# **Sterilization Options**

Broward County Animal Care and Adoption (954) 359-1313 www.broward.org/animal

Humane Society of Broward (954) 989-3977 www.humanebroward.com

Stray Aid and Rescue 954-816-0799 www.strayaid.org

Cats Exclusive (954) 975-8349 www.catsexclusive.org

Many other sterilization providers exist and can be found simply searching the internet.

Microchips are required and can be obtained from the Animal Control Division prior to capture and treatment of cats. They should be implanted by the treating veterinarian, then registered by the community cat caregiver. Free registration is available at www.Found.org

## **Containment Options**

Electric Fences can be purchased locally at any feed supply store. There are not too many in our area but the closet one is located in Davie A 5 acre fence kit can be purchased for approx. \$50.00. They can also be found utilizing an internet search for "electric fence". Stay away from the radio frequency shock collar / invisible fences as they are not effective at containing cats.

Other cat fencing options are available too but tend to be more expensive. Feel free to call the Animal Control Division with any questions.



# CARING FOR COMMUNITY CATS



Animal Control Division 954-786-4027







# If every resident plays a small role... the Backyard Sanctuary Caregiver

We've come a long way! Prior to the 21st century, the animal control division dealt with a lot more animal suffering. The days of loose dogs being commonplace have gone by the wayside and the number of cat colonies with uncontrolled breeding and sickness has been diminishing. Proactive enforcement and removing free roaming domestic animals from the streets has helped provide a much better quality of life for both people and animals in the City.

Although the City's animal control has been responsive for capture and removal of stray cats, a mix of public sentiment includes those who prefer a non-removal approach. Cats are domestic animals that require human care to enjoy good quality of life so adequate care must be provided. Animal Control can not be available to provide care for the free roaming cat population in and around the City.

This is where caring residents must join in to help by providing care for one to three free roaming cats observed at your own property. Together, by as many as possible taking a small role of care and sterilization, we can work toward reducing the breeding free roaming cat population without the need for removal.

# **Guidelines for Providing Care**

#### Please visit:

## www.PompanoBeachFL.gov/CommunityCats

#### for more info and registration forms

- The City ordinance allows a resident to provide care according to the guidelines established in 90.22 for up to three free roaming cats on their own property, without any registration, as long as no complaints from surrounding residents are generated.
- Caregivers who provide care on the property of another or for more than three cats must register
- Food may not be left unattended and must be provided within a humane trap that has been secured open. This will keep the cats desensitized to a trap so that they may be recaptured when further care is warranted.

#### Cats must be:

- evaluated for sickness including feline aids and leukemia
- sterilized and ear-tipped
- microchipped and registered in caregivers name
- vaccinated for rabies, FVRCP and leukemia
- provided with ongoing parasite prevention
- Containment is encouraged. Although not mandated for community cats, it is highly recommended to protect the cats, wildlife, public, and prevent neighbors from complaining.

#### 90.22 COMMUNITY CAT MANAGEMENT

Privately operated management programs shall be permitted in accordance with the following requirements:

(A) Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply.

BACKYARD SANCTUARY CAREGIVER A community cat caregiver who provides care, in accordance with this section, to three or less community cats on their private property at their permanent residence, not including communal areas, and at no other locations. Kittens under eight weeks of age are not included in this number.

CARE. The function of providing food, water, or shelter and/or protection from the elements. The daily provision of food, water and ongoing monitoring and includes required actions of capture, sterilization, vaccination, ear-tipping and microchipping of all cats present, with the option of returning to the outdoors of said captured cats.

CARE LOCATION. The physical location where food and care is provided by a community cat caregiver.

COMMUNAL AREA. The area of, relating to, or belonging to the residents of a community, or rental housing building or complex.

COMMUNITY CAT. An unowned, free roaming cat that may or may not be feral.

COMMUNITY CAT CAREGIVER. A person or organization that provides care to community cats.

RABIES VACCINATION. The up to date vaccination of a dog, cat or other domestic animal with an anti-rabies vaccine approved by the United States Department of Agriculture and administered by a veterinarian.

RETURN TO FIELD. The practice of returning an animal to the outdoors after it has been captured, sterilized, vaccinated, and ear-tipped.

- (B) All community cats shall be provided care on the private property of the community cat caregiver or other care location with written permission of the property owner or manager which shall be filed with the city for each care location.
  - (C) A person or organization providing food,

care or return to field, shall register as a community cat caregiver and provide a verifiable name, home address and phone number and shall update any changed information with 15 days of a change. A registered organization shall list all authorized caregivers and provide the verifiable name, home address and phone number of each affiliated caregiver and shall update such registration annually. A backyard sanctuary caregiver shall not be required to register as a community cat caregiver or file a care location. A registered community cat caregiver and a backyard sanctuary caregiver shall not be held responsible for a violation of § 90.08, "Animals Running at Large," or § 90.12, "Vaccination and License," of any cats fed at a location where a written consent has been filed and remains in good standing or in the circumstance of a backyard sanctuary caregiver's property.

- (D) A registration shall be accomplished by submitting the city provided registration form completed legibly in its entirety to the appropriate department as listed. Registrations shall be supplemented by submitting a care location permission form for each written permission from a property owner/manager.
- (E) Food at each care location shall be provided in accordance with the following:
- (1) Food shall only be provided while persons conducting the feeding remain present. Any uneaten food must be removed while persons feeding are not physically present to monitor feeding.
- (2) Food shall not be placed or left unattended in a manner it can be accessed or obtained by wildlife, other than as provided below for traps.
- (3) Food shall be positioned inside at the center of a raccoon or larger size live humane trap that has had both ends secured open.
- (4) Automatic feeders are not permitted.
- (5) Feeding of any free roaming animals is not permitted within 1,000 feet of a care location that has been noticed to cease feeding.
- (6) Feeding is not permitted in or on city Parks, beaches, roads, rights-of-ways, or any other public property.
- (F) Community cats shall be sterilized, eartipped, vaccinated for rabies, implanted with micro-

chip registered to the community cat caregiver, FELV/FIV tested, provided with FVRCP, leukemia vaccine and any other vaccinations and/or treatments as recommended by the treating veterinarian, and provided with ongoing parasite preventative/treatment. Records of such shall be retained by the community cat caregiver under which the care location is registered for each cat that is being provided with care.

- (G) Only healthy, feral or otherwise, unadoptable cats may be returned to the field. Cats with visible injuries, disease, requiring ongoing treatment, or that have attacked or bitten a person or animal, may not be returned to the field.
- (H) The registered community cat caregiver shall be responsible for damages caused by any cat(s) being cared for while they are off the authorized care location.
- (I) Public parks, beaches, roads, rights-of-way, or properties are not permitted for care of the community cats.
- (J) If a nuisance complaint is filed with the city's Animal Control Division regarding a registered care location, the community cat caregiver shall be noticed in writing by the city and shall have 21 days to work with the complainant to provide a remedy to the complainant's satisfaction. If satisfaction is not achieved during this time period, feeding may not continue and the city shall intervene to trap and permanently remove any cats at the complainant's request, including those related to subsequent complaints. Any cats removed by the city shall be held for at least 36 hours. A registered Community Cat caregiver in good standing or other rescue desiring to provide a humane, legal disposition may request to take possession of the cats during this time period. Any cats removed may not be released within the city. A final disposition may be rendered at the conclusion of 36 hours.
- (K) If any care location is observed to feed more than eight cats, then any property owner or resident within 200 feet or any adjoining property owner, manager or tenant may file an objection with the city's Animal Control Division to the feeding. If an objection is filed, the community cat caregiver shall be noticed by the city and shall have 21 days in which to continue feeding for the purpose of giving the feeder an opportunity to remove cats from that location, after which feeding may not continue. Any cats removed may not be released within the city.

- After 21 days, the city shall intervene to trap and permanently remove any remaining cats at the objector's request, including those related to subsequent complaints. Any cats removed by the city shall be held for at least 36 hours. A registered community cat caregiver in good standing or other rescue desiring to provide a humane, legal disposition may request to take possession of the cats during this time period. Any cats removed may not be released within the city. A final disposition may be rendered at the conclusion of 36 hours.
- (L) When the city's Animal Control Division receives a community cat related complaint at locations where there is not any current care being provided or where there is unregistered care, and with the permission of the complainant, the city may provide notice to registered community cat caregivers in good standing, in an effort to give opportunity for the resolution of such by private humane efforts. The community cat caregivers shall have 21 days in which to bring a resolution to the satisfaction of the complainant. If satisfaction is not achieved during this time period, the city shall intervene to trap and permanently remove any cats at the complainant's request, including those related to subsequent complaints. Any cats removed by the city shall be held for at least 36 hours. A registered community cat caregiver or other rescue in good standing, desiring to provide a humane, legal disposition, may request to take possession of the cats during this time period. Any cats removed may not be released within the city. A final disposition may be rendered at the conclusion of 36 hours.
- (M) When a community cat caregiver or other rescue takes possession of an unaltered cat under Section (J), (K) or (L), that person must provide proof of sterilization, vaccination and microchipping of the animal within 15 days of receiving the cat.
- (N) Any person or organization that has within the preceding year, interfered with city efforts or actions to resolve complaints or has been found in violation of city ordinance shall not be considered to be in good standing.
- (O) Any person or organization that has been found in violation of city ordinances related to feeding or care of community cats on three or more occasions shall not be permitted to feed or care for community cats within the city.
- (P) Noncompliance shall be deemed a violation of this section and penalties shall be in accordance with § 90.99.