

YOU can help homeless cats for FREE at SPCA Westchester!

Friends of Ferals is coming to Yonkers Volunteers and Trappers Needed

The SPCA announced today that starting on September 11, 2023 they'll be offering free Trap-Neuter-Return (also known as T-N-R) to residents of Yonkers who are tending to homeless community cats. With the support of a generous grant, the SPCA's "Friends of Ferals" program was created in an effort to reduce the number of homeless and feral cats in the city, which has been a significant issue for many years. T-N-R is a proven humane method used to decrease feral cat populations in the community, prevent homeless kittens from being produced in the wild, and mitigate the unnecessary suffering of cats on the streets.

With an effective T-N-R program, members of the community will identify homeless cats, humanely trap them, and bring them to the SPCA's Cody's Clinic to be spayed or neutered, preventing unwanted future pregnancies. Cats will also be given a rabies vaccine to control the spread of disease. After recovering from surgery, feral cats are returned to the field by the trapper and released back to where they were initially found, and where they will continue to be cared for by people in their neighborhoods.

"We desperately need help with T-N-R throughout Westchester County," says Shannon Laukhuf, Executive Director. "Unfortunately, services for feral cats in areas such as Yonkers, the largest city in our county, are scarce. By offering this service for free, we will make it easier for the public to support T-N-R, help reduce the number of feral felines living on the streets, and ultimately, reduce the number of homeless cats being brought into area shelters."

Support from cat loving residents is critical for this program to succeed. **We need feral cat trappers with experience and volunteers who are willing to learn how to trap.** Further assistance from residents is also crucial in identifying neighborhoods in need and to help with the transportation of feral cats to and from the SPCA' Cody's Clinic.

To learn more about the SPCA's Friends of Feral Program and how you can help, please email Kasey@spcawestchester.org or call (914) 941-2896 ext. 131. **Please note, all cats utilizing this service is strictly by appointment only.**

**Found in 1883, SPCA Westchester is a No-Kill animal welfare organization located in Briarcliff Manor and is NOT affiliated with the ASPCA.*