



## Center Policies and Services

At the Fix Our Ferals Spay-Neuter Center, our goal is to improve the lives of feral, free-roaming and pet cats in San Francisco's East Bay. The following policies are in place to ensure the greatest safety for the cats while they are in our care.

### **Bringing your cat to FOF**

- In general, cats should be a minimum of two pounds or eight weeks old for surgery.
- Feral/non-handleable cats **must be in traps**. If you need to borrow a trap from FOF, please inquire about this when you make your appointment.
- Friendly/handleable cats can be brought in either a trap or a carrier (we prefer traps).
- Please don't bring cats in cardboard or soft-shell carriers. If you have no other options, please contact us at (510) 215-9300 before arriving.
- There is no requirement to be previously vaccinated to have surgery at our clinic, but if your pet cat has had previous vaccines, please bring records with you if you have them.
- Please bring each cat in its own separate carrier.

### **Services provided**

- Sterilization surgery
- FVRCP vaccine
- Rabies vaccine (12 weeks or older)
- Single dose of Revolution (fleas, lice, hookworm, roundworm, mange and ear mites)
- Microchip
- Tattoos: All cats that are spayed or neutered at the clinic receive a small tattoo on the abdomen.
- Ear-Tips: for free-roaming and outdoor cats:
  - Ear tips indicate that the cat has undergone spay or neuter surgery. This helps prevent a cat from being unnecessarily re-trapped in the future. Click [HERE](#) for picture.
  - While in our care for surgery, a feral or free-roaming cat can sometimes be treated for other small ailments or illnesses, such as minor wounds. We can also give injectable antibiotics or dewormer, clean ears, etc. This depends on the severity of the issue, as well as clinic capacity and available resources, and will be at the discretion of medical staff.

## **Euthanasia:**

- All cats are examined by our veterinarian while under anesthesia, who will assess every cat to determine whether the cat can humanely live an outdoor lifestyle. Although a rare occurrence, our veterinarian may determine that, due to poor health and/or body condition, a feral or free-roaming cat is not stable enough to return to his/her colony. Reasons may include severe lack of nutrition, severe dental disease, broken limb(s), if the cat is extremely ill or appears to be in pain, or other symptoms that the veterinarian feels make it inhumane to return the cat to their outdoor life without access to medical care.

We will make every attempt to contact the caretaker as soon as we can to obtain permission. But since the decision regarding euthanasia must be made in a timely manner (i.e., while the cat is under anesthesia), our clinic staff may humanely euthanize the cat if we cannot reach the caretaker. This decision is not one we make lightly, and do so only when we determine that, for medical reasons, euthanasia is the most humane decision for the cat.

## **Right to Refuse Services:**

- We reserve the right to refuse future services to any person who engages in any inappropriate treatment of staff, volunteers, cats, or property.