

Pets for Life Standard Operating Procedures for TNR

If the caretaker will trap, provide the following equipment and information:

1. Decide on appointment day – traps should only be set the night before scheduled appointments.
2. On the street where the trapping will occur, hand out or post on doors the TNR notification. This will help if there are multiple people feeding the cat to have everyone stop feeding when the trapping will take place so the cat is more likely to go into the trap after the food.
3. Show caretaker how to set up trap – set up the trap in a location where the cat is seen often.
 - a. Provide newspaper if needed to line the bottom of the trap.
 - b. Provide food (mackerel works well) to make a treat trail and put behind the trip plate. Do NOT place cat food cans in the trap. Put food on a small paper plate or paper tray (used for hot dogs or French fries).
 - c. Provide towel, sheet or blanket to cover the trap.
 - d. Make sure the rear door is secured with a snap hook or carabiner.
 - e. Check the trap as frequently as possible. If the caretaker sees the cat in the trap before going to bed, move the trap up on a porch or as close to the front door/house as possible to limit the chance of someone messing with or releasing the cat.
4. Look for ear tipped cats. If a cat with an ear tip is caught, the cat should be released as it's already been altered and vaccinated.
5. Let the caretaker know what time the cat will be picked up the morning of the appointment.
6. Let the caretaker know when the cat will be brought back and if the night of the appointment the cat should be kept in the trap that night if possible and released the next morning.
7. If kept in the trap, the cat will need food and water. Both can be slid in through the rear door of the trap by raising it only an inch or so.
8. Call caretakers with the normal follow up schedule to ensure the cats are doing ok and for any questions to be asked.

If PFL staff/volunteers are trapping:

1. Notify the caretaker of when an appointment is scheduled (most likely on Thursdays).
2. Take trap(s) late in the afternoon the day before the appointment and set it up in a location where the cat(s) is seen often.
3. On the street where the trapping will occur, hand out or post on doors the TNR notification. This will help if there are multiple people feeding the cat to have everyone stop feeding when the trapping will take place so the cat is more likely to go into the trap after the food.
4. Let the caretaker know to check the trap as frequently as possible. If the caretaker sees the cat in the trap before going to bed, move the trap up on a porch or as close to the front door/house as possible to limit the chance of someone messing with or releasing the cat.
5. Follow steps 4 through 8 from above. Note: *If needed go back the next morning to release cats.*

Supply list:

Traps

Newspaper

Cat food (the smellier the better)

Can opener

Plastic spoons

Paper plates or trays

Towels/blankets/sheets

Carabiners