



TNR Pilot Study:

Let's Do It Right So It Has the Highest Probability of Succeeding

| Problem | Solution |
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| <p>Approach: Trapping on people's property and compelling them to keep companion cats indoors: Intrusive, Compulsory, Coercive: Leads to Resentment, Resistance, Rebellion</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THIS IS BEING DONE TO THE PEOPLE</p> | <p>Make it totally voluntary and care-giver or resident-initiated. Do not compel them to keep companion cats indoors that are not accustomed to being indoors. Do not trap on their property. Allow them to bring cats in voluntarily.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DO IT FOR THE PEOPLE.</p> |
| <p>Legal Ownership: Veterinarian/City liable if "owned" animal neutered without permission. "Keep Your Cat Indoors" won't work in many cases.</p> | <p>Each cat must be advertised in Windsor Star for three days (free). If no claimants, legal "ownership" signed over to the City by resident or care giver.</p> |
| <p>Trapping and Safety: Unclear if someone will be attending to the traps. Trapped cats in unattended cages could die.</p> | <p>Un-set traps should be placed three days in advance for habituation. The night before surgery, trap is set. When animal is trapped, must be taken to place of safety immediately. Animal must be food-free 8 hours prior to surgery.</p> |
| <p>No provision for aftercare: Cats should be confined and watched for post-surgical complications several days after surgery. Cats must be protected from cold after surgery; otherwise, they can die. Professional associations such as AVMA and advocacy groups such as PETA are highly critical of TNR programs that do not include provisions for after-care through well-managed feral colonies. Someone must oversee their well-being.</p> | <p>Establish partnerships with residential care-givers. They become foster care givers. They provide shelter, monitor them, feed them if necessary for the rest of their lives. Provide training and support to feral colony managers.</p> |

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| <p>Rabies and other vaccinations: the proposal rejects any and all vaccinations. Although, there has not been a case of rabies in Essex County in many years, if a subject cat does contract it, serious consequences can ensue - not the least of which is the city's liability. The importance of full vaccination of feral cats is controversial. FYI - Jazzpurr gives the full FVRCP series in its feral fix program. It should be noted that at a recent conference at Tufts Veterinary School in Boston, a researcher reported that a single injection of rabies vaccine provided complete protection to a feral colony that was challenged seven years later. The Feline Practitioners Association now recommends most vaccines be given only every three years; and many veterinary medical schools are now teaching that immunity to a specific antigen, once acquired, is life-long in dogs and cats as it is in all other vertebrates and that subsequent "booster vaccinations" are not only useless but can be dangerous.</p> | <p>It is a legal requirement that cats must receive rabies inoculation. All people handling these cats once they become the "possession" of the city must have had prophylactic rabies inoculations. Residents to be warned not to handle any cats prior to treatment.</p> |
| <p>Relocation: The plan assumes that cats can be returned to the territory from which they were trapped. Given the current approach, there will be a great deal of resistance. Even if the approach is altered, some cats will need to be relocated.</p> | <p>Windsor Regional Hospital Western Campus is in the centre of the area. Malden Park abuts the hospital. Research teaches us that residential populations such as exist at Malden Park Long-Term Care Facility and the Regional Children Centre benefit greatly from participation in Animal-Assisted Therapy Programs such as caring for populations of feral cats. Develop a cooperative program with the hospital. Hospital grounds and the park provide ample space. Enclosures may need to be built.</p> <p>Advocate tolerance of feral cats in neighbourhoods. Enhance and validate the empathy in everyone.</p> <p>Provide information on cat repellants.</p> <p>Mediate neighbour-neighbour disputes.</p> |
| <p>Unclear Study Protocol: What is being tested? What are the before measurements, post-measurements?</p> | <p>If the measurement is complaints that can probably be easily documented by the city clerk's office.</p> <p>If the measurement is reduction in feral cats, pre- and post-surveys must be conducted. This is difficult. If this is done by surveying residents, the same cat may be counted by multiple residents. There is no clear research documenting the size of the territory of an urban feral cat. The only accurate research tool is radio-tagging. Note: cats, once trapped, can very seldom be retrapped.</p> |