



Tree House Humane Society

Hello Neighbors,

As you may be aware, there are many cats and kittens living outside in your neighborhood, and the population has been growing. Left alone, a female cat can have 3-4 litters per year. It is estimated that more than 60% of kittens born outside die before they are 6 months old. Their chances of survival are not good without proper nutrition, medical care, and shelter.

Volunteers in the neighborhood are working with Tree House Humane Society to get the cat population under control, eliminate the nuisance issues, and help the cats **but we need your help!**

Many outdoor cats are "feral," meaning that they are wild cats, unsocialized to humans. Unfortunately, it is almost impossible to tame feral cats. Additionally, it is very stressful and unsafe to place these cats indoors. Feral cats do provide a service to the community in that they keep out the rats and mice.

Tree House practices Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR). TNR is widely considered the most humane and effective way to control the stray cat population. Cook County Ordinance 07-O-72 legalized TNR through sponsoring organizations like Tree House. Chicago Animal Care & Control (CACC) now supports TNR as the preferred method of managing stray and feral cats.

Once we trap a cat or kitten, it goes to a spay/neuter clinic where it is sterilized, vaccinated, and microchipped to prevent the births of more kittens. We may place some cats and kittens who are very friendly, and based on the best option for the cat, either in foster homes or in a shelter for adoption.

IF YOU ARE FEEDING CATS, It's critical to our trapping success that we know what time you feed and are coordinating our efforts with yours. Getting cats on a meal-feeding schedule is the only way we can trap them to help them. Please talk with your neighbors and develop a feeding schedule.

If you have any questions about the TNR project or would like to help out, please contact:

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Visit: www.treehouseanimals.org/tnr