



Danbury Animal Welfare Society (DAWS)
147 Grassy Plain Street, Bethel, CT 06801
Phone: (203) 790-6511 Email: clinic@daws.org

TRAP / NEUTER / RELEASE (TNR) WAIVER

Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is the only method proven to humanely and effectively control outdoor (feral) cat population growth. Using this technique, all cats in a colony are trapped, vaccinated, neutered, possibly treated for select injury or illness, ear-tipped for identification, and RETURNED to their territory. The goal of community cat management is to maximize quality of life for feral cats and control existing colonies over time through attrition.

**SURGERY DROP OFF TIME IS BETWEEN 8:00 AM - 8:30 AM
ALL CATS MUST ARRIVE AT DAWS IN A HUMANE TRAP.**

The following form must be completed and emailed to clinicadmin@daws.org in order for your appointment to be confirmed.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (best number to reach you on day of appointment): _____

Email: _____

Cat's Name: _____ Approx Age: _____

Sex: Male Female Unknown

Breed / Color / Markings: _____

Location/Address where trapped: _____

****Please be aware that DAWS is NOT a full-service veterinary hospital and is NOT available for post-operative care. We encourage you to seek follow up care with your primary veterinarian ****

DAWS uses qualified staffing and approved materials for all procedures. It is important to understand that the risk of injury and/or death, although extremely low, is always present just as it is for humans who undergo surgery. Carefully read and understand the following. **Please initial next to each statement:**

- _____ I, acting as owner/agent of the cat named above, hereby request and authorize DAWS, through their designated veterinarian, to surgically sterilize the cat listed above.
- _____ I understand that anesthesia and surgery present some hazards, and that injury to or death of this animal may conceivably result, as there is an inherent risk in anesthetics and surgery procedures.
- _____ I understand that DAWS has the right to refuse or post-pone service to any animal to whom surgery or anesthesia is deemed a health risk
- _____ I understand that TNR cats will not receive pre-operative bloodwork or a full pre-anesthetic exam and waive my right to have these services provided prior to surgery at a full-service clinic.
- _____ I understand that some factors significantly increase surgical risk, including (but not limited to): pregnancy, heat, injuries, infections, and diseases such as FIV, Feline Leukemia, and FIP
- _____ I understand that if this cat is pregnant, the pregnancy will be terminated at surgery
- _____ I assume full responsibility for all charges and services incurred by DAWS on my cat's behalf, and agree to pay such charges prior to the procedure
- _____ I understand DAWS does NOT provide post-operative care. If any complications arise, I agree to seek care at my primary veterinary clinic or local urgent care/emergency facility at my expense
- _____ I understand patients will receive a small green abdominal tattoo to indicate they are sterilized
- _____ I agree to a standard 1 cm ear tip (surgical removal of tip of left ear) on my TNR cat as a visual aid in determining (from a distance) feral cats who are already sterilized.
- _____ I agree to release TNR cats back to their original colony, and understand that releasing a cat to a new area or colony is dangerous to the cat, especially after surgery.
- _____ I understand that TNR cats must arrive in a trap. If renting a DAWS trap, I agree to a \$75 deposit at pick up, which will be refunded once the trap is returned to DAWS clean and working order.
- _____ I have read, understand, and agree to follow TNR Protocol (attached) after surgery
- _____ I agree that any cat who is deemed medically untreatable and/or in severe or chronic pain will be humanely euthanized at the veterinarian's discretion while under anesthesia. I authorize the DAWS veterinarians to act in the best interest of this cat with regards to euthanasia for such cases
- _____ I understand that if my cat bites a human while at DAWS, DAWS will follow local and state ordinances with regards to public health rabies protocol, and I agree to also abide by such laws
- _____ I agree to hold this cat overnight in the trap following surgery (as per TNR protocol) in a controlled, confined environment, and release the cat to its previous location after at least 24-72hr
- _____ I understand that any additional services (such as FeLV/FIV testing, microchips, etc) will incur additional charges for which I am responsible.

Feral Cat TNR Services: \$100

- *Includes sterilization surgery, pain medication, rabies and distemper (FVRCP) vaccine, topical parasite treatment, and any other medical services which the veterinarian deems necessary*

Office Use Only: Animal: _____ Family: _____

Please check and extra services/items you would like:

_____ Microchip \$40 _____ Ear cleaning \$20 _____ FeLV/FIV blood test \$65

By signing this waiver, I acknowledge that feral cats are wild animals, which can be unpredictable in their behavior, and are capable of inflicting serious bodily injury. I willingly assume the risk and responsibility of participating in this program. I hereby release DAWS, any and all of their officials, officers, directors, veterinarians, employees, agents and/or volunteers from any and all claims arising out of or connected with the performance of this program. I agree to indemnify and hold DAWS, and any and all of their officials, officers, directors, veterinarians, employees, agents and/or volunteers harmless for any damages caused during the trapping and transportation of my animal, or for any damages caused by participation in the program.

Full Name (Print)

Date

Signature

DAWS TNR PROTOCOL

1. The cats will be returned to you in the same covered traps in which you brought them to the clinic. You'll receive their medical records, including rabies vaccination certificates. Keep these in a safe place that's accessible in case you need to show them to another veterinarian or shelter.
2. Allow the cats to recover overnight. They will need time to recuperate after surgery, so keep them indoors in a temperature-controlled environment (such as a warm basement, garage, or bathroom) in covered traps. Keep the cats away from loud noises, no music and pets and people. Do not let children near them. A warm basement, garage, or bathroom is fine. For more information on the best recovery setup for a cat, visit alleycat.org/InTrapCare
3. Safety first! Keep the traps covered to ease stress. NEVER open trap doors or let cats out. Don't stick your fingers through the bars or try to handle them when they are awake.
4. Monitor the cats. Check them quietly and often - keep an eye out for any bleeding, inflammation, infection, and/or lack of appetite. If a cat is vomiting, having difficulty breathing, or not waking up, get veterinary assistance immediately.
5. Wait 8 hours after surgery before feeding adult cats. Kittens can be fed shortly after waking from anesthesia. When feeding the cats, lift the back door of the trap slowly and only allow a small gap. Slide a plastic lid with a little bit of food on it through the gap - do NOT put your hand inside. You can also use an isolator or trap divider to do this. If you don't have an isolator and you feel you can't slide a plastic lid in without the cat trying to escape, then don't feed them. The cats will be OK, and they can eat once they are released.
6. Cats need a minimum of 24 hours to recover. Depending on recovery speed, adult cats can be returned to the trapping site 24 hours after surgery. In some cases, females require 48-72 hours to recover. Make sure all cats are fully conscious, clear-eyed, and alert before release. If a cat requires more than 48 hours of care, transfer to a large crate or holding pen. You may also need to transfer a cat into a clean trap if the newspaper becomes soiled during recovery. Clean any soiled traps and reline them with fresh newspaper.
7. Return the cats to the same location where you trapped them. Early morning is a good time, as it is quieter. Point the traps away from roads or high-traffic areas so the cats don't run into them. Open the front door of the trap and then completely remove the cover. If the trap has a back door, move the cover away and pull the door up and off (if possible), then completely remove the cover and walk away. Be careful to keep your distance and keep your fingers and hands as far from the cat as possible when opening the trap. You can watch videos of cats being returned online
8. Don't worry if a cat hesitates before leaving, he's reorienting himself to his surroundings. Sometimes cats will "disappear" for a day or a few days after they are returned. It's okay; they'll show up again eventually! Resume the feeding schedule and continue providing food and water even if you don't see them, they may eat when you're not around for a while.
9. Once you have returned the cats, provide food and water. If you are the cats' caregiver, you can resume the cats' regular feeding schedule. The cats may stay away from the area for a few days after being returned, but they will come back eventually.
10. Thoroughly clean traps with nontoxic disinfectant. Whether the traps are borrowed or your own, leave them cleaner than you found them so they're ready for the next trapping adventure. Even clean traps should be disinfected. The scent of the previous cat may deter new cats from entering.