

## Policy: Management of feral cats

Date of last change: 2020-12-12

Date approved by SP Board: 2021-01-21

Effective Date: 2021-01-21

It is common cause that cats, feral and tame, are causing stress and damage in cottages not occupied by cat-lovers. There are limited funds to feed feral cats and that population should be reduced, and eventually eliminated.

Some of the feral cats are partially tame, and our intention is not to dispose of cats that do not become a nuisance to residents. Those feral cats who have made their home near the residents who feed them, and do not cause a nuisance elsewhere in the Park, are welcome to remain here.

## Procedure

1. Facilities is to take control of the existing cat trap, or procure another one, and anyone who has trouble with feral cats submits a job-card requesting the trap for a limited period e.g., one working week (Monday to Friday).
2. Facilities installs the trap just outside the cottage (e.g. on the patio) and the complainant monitors the trap. Any trespassing cat should not be where the trap has been placed.
3. If a cat is caught, Facilities is notified by phone during office hours. They collect the cat and take it to the SPCA.
4. If the cat has a collar and a contact tag, then the SPCA contacts the owner, who can pay SPCA to release the cat into their care. They will (hopefully) discourage future roaming. If a cat has been caught twice before, the SPCA will be asked to put the cat to sleep.
5. If the cat does not have a collar, the SPCA finds a home for the cat or arranges for it to be put to sleep. If necessary, Settlers Park can fund that process.
6. There may be costs associated with the setting of the trap e.g., bait, etc. Such costs will be the responsibility of the person requesting deployment of the trap.

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