



Animal Welfare Association

509 Centennial Blvd. • Voorhees NJ 08043

856-424-2288 www.awanj.org

DOs and DON'Ts FOR TRAPPING FERAL/FREE-ROAMING CATS

First of all, thank you for taking time to help the cats who need you.

DO GET A TRAP: Traps are available for rental at Voorhees Hardware Rental or Taylor Rental. You can purchase traps from Home Depot, Harbor Freight, Lowe's or animal supply facilities. AWA also has traps available for a \$100 cash deposit. The deposit is returned when the trap is returned.

DO PLAN: Careful planning makes the difference on whether or not you are successful. Whether the cat is feral (wild) or a neighborhood stray, start by feeding at the same time every day. We recommend early morning so you can catch the cat for surgery. By getting the cat used to eating at the same time every day, you have control.

DO FEED IN THE TRAP: We suggest you put the trap in an area where you are feeding, but keep the door open by using a stick or wire. Get the cat used to eating in the trap by putting food in the trap and making a small trail of food leading up to it. We recommend using stinky canned cat food. Once the cat is used to coming to the trap for meals, you decide when you want to trap. Do not feed the day before you plan to trap. The morning of trapping, put a small amount of food in the trap to lure the cat.

DO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT: Since the AWA clinic is overwhelmed with requests for surgery, you need to make an appointment before you trap. (856-424-2288 or clinic@awanj.org).

DO ARRIVE ON TIME: On the morning of the surgery appointment, you MUST bring the cat to the clinic for check-in by 7:30am. If you can't get here at that time, we CANNOT accommodate you. Feral cats must be in a trap covered with a sheet or towel. No litter pans or other supplies.

DO SET UP AFTER CARE: After surgery the cat can recuperate in a trap, carrier or large dog crate. This needs to be in a safe, protected area. A garage or enclosed porch is fine. By the next day if the cat is up and eating, s/he can be released. You may not see him/her for a day or so afterward.

DON'T LEAVE THE TRAP UNATTENDED. Watch from a window or your car. Trapped cats are vulnerable to other animals.

DON'T ATTEMPT TO TOUCH OR HANDLE THE CAT. Once s/he is in the trap, cover the trap immediately with a sheet or towel and leave it alone. Our technicians are skilled at safely removing the cat from the trap.

DON'T TRAP unless you have an appointment for surgery. You may not get another chance to trap the cat.

ANIMAL WELFARE ASSOCIATION offers a special program to residents who are caring for feral and free-roaming cats. For just \$35 we will provide the surgery, rabies vaccination and ear tip for identification. A small section at the tip of the left ear is cut straight. This is referred to as ear tipping. It lets everyone know the cat has been fixed. Thank you again for getting involved.

For more information, please go to our website: www.awanj.org.