle of overpopulation
- **Removing the vacuum** created by "catch and kill" programs. Catch and kill colonies start regenerating in a short time period. The result is not a permanent solution.

### The benefits of a TNRed Colony:

There are many positive benefits for the cats and the community:

- **The cats are healthier** since they have been vaccinated and altered
- The **population stops exploding** because they are altered
- There is an initial **reduction in numbers** as friendly cats and kittens are removed for adoption
- Over time, the **number of cats in the area drops**
- An established colony protects its territory from new cats – the rate of new cats appearing slows dramatically when the colony is managed
- **All cats are vaccinated against rabies**, thus protecting the public's health and eliminating any concern of feral cats transmitting rabies to humans
- **Nuisance behavior associated with unaltered cats stops**, resulting in less complaints and happier neighbors



### Your Town has TNR. Now What?

If you have a concern about feral cats in your neighborhood, please call Bergen County Animal Control at 201-229-4616 for assistance. We provide TNR to many towns that contract our Animal Control services.

### How it works:

- Call us. We provide a trap with instructions.
- **TNR cats can be trapped Monday-Friday, during daylight hours only. Cats cannot be trapped during inclement weather, in an unprotected area, or when temperatures are over 90 degrees.**
- It is your responsibility to set and check the traps throughout the day.
- Once a cat is in the trap, call us; Animal Control will discuss your options.
- The cat will be brought to the Shelter or an approved veterinary hospital for spay/neuter surgery and vaccines.
  - Friendly cats and kittens are sent to the adoption floor at the Shelter
  - Unadoptable cats are ear tipped and returned to an approved colony or to the pick-up location for release

**Please note: It is in the best interest of kittens to be brought in WITH their mom. Please trap moms with their babies.**

### What if your town doesn't have a TNR program?

For towns with no existing TNR program, it is best to contact your local Animal Control provider for information and guidance. You can also reach out to your local officials and/or Health Department to start a conversation about creating a program.