

When Your Stray is Wild (Feral)

A feral or wild cat won't let you near it. He eats and runs. It is even more important to spay or neuter these cats to prevent additional unwanted kittens. Females can have 2-3 litters a year that will end up just as wild. The kittens will have kittens, and so on... the vicious cycle continues. What to do:

- Purchase or borrow a Hav-a-Hart humane trap. These are safe, secure and easy to use.
- Make an appointment for low cost spay/neuter surgery.
- Trap the cat- it's recommended that the trap be set the day before your appointment. Cover the trap with a sheet or towel to help keep the cat calm.
- Bring the cat to the shelter or vet office for their surgery. Pick up the cat as instructed.
- Release the cat back into the environment from which it was trapped! It is important to return the cat to familiar territory.

Congratulations, you've stopped the breeding!

Tips: It is ideal to hold cats for 24-36 hours after surgery for observation. A cage or larger carrier (with litter pan) works well. If at all possible, this is strongly recommended, especially during winter months.

Feral cats should be released back where they came from and should not be relocated unless the area they're from presents an immediate threat to them. The stress of relocation could prove too great and the animal may die.

*Some townships give copays for TNR (trap-neuter-return) -check with the township where you reside.

When You've Found a Stray with Kittens

Finding a stray female cat with kittens presents some additional challenges, but the rewards are great!

- Spay the female when the kittens are weaned (approx. 5-6 weeks old). If necessary, use a humane trap to catch her. She can go into heat and become pregnant before she's even done nursing her kittens.
- Either trap, neuter and release (TNR) or if not feral, follow guidelines for finding her a home.
- Secure kittens after catching the mother. They should be kept in a cage in order to socialize them and so they can learn to use a litter pan. Be sure to feed them canned kitten food and make sure they are all eating well!
- At 6-8 weeks old, they should receive an initial vet check. They should receive their first distemper shot, test for Feline Leukemia, flea treatment, de-worm, and check their ears for ear mites. Getting this initial evaluation makes the kittens more desirable to potential adopters.
- ***Congratulations! You've taken the next step in ensuring the health and well-being of your kittens! It will be much easier to find kittens a home. Remember to ask adopters for a donation.***

Rescuing can give you a great sense of accomplishment- ***You have saved a life!*** By following the steps in this guide, you gain control and keep a bad situation from getting worse!



A 501 (C) (3) Non-profit
NO KILL Animal Shelter
www.forgottenfelines.org
610-760-9009

SAVE A STRAY SELF HELP PROGRAM 2026

***Helping You Help a
Feline in Need!***



THE TINIEST HEART CAN
GIVE SO MUCH LOVE

What to do when the
rescues are full.....

Animal shelters nationwide are faced with an overpopulation crisis! Millions of friendly, healthy animals are killed due to lack of homes. Many no kill shelters, like Forgotten Felines and Fidos (FFF), run solely on donations and are at capacity.

When you find a stray cat or a momma cat with kittens, ***you*** may be the only hope in saving the animal. Shelters may be full and unable to help you, especially during the busy “kitten season” (Spring-Summer-Fall).

This brochure is designed to offer you some guidance in solving your situation. With your cooperation and caring, and our resources, we can help you **save a life!** We are here to help you find a good solution so one less animal has to suffer.

First and foremost, any stray should be spayed (females) or neutered (males). This is the best way to control the population. Low cost spay or neuter options are widely available and rabies and distemper shots may be included, depending on the organization’s policy. You’ve now taken the first step in preventing any further breeding!



LOW COST SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAMS

Forgotten Felines and Fidos (Germansville)
610-760-9009
*Peaceable Kingdom (Allentown)
610-432-2532
No Nonsense Neutering (Allentown/Reading)
1-866-820-2510
SOAR (Tamaqua)
570-386-9241
* Center for Animal Health & Welfare(Easton)
610-252-7722
*Lehigh Valley Humane Society(Allentown)
610-797-1205
* have low cost vet services

She is counting on you! More than 70% of cats who enter our nation’s animal control pounds and shelters are killed.



Whether you intend to keep the cat or not, spaying or neutering is **the** most important first step! Not only are you preventing the birth of unwanted kittens or mating males, you’re also making the cat more attractive to potential adopters.

Proven Methods for Finding a Home for your Stray

1. A picture is worth a thousand words! A photo with the cat’s sad story can be posted at veterinary offices, workplaces, grocery stores, churches, pet stores, schools, or other places where social events are held. Use social media if possible.
2. Place a call directly to your local vets. They may know of someone that recently

lost a pet that’s looking for a new companion. Ask to post a flyer there.

3. Place an ad in local and/or community newspapers. Always ask for a donation in your ad—**never** advertise “free to a good home.”
4. Ask local rescue organizations if they’ll list your stray on their website. Once the cat is spayed/neutered, FFF is happy to offer this service at no charge.
5. Ask local rescue organizations to place the cat on their waiting list. If space becomes available, you could be contacted.
6. Tell friends, family, co-workers that you’ve found a stray and are trying to find a home for it.
7. Post photos and a story on **Facebook** or other social media sites-or ask a friend or family member to do it for you.

Tips

- We can provide you with our screening checklist and our private adoption form to help make this a positive experience for you and the cat!
- **Always** ask for at least a small donation. It is a good way to screen out undesirable people who just want “free.” It also helps you recoup some or all of your expenses. ***Never say “Free to a good home.”***
- **Farms are generally not suitable** homes for kittens or friendly cats, unless you are placing a feral cat that needs a home. Some farms will take “barn cats”. But you need to spay/neuter the cat and work with the owner. The cat needs to be confined for 3-4 weeks to get accustomed to the new environment.
- Do not be afraid to ask questions of potential adopters! If they are unwilling to answer the most basic questions, they’re probably not going to provide proper care for the animal.