

Feral Cat *F.A.S.T.* (*Feral Alliance Sterilization Team*)

Due to the overwhelming need for help in our community and beyond for feral cats, Second Chance is embarking on a new feral program to help those in need.

What is a feral cat?

A feral cat is untamed domestic cat. Feral cats are cats that are either born in the wild or were abandoned and reverted to a wild state. Stray cats are not considered feral unless you cannot touch or pick them up. Feral cats will usually run away from you when approached. Feral cats do not live in the house with human contact.

Feral cats can be a single cat but often live in groups called feral colonies. They are very adaptable and have learned to live in sometimes extreme outside conditions.

What is the difference between a stray and a feral?

Stray cats are cats that were abandoned and lost. They are usually friendly and will seek out human contact. These cats are able to be safely handled. If the cat you are seeking assistance for is a stray and not a feral, please use our SPOT spay/neuter program for assistance.

Feral cats cannot be touched and must be trapped in order to be brought to a clinic for spay/neuter.

What services are provided for feral cats?

Feral cats that come to one of our F.A.S.T. clinics will be spayed/neutered, ear tipped (for future identification as a spayed/neutered feral), rabies and distemper vaccinated, and flea treated. These cats can also be tested for feline leukemia and feline aids (at an additional charge).

How do I trap a feral cat to bring to the program?

Second Chance loans traps to capture feral cats for this program. There is no charge for the loan of the trap. However, a \$20 refundable deposit will be held until the trap is returned.

Can I bring my house cat to the feral FAST program?

No. This program is only to be used for feral cats. The protocols for the treatment of feral cats are different than for a domestic cat and therefore, domestic cats should be spayed/neutered through our regular SPOT program.

What is the cost for this program?

The fee per cat is \$30. It is important to note that the cost to the shelter for this service is much more. The \$30. is used to help offset costs and to help continue the program. The shelter provides these services through grant funding and donations.

What if I can't afford to pay for all the cats in my colony?

The fees are an important part in ensuring the continuation of the program. If you cannot afford to pay for all the cats in your colony, you can help by providing important supplies such as paper towels, exam gloves, or even donations such as new items that we can use for raffles at our important fundraisers. You should speak with one of our program representatives regarding this.

Remember - Spayed/neutered feral cats do not fight, spray, or breed. But, they will still control rodents!