



# 2010 San Jose Feral Freedom Pilot Program

# What is Feral Freedom?

A **life-saving program/partnership** between

.. a support, sponsor rescue group (**Towncats**)

..and a shelter (**SJACS**)

where

## **Healthy, Under-socialized Cats**

That are brought into the shelter by the public in traps are evaluated and if accepted (health, behavior wise) are deemed eligible for Feral Freedom Release Program (TNR) and **are released back to their colonies, rather than euthanized.**

# Is Feral Freedom a New Concept?

- Feral Freedom is a fairly new shelter concept
- New process can **save approximately 1,500 to 2,000 cats from death** per year at SJACS
- And **Save taxpayer \$\$** too)!
- Not too many cities/counties are doing it, but there are a few very viable and successful model across the country and FF is catching on!
  - **Jacksonville, Florida**
  - **Charleston County, South Carolina**
  - **Fremont, California**
  - **And Others !**

# How will Feral Freedom work at SJACS?

## Intake

- The public bring in trapped cat
- Completes **Stray Cat Form**
- Form indicates location where cat was trapped
- The cats are checked for TIP, CHIP

# How does Feral Freedom work?

## Evaluation

### Cats Eligible for Feral Freedom (TNR):

- Not Adoptable (Feral, Under-Socialized)
- Not Eligible for Needs Rescue List  
(Feral, Under-Socialized)
- Healthy – No Major Health Issues Noted

# Surgery Package

## Feral Freedom TNR Surgery Package:

- Spay / Neuter
- Rabies & FVRCP Vaccinations
- Earmite Treatment (if needed)
- Flea Treatment
- Ear Tip
- Microchip (reg. to SJACS)

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**Will I have to take the FF cats home  
and recover them at my house?**

**No !**

**Cats TNR'd through the San Jose Feral  
Freedom Program will recover and  
be cared for the staff at:**

**San Jose Animal Care & Services**



# Ok, so what will my role be at a Feral Freedom Release Team Member?

- 1. Show up at SJACS on your pick up days (Be on time!)**
- 2. Review the FF Pick Up List posted in the Intake Room Lobby**
- 3. Check out ONLY the cats that have a big circled “R” written on their shelter card**
- 4. Sign cat out on the FF Pick Up List (using PID #)**
- 5. Write Blue Feral Den # on Pick Up List**
- 6. Return Cats to colony / Hang up Door Hangers**
- 7. Return Shelter Cards & Blue Boxes to SJACS asap!**

# What will I need to do before I can be on the “The Team” ?

- **Sign Up !**
- **Provide Contact information**
- **Complete the TC Volunteer Release Form / Team Member Application**
- **If you are added to a team, you will be assigned a PIF # by SJACS**
- **You will receive a Feral Freedom Towncats Volunteer ID Badge, allowing you access to the shelter (for FF cats pick up ONLY !)**
- **Feral Freedom T-Shirts Forthcoming !**

# What if .... ?

**Q: What if I encounter a problem picking up a cat or during release?**

**A: Call your Team Leader**

(If they can not be reached, call a fellow Team Member or Program Lead)

**Q: What if I am confronted by a hostile person while releasing a cat?**

**A: Stay calm.**

Do not try to convince them that TNR is the answer. Get some paper. Take down the person's name, phone number and address (if they are willing to give it to you). Note down their issues/concerns. Acknowledge concerns (yes, I know that cat's pooping in your garden can really be a "pain"). Let them know that you will give this information to your "supervisor". Give them a Door Hanger and .....

**LEAVE !!**

**What is the goal of this  
pilot program?**

**And why should I help?**

# **San Jose Feral Freedom Pilot Program (7 Months)**

**March 8, 2010 – Sept. 31, 2010**

# Program Goals:

1. To **INCREASE** the Shelter's **LIVE RELEASE RATE %** for Cats
2. To **SAVE** the shelter (and taxpayer's) **MONEY !**
3. To provide **MORE** shelter space for the Adoptable Cats so they have a better chance at being socialized, treated and **ADOPTED !**
4. To **HELP** the **Shelter Staff**, as it hard to do what they do !
5. To **FEEL GOOD** that we, the rescue community, is finally doing something to help save trapped / in-taked feral cats by fixing & chipping them and putting them back out to their colonies **WHERE THEY BELONG!**
6. To serve as a **ROLE MODEL PROGRAM** that other shelters, cities, counties across the nation can model after.

**# 1 GOAL**



**To SAVE the lives**

**of 1,000 Cats**

**in 7 Months !**

**(& continue to save 1,500 - 2,000 each year)**

**..... if the program continues**

- What can make this program

**FAIL ?**

**YOU**



- What can make the program

**SUCCEED ?**

**YOU**



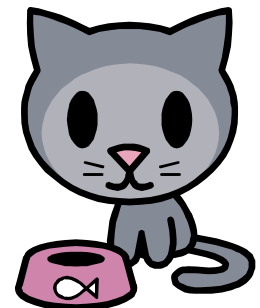


# WHY should I help?

- It's **EASY !**
  - The **COMMUNITY** is trapping the cats
  - The **SHELTER** is fixing the cats, covering the costs **AND** doing the recovery !
  - All **YOU** have to do is **PULL & RELEASE !**
  - 2 days per month/3 hrs each day =  
**6 HOURS TOTAL**

**And Best of ALL....**

**YOU can HELP SAVE 1,000 cats  
without adding any more to  
YOUR HOUSE !!**





**Please Release Me...Let Me Go !!!!**

**Thank You** 