## **Facts about Feral Cats**

- More than 70% of all U.S. cats entering animal shelters are killed. In fact, being killed at animal shelters and pounds is the number one documented cause of death for cats in this country.
- Virtually 100% of feral cats who enter animal shelters are killed because they are not socialized to people and cannot be adopted.
- The average life span of a feral cat brought to a shelter is just 3 days.
- Feral cats living in managed colonies can be just as healthy as pet cats— with equally low rates of disease and the same average life spans.

~Alley Cat Allies, 2011



# **About AWA**

### **Our Mission**

AWA is dedicated to eliminating animal suffering and promoting the importance of the human-animal bond and improving the role of the animals in the well-being of people.

# We serve our community by:

- Saving thousands of homeless and abandoned animals each year.
- Humane Education activities for schools and youth groups, including our Summer Camp program.
- Providing low-cost spay/neuter surgery and veterinary care through our Pet Clinic and our Vets on Wheels program.

### **Hours of Operation**

# **Adoption Center**

Tuesday—Friday 12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Saturday & Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Register online at www.awanj.org and click on our "Volunteer" tab or email fostercare@awanj.org.

# PET—CLINIC

Wellness exams are available T-F by appt. Walk-in Vaccine Clinics are available Monday mornings, plus several Saturdays a month (check website.)
Spay/neuter surgeries are M-F by appointment, which can be made online.



# Feral/ Community Cats

Saving Lives and Creating Humane Communities for Cats through Trap-Neuter-Return



509 Centennial Blvd Voorhees, NJ 08043 awanj.org

# Trap-Neuter-Return: A Humane and Effective Way to Help Feral Cats

What is a feral cat? Feral cats are regular domestic cats, just like pet cats. The main difference is that feral cats are not socialized to humans and make the outdoors their home. Feral cats are either born outside to feral mothers, or are previously owned cats who, over time, became fearful or wary of humans after being lost or discarded. Feral cats may bond to members of their colony as well as to their outdoor home territory.

Why not take them to a shelter or call animal control? Since feral cats are fearful of humans, they are not able to be adopted like socialized cats. That means they are almost always killed when they are taken to a shelter.

What is the alternative? AWA urges people to consider Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR).

What is TNR? Through TNR, feral cats are spayed/neutered, vaccinated (including rabies), ear tipped, and returned to their outdoor home. TNR benefits the community by humanely stabilizing the cat population (no more kittens!) and eliminating common unpleasant behaviors associated with mating. The cats in managed TNR programs get to live

out their full lives with regular food, shelter and veterinary care, provided by their dedicated caregivers.



# **How Can I Help Feral Cats?**

# **AWA's Pet Clinic Supports Feral Caregivers in Several Ways:**

- Renting traps AWA has traps available for a \$100 cash deposit. The deposit is returned when the trap is returned.
- Pet Clinic Services For just \$35, we will provide, spay/neuter surgery, vaccinations (including rabies) and ear tip for identification. We recommend scheduling surgery a week in advance due to the high volume of surgeries. Call our Pet Clinic at 856-424-2288.
- Workshops AWA offers free TNR workshops every third Thursday of the month in our Pet Clinic between 6pm-7pm. Call 856-424-2288 ext. 105 for more information.
- Trapping Tips Visit AWA's list of trapping tips at www.awanj.org/pet-clinic/trapneuter-return.

### AWA's Contact Info:



509 Centennial Boulevard Voorhees, NJ 08043

Phone: 856-424-2288 Fax: 856-424-8318

www.awanj.org

# More Resources for Feral Cat Caregivers:

Alley Cat Allies www.alleycat.org

Neighborhood Cats

www.neighborhoodcats.org

Trap-Neuter-Return

means fewer cats entering shelters, less euthanasia of healthy cats, and the humane management of outdoor cat populations.



