

Cats Anonymous
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www.CatsAnonymous.org



CATS ANONYMOUS, INC.

Voucher Program

A New Way to Help Cats

In eight years, Cats Anonymous and our veterinary partners have sterilized nearly 8,500 feral and semi-feral cats. Although we have a tremendously passionate and dedicated group of volunteers, the fact is that none of this would be possible without the expertise and generosity of DVM's.

The movement to tackle the overpopulation of "unowned" cats living outdoors is growing — people are making the compassionate choice and changing attitudes about cats.

As the demand for Trap-Neuter-Return services grows, we're looking for ways to make DVM participation flexible and rewarding. We realize that the high-volume clinics Cats Anonymous hosts monthly on Saturdays don't fit everyone's schedule or preference, so we've organized a "voucher program" option in which

- you conduct surgeries in the comfort of your own clinic,
- you choose a volume and schedule that best fits your availability,

- you connect directly with potential new clients and/or strengthen existing client loyalty,
- you can recommend and sell products for ongoing care (flea treatments, dewormers, etc.)

"I take great pride in telling people that my vet clinic helps Cats Anonymous' TNR program. They've gained a number of clients in recent years through my sharing with referrals this charitable fact, along with the great care given to my pets."

~ Deb Polster, Kewaunee

Cats Anonymous will still do everything we can to screen TNR clients, answer their questions on trapping and long-term care, and do the follow-up to ensure colonies are fully sterilized to truly stabilize and eventually reduce the population.

This brochure outlines the planned program, but we're always open to new ideas!



Feral Cat Spay/Neuter Prepaid Voucher

Present this voucher to a participating veterinary clinic for one (1) male or female TNR package including: spay or neuter, identification ear-tip, distemper & rabies vaccination. Please remember to:

- schedule an appointment in advance (a list of participating veterinary clinics is available at www.catsanonymous.org)
- Cat must be presented to veterinary clinic in a live-trap. Contact Cats Anonymous at 920.321.1967 for trapping instructions and/or to borrow a live trap.

Voucher is not transferable, as all voucher purchases must be made by a colony caretaker registered and approved by Cats Anonymous. Voucher only valid for feral, semi-feral and barn cats as approved by Cats Anonymous. This voucher cannot be used to spay/neuter cats intended to be kept, sold or given away as pets. Refunds are subject to Cats Anonymous approval and are not guaranteed. Please use voucher within 6 months of purchase.

Caretaker Name: _____ Colony location: _____
Authorized by: _____ Date of sale: _____

Voucher #123456

Where do you find feral cats?

Many of the people who contact Cats Anonymous for help are on working farms, retired farms, horse barns, and other rural properties who appreciate the rodent control and role the cats play in their “animal family”.

However, the desperate cry is for “no more kittens!”. They’re happy to help play a role in not only keeping the cats they have healthier and happier, but wish to help bring the overall population down so that we can avoid a tragedy like the cat hunting proposal that was put forth years ago.

Many are finding that their colony that was once stable grows every year because someone is dumping unwanted strays or even pets. We work with the caretakers to help determine the right outcome for each cat and encourage people to bring tame, friendly cats to a rescue or shelter to placement. However, if



the cat is NOT fully socialized to people, the only likely outcome for that cat in a shelter is death.

Through TNR, we are helping reduce the intake of both unadoptable adults and unwanted litters of kittens in our community shelters.

While shelters and rescues focus on

increasing spay/neuter rates among pet owners and ensure all rescued pets are fixed before placement, we’re focused on all the unowned cats at the other end of the spectrum. Someday, our efforts will “meet in the middle” and bring an end to inhumane and lethal approaches to population control.

To consider ...

- How would you like TNR clients to enter your clinic? Through the normal reception area, or would you prefer caretakers check-in but bring trapped cats through a different door, perhaps more directly to a recovery or surgical area?
- Are all staff on-board? Cats Anonymous would be thrilled to give a short presentation and Q&A on TNR and feral cats if any of your staff are unfamiliar or concerned.

- Scheduling runs particularly smoothly if you have a set quantity of surgery slots available weekly or monthly, as well

- ***How many cats per week/month?***
- ***What days/times?***
- ***How should Cats Anonymous direct caretakers?***

as a set time-frame. That enables Cats Anonymous to prepare and direct caretakers.

However, we can usually fill any space you make available! Many of our caretakers run farms and have non-traditional working hours!

- Does your clinic already stock all supplies detailed in the next page, or would you like to work with Cats Anonymous to get the best possible prices on items you would maybe only use for the TNR program?

TNR Surgery Protocol Basics

Spay or neuter

FVRCP vaccination

Rabies vaccination

Eartip (left ear)

Ivermectin

Penicillin

Pregnant or dehydrated cats given SQ fluids

Eartipping involves removing the top 1/4 inch of the left ear. This is done by clamping a straight hemostat just below the area to be removed and then cutting above it with a blade or sharp scissors. The cut edge can be cauterized with a silver nitrate stick prior to removing the hemostat.

We recommend KDT and ketofen for anesthesia and pain control, but all doctors are encouraged to use whatever anesthetic protocol they are comfortable using.



EAR TIPPING is the universal sign of a neutered feral cat. The procedure involves removing about 1/4" off the tip of the cat's ear (typically the left ear) while the cat is anesthetized for spaying/neutering; healing is rapid. The mark will help prevent unnecessary surgery, confinement, or euthanasia.

The tip of the cat's left ear is removed and cauterized with a silver nitrate stick prior to removing the hemostat

Start to Finish

The process will start with an individual willing to oversee the cats' welfare contacting Cats Anonymous and **registering with us** as a Colony Caretaker.

Cats Anonymous **ensures that the cats are eligible for the program**, and that the caretakers are ready and willing to fulfill their role. Cats Anonymous does NOT TNR pet cats and those people intend to sell or give away as pets. Also, we work to ensure they do not simply assume that nobody is looking for a "stray" cat that showed up on their property.

Some who are tackling large colonies for the first time, or those unable to afford vouchers, may wait for one of our monthly high-volume clinics.

But those willing to **purchase vouchers** will be directed to participating veterinary clinics in their

area. Caretakers will be responsible for **contacting you to schedule appointments** based on your availability, and when they can be dedicated to trapping. We'll do our best to ensure caretakers will be successful and catch the cat(s) for their appointment, but please know that sometimes feral cats just don't cooperate!

Cats will be **arrive at your clinic safely in a live-trap** provided by Cats Anonymous. We can provide a pair of forks for easily navigating the cat within the trap for anesthetic injection if you need them.

Your clinic collects the pre-paid voucher and **completes the TNR**

services outlined above, and releases the cat (back in the trap) to the caretaker when the cat is safely out of anesthesia.

Although you can certainly go over post-op care and suggest products they might wish to purchase for long-term care, **Cats Anonymous will follow-up** with caretakers to ensure they get as close to 100% of the colony sterilized as possible, answer questions, assist with feeding if

needed through our food bank program, and more.

Fax, email or mail the voucher and basic cat data to our office and Cats Anonymous will **reimburse your clinic \$50** per redeemed voucher.

"I really think that it helps the cats lead happier, healthier lives – you can see it if you get the chance to see them back in their colony later on. If you're a large-animal vet especially, you get to help your clients with all those cats and kittens running around the barns." ~ Dr. Linda Clemendtsen-Sieker



***One by one ...
we can change their
world and ours***

Mission Statement

Cats Anonymous, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose sole purpose is to better the lives and reduce the number of semi-feral and feral cats in Northeastern Wisconsin. To accomplish this goal, we promote, educate and advocate the non-lethal reduction of the feral cat population utilizing the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) method in a safe and humane manner.

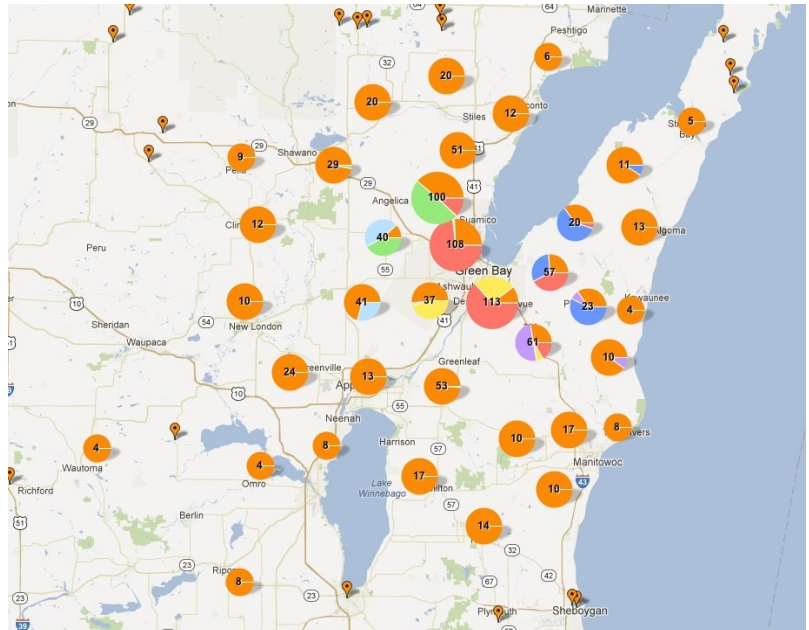
For more information or to get started, contact Vicki Becker,
Surgery Coordinator at (920) 863-8709 or itnrcats@charter.net

DVM Expertise

Want to go over any questions you may have about the program with a fellow DVM? Cats Anonymous was founded with the help of two veterinarians who are always willing to answer questions and talk technical. Just contact our office and we'll put you in touch!

And of course ... you are *always* welcome to join us at a Saturday spay day to see our wonderful team and the process in action!

***Thank you for considering
Cats Anonymous for your
charitable efforts.***



Cats Anonymous helps caretakers from all over Northeast Wisconsin ... your participation in our new voucher program will make an important difference to people in your community.