



## Feral Cat Myths

**Myth:** Feral cats are wild animals and untamable.

**Fact:** All cats are domestic animals. A feral cat is a wild offspring of an abandoned domestic or one that the owners have failed to spay or neuter. The resulting offspring are wild, or feral. The offspring of these cats breed uncontrolled and form colonies. The lack of human contact or negative contact causes feral cats to be elusive and not trusting of humans.

**Myth:** Cats have natural instincts to survive in the wild.

**Fact:** Contrary to popular belief domestic animals do not automatically return to their “natural” instincts and cannot fend for themselves! The lives of feral and abandoned cats are filled with injury, diseases, and starvation.



## About Save A Cat

### Background

An over population of feral cats is a problem for many areas within Lenoir County. Permanent removal creates a vacuum which is then filled through migration and reproduction by another cat. Studies have shown that euthanasia causes population turnover and does not decrease colony population.

### How the program works

The structure of our program is to decrease, stabilize, and manage the colony population by humanely trapping, spaying/neutering, vaccinating, ear-tipping to mark animals already treated, and returning the feral cats back into their original territories. When the animals are returned, the colony is then put on a maintenance program where continued feeding and medical care are provided by a volunteer colony manager with assistance from Save a Cat.

One breeding pair of cats can reproduce 420,000 cats in a seven-year period.

trapping, spay-

The colony is continuously monitored for new members. Cats and kittens are socialized by foster families and are made available for adoption. This solution successfully decreases the population, reduces birth rates and improves the overall health of the colony. Eventually the colony population declines. Performed on a large scale, the success of such programs is felt at animal shelters where fewer cats are admitted for euthanasia, saving tax payer’s dollars.

Implementation of trap neuter release programs can decrease the number of cats being killed and impounded by 50% in a five year period.

### FUNDING

Save A Cat, Inc. is a legally recognized nonprofit organization totally dependent upon public donations and contributions to offset public awareness training, feeding, housing, and medical costs. Please visit our website to make your tax deductible donations and learn more about Save A Cat.

[www.saveacatinc.org](http://www.saveacatinc.org)



We need your help to continue this vital work. Here are a few of Save A Cat's major needs:

**Volunteers:** To help with feeding, trapping for TNR, adopters and foster homes.

**Food donations:** It takes two large bags of dry food each day to feed all the cats. Call or email us about pick up!

**Adopters:** Many cats and kittens are tame and ready to be placed in their forever homes.

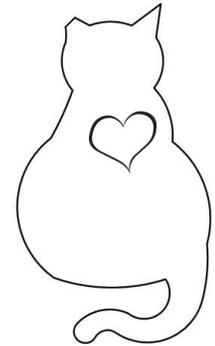
**Funds:** A vital part in the care of feral colonies includes spaying and neutering. Monies are needed to do this and keep up with vet care.

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Save a Cat believes that all cats have inherent value and worth. Such a belief requires that we work toward relieving the stresses that overpopulation and abandonment place on feral and homeless cats. To accomplish this, Save A Cat is committed to:

- ◆ Educating our community about the peril that these animals endure if allowed to procreate indiscriminately.
- ◆ Providing medical care for sick and injured cats.
- ◆ Humanely trapping, spaying (female)/neutering (male), and returning feral cats to their established colonies.
- ◆ Placing adoptable cats through colony management.
- ◆ Decreasing the feral cat population in Kinston/Lenoir County.

Save a cat is a no-kill non-profit organization run entirely by volunteers. We are dedicated to controlling the feral cat population in Kinston/Lenoir County through a trap-neuter program, public education, fostering, rehabilitation, and adoption.



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