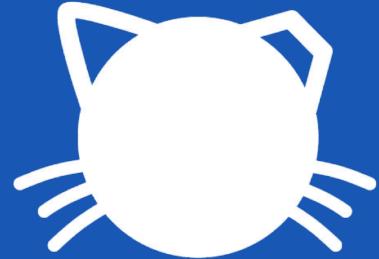


Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Workshop



bay area cats



Objectives

- 1.** Understand the process and steps of TNR
- 2.** Learn how to set a trap
- 3.** Know where to find current TNR information and resources

Community Cats

A community cat is defined as “any cat from a targeted area that is free-roaming”

Characteristics

- Live outdoors
- Unowned, but may be fed by several homes
- Have varying levels of friendliness, but usually avoid contact with humans
- Also called feral or outdoor cats
- Majority are unfixed - only about 2% of community cats are fixed



Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR)



Definition: In a Trap-Neuter-Return program, community cats are humanely trapped and then brought to a clinic to be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and ear tipped (all under anesthesia). The cats are then returned to their outdoor homes. Cats at local TNR clinics will also be microchipped.

Why TNR?

- **Overpopulation** Santa Clara County has hundreds of thousands of free roaming community cats.
 - Cats reproduce early (4 months) and often (every 2-3 months)
 - 1 unspayed female = 200-400 cats in a couple of years



Why TNR?

- **Reduce Suffering** TNR reduces and stabilizes populations of community cats by preventing breeding, disease spread, fighting, and suffering.
 - 75% of cats born outdoors die before 6 months old
 - Unvaccinated and unfixed cats are exposed to and spread feline diseases such as panleuk, calicivirus, herpes, FeLV/FIV
 - Unfixed females suffer from repeated pregnancies, breast & ovarian cancers, and have high risk of uterine infections
 - Unfixed males fight and get severe wounds; they spray & stink!



Getting Traps & Supplies

- **Traps**

- Bay Area Cats • bayareacats.org/traps
- 13th Street Cat Rescue • 408-566-3637 • info@13thstcats.org
- Cat Resource Center • (408) 335-4357 • admin@catcenter.org
- Homeless Cat Network • info@homelesscatnetwork.com
- Ask on [Nextdoor](#) or [Facebook groups](#)

- **Supplies**

- Pee pads or newspaper for lining traps
- Zip ties to secure the traps closed
- Towels to cover the traps
- Bait: tuna, rotisserie chicken, sardines



Getting an Appointment

- **Booking appointments**
 - Latest steps: bayareacats.org/resources
 - Cats go to the shelter based on the city they are trapped in
 - San Jose Animal Care Center serves cities:
 - San Jose
 - Milpitas
 - Cupertino
 - Saratoga
 - Alviso
 - Los Gatos

Trap Training

- Zip tie open the trap (so it won't catch a cat) and feed the cats **only out of the trap** for at least a few days before your appointment
- When cats see other cats get trapped, they start getting trap smart
- Feed the cats on a schedule to make trapping easier



STINKY &
STABLE

Setting Traps

- **Base:** traps must be lined with newspaper or pee pads. If windy, secure with masking tape.
 - We use [Coin Grip PVC Flooring](#)
- Put 2-3 very small PEA SIZED piles of bait leading towards the trip plate
 - The main bait (1 Tbsp) is placed at the very back of the trap
- **Make a liquid (chicken broth, fish juice) trail** leading to the front of the trap. No food outside the trap!
- **Placement:** place the trap on a flat, stable surface flush against a wall, plants, fence, or other objects. The best spot for the trap is near where the cats are used to eating.
 - Always test for stability - if the trap wobbles, find better place or stabilize with a towel underneath



Setting Traps

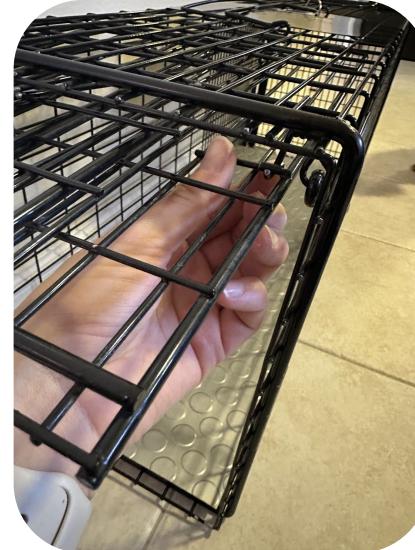
- **Spring trap:** Tomahawk, Havahart



Push in the front of the door



Lift up the door



Hook the clip onto the door



Trap is set!

Setting Traps



[Tru Catch](#) are also gravity traps

- **Gravity traps:** [Tomahawk Gravity](#), [Tru Catch](#)



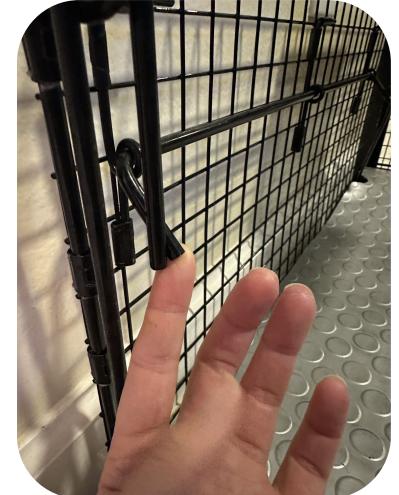
Push in the lock mechanism



Lift up the connected rings



Lift up the door



Rest the door on the bar



MONITOR
SET TRAPS

Trapping

DO NOT set the trap unless you have an appointment lined up.

- **Withhold food** 24 hours before trapping
- Set the trap at the scheduled feeding times
- **MONITOR the trap when its set (do not leave traps unattended). Do not stand near the trap.** Monitor trap from your car or inside the house. Stay quiet and hidden.
- When you trap a cat, cover the trap immediately with a large towel, fully covering the trap, zip tie the trap to secure the door, and move the trap to a quiet area.

Holding Overnight

- Keep trap covered in quiet, secure area like a garage before and after the appointment.
 - Avoid extreme temperatures.
- Do not open the trap or attempt to pet the cat.
- Use pee pads under the trap during car transport and holding.



Neuter and Return

- **Neuter**
 - Bring the cat to your scheduled appointment promptly. Leave enough time to complete shelter paperwork.
 - Drop off is usually between 7-8:00 a.m.
 - Pickup is usually same-day in the afternoon.
- **Return**
 - Return the cat back to its home after an overnight recovery.



Colony Management

- Responsible feeding
 - **Know who you are feeding**
 - Feed on a schedule
 - Do not leave excess food
 - Pick up any trash and bowls
 - Do not feed wildlife
 - **Know who else is feeding**, you may not need to feed
- TNR any new cats
- Monitor cats for injuries or illness



Selective Trapping

Bottle string

- Open the trap front door and prop a corner on a full large water bottle. Tie one end of a long piece of string or rope around the bottle's base.
- Hold the other end of the string, through a car window, inside a house, or over a fence. Put enough food at the back that the non-target cats can eat and leave.
- Wait for the cat to go all the way in the trap, then pull the string, pulling the bottle away and shutting the door.
- Practice pulling the bottle a few times before doing this in the field.



Trapping Mom and Kittens

- If you find kittens, first determine if they are old enough to be trapped:
bayareacats.org/kittens
- Trap train mom and kittens
- Target mom first using selective trapping
- Ask for suggestions or help in the Facebook group.

No matter what, always get mom.



LEAVE ME BE

If the **kittens are clean, healthy, and not in danger** chances are that mom is around, and **they should be left alone**. If you took healthy newborn kittens, **return them** to where they were found for their best chance of survival. **Do not** put them in a box or blanket.



HELP ME

Kittens should only be taken to San Jose Animal Care Center (SJACC) if **visibly sick** (thin, crusty eyed, dirty), nested in a **dangerous** area, or if mom has not returned for **12+ hours**. Please don't forget the mom cat - she needs your help too! Ask for help if needed.

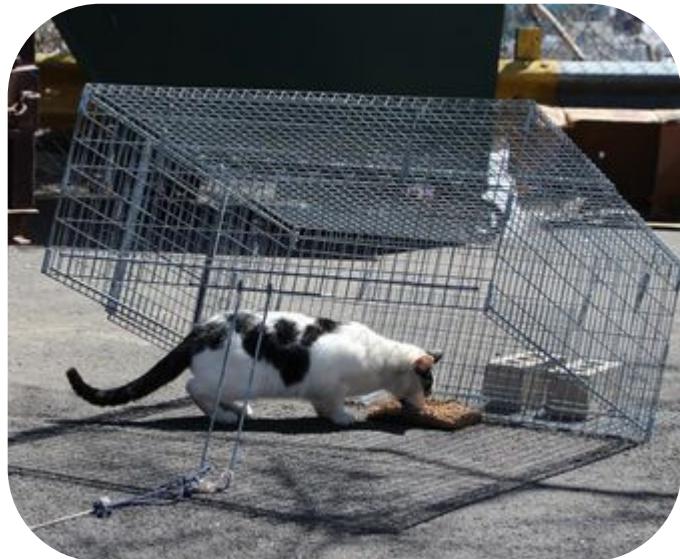


TRAP ME AND MOM

Trap the kittens when they are 4+ weeks old. Mom should be fixed & vaccinated through a **trap-neuter-return (TNR)** program. Email sjtnr@sanjoseca.gov to rent a trap.

Advanced Trapping

- Tech
 - Cameras
 - Remote control traps
 - Airtag for mom with **breakaway** collar
- Mass trapping
- Drop traps



TNR Resources

- How to book TNR appointments: bayareacats.org/resources
- Join our group facebook.com/groups/bayareatnr and trappers will be able to help
- If you find kittens: bayareacats.org/kittens
- Flyer templates: bayareacats.org/flyers
- Hard-to-trap cat tips: bayareacats.org/trapping#hard-to-trap
- Recommended traps:
 - [Tomahawk Gravity GT606](#) (10% discount code: DCNC23)
 - [Tru Catch 30LTD](#)

Email us at bayareatnr@gmail.com with your questions or concerns

Questions?

