



Community Cat Program



What is a community cat? - a cat that has been fixed, vaccinated and eartipped then released back into the area from which it was found. They are the unowned stray or feral (unsocialized) cats who live outdoors in our neighborhoods with or without a particular caretaker.

Community cats may be temporarily brought inside a colony caretaker's residence, for their protection, in the event of severe environmental conditions or medical necessity.

Community Cat Care Guidelines

1. Make reasonable attempts to fix (trap-neuter-return) all the cats in the colony. Cats need to be fixed, have a rabies vaccination, eartip for ID and returned to their familiar outdoor home. Call (317) 638-3223 and ask for the "community cat package" to make an appointment.
2. Provide adequate food and water for the cats on a daily basis. Feed cats in the am if possible and do not leave food out overnight so as not to attract wildlife.
3. Provide adequate shelter for the number of cats in the colony if they do not have an established shelter area.
4. Make reasonable attempts to ensure that any community cats that are injured or ill receive prompt medical treatment. Call the FACE spay neuter clinic (317) 638-3223.
5. Maintain records of spay/neuter and rabies vaccinations for cats you monitor.
6. Make efforts to place tame colony cats and kittens with adoption groups as resources allow.
7. If you can no longer properly care for your colony, contact IndyFeral as soon as possible to assist with identifying an alternate caretaker or placement.
8. Be a good steward for the cats. Help cats and people co-exist by readily addressing or educating others in regard to any concerns or conflicts they may have about the cats. Help community cats maintain a good image and their good neighbor status.
9. Report acts of neglect, cruelty, abandonment or abuse directed against any cat(s). Call the Mayor's Action Center at (317) 327- 4622 <http://www.indy.gov/egov/mayor/mac/Pages/home.aspx>



cat with eartip

Fixing the cats/Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) coupled with proper feeding, shelter and on-going health monitoring stops the unchecked breeding of the cats, improves their lives and allows the colony to diminish naturally over time. Failure to properly care for community cats can exclude you from our program.

For additional assistance call our help desk at (317) 638-3223 or visit www.IndyFeral.org

Community Cat Medical Care -

- FACE Spay Neuter Clinic- 1505 Massachusetts Av Indpls. IN 46201. Call (317) 638-3223 Hours: M-TH 2-5:15, Sat 10-2pm, Sunday 11-3pm. We offer a wide range of medical support for community cats in addition to basic wellness, vaccinations, deworming, flea treatments, microchipping and more.

Adoption Resources

- Marty Gallagher (orphan kittens only) (317) 590-9043
- ReTails - www.retailsindy.org (317) 536-3227
- Southside Animal Shelter www.ssasi.org (317) 710-2831
- ARPO (Alliance for Responsible Pet ownership) www.adoptarpo.org (317) 774-8292
- Humane Society of Indianapolis www.IndyHumane.org (317) 872-5650.

Indianapolis Pet Food Pantry, 456 N. Holmes Ave. Indpls IN 46222. The pantry will be open for dog/ cat owners and community cat caretakers every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month. 12-4:00 pm. (317) 221-1314.

Cat Shelters and Feeding Stations

Plastic Tote Shelter – A shelter anybody can make; suitable for one to two cats.



Start with a 30 gallon tote for one to two cats



Cut 5 1/2" diameter hole in tote



Insert Styrofoam cooler and cut hole in Styrofoam to match tote



Add straw



Add Styrofoam lid



Add tote lid—finished!

After the cats have begun using the tote shelter, you might want to add a door flap made of heavy plastic or heavy vinyl for further wind/weather protection.

If you need to house more cats, just purchase a larger plastic tote.



Photo courtesy of Ashli Karamian

Elevated foam bin + straw
Instant cat shelter



Feeding station

Super size this model. A 40-45 gallon tote will house 6-8 cats
For more ideas visit www.IndyFeral.org (food and shelters)

Community Cat Education/Mediation - If you are having a cat related concern with a neighbor, business, property owner etc and you need assistance, our experienced staff can help. We specialize in community cat and wildlife resolution. Call (317) 638-3223/email Contact@IndyFeral.org. Tips www.IndyFeral.org



Join our community cats facebook group

If you are caring for community (stray and feral) cats? Please join our community cats facebook group. This group serves as a way for caretakers of the community cat program to share information, tips, ask questions, seek help and keep up with the latest news about TNR and community cats. For more tips and resources please visit www.IndyFeral.org or call our help desk (317) 638-3223.

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 **Community Cat Program now on Facebook!**

Caring for outside community cats? Share news, tips and more!