

## PRE-OP INSTRUCTIONS FOR CAT CLINICS

After submitting your application you will be contacted when a spay/neuter opening is available. You will be given the location of the clinic as well as a drop off time.

**\*ALL CATS MUST BE BROUGHT IN TRAPS, EVEN IF THEY ARE FRIENDLY ENOUGH THAT YOU CAN TOUCH THE CAT.**

If you are scheduled for a clinic and need to borrow a trap, a volunteer in charge of traps will contact you to make arrangements for trap pick up and instruct you how to use them. You will be contacted a day or two after the clinic to make arrangements to return the traps. The traps MUST be returned after each clinic, even if you did not catch all your cats for that clinic. You will be scheduled for the next available clinic and can borrow the traps again. Traps must be cleaned and sanitized before returning.

A few days before the clinic, put the cat's food inside the trap with the "safety lock" on the door so they become comfortable going in and out of the trap. One day before the clinic, refrain from feeding the cat altogether. This will cause them to be hungry and hopefully encourage them to go in the trap when set. The trap should be set the night before the clinic (if temps are 50 degrees or above) or very early morning the day of the clinic. Only small amounts of food and water should be available the day of surgery.

**\*DO NOT OPEN TRAP FOR ANY REASON. A CAT WHO ESCAPES A TRAP IS SELDOM CAUGHT AGAIN.**

After the cat is trapped, put it in a quiet area and completely cover the trap so they feel more secure and stay calm. WHEN SETTING TRAPS YOU MUST CHECK THEM EVERY HOUR AND AFTER CAT IS IN TRAP YOU MUST PROVIDE SHELTER AND PROTECT THEM AGAINST THE COLD AND HEAT. They will often be scared and bang around the trap; using a sheet or blanket and putting them in a quiet area will help ease their anxiety and also protect from extreme temperatures.

When transporting the cats to your scheduled clinic put something waterproof between the trap and your car seat/floor. Try not to transport them in an open truck since this will scare them. If you are bringing a large amount of cats and must use a truck for transportation please cover the traps securely with a sheet or blanket.

When checking in you will be given an approximate pick up time for your cat(s). A volunteer will call you when your cat(s) is/are ready. ***Please keep your phone charged and with you the day of the clinic.***

Instructions will be given at time of pick up telling you how long to leave cat(s) in the trap before releasing them to same location they were trapped.

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE PENN TOWNSHIP FERAL CAT PROGRAM; WE TRULY APPRECIATE YOUR TAKING THE TIME TO HELP THESE FERAL AND STRAY CATS. REMEMBER THESE CATS ARE JUST TRYING TO SURVIVE AND THEY ARE NOT THERE BY CHOICE. THESE CATS ARE SOMETIMES CALLED "NOBODY'S CATS". JUST REMEMBER THESE CREATURES DO NOT HAVE OPTIONS AS WE DO AND OFTEN THEY DID BELONG TO SOMEONE WHO MAY HAVE JUST ABANDONED THEM!**