

MID-CITIES COMMUNITY CATS PO BOX 1644 FORT WORTH TX 76101 817-585-4216 INFO@M-CCC.COM
TRAPPING INSTRUCTIONS

Pre-trapping

- Determine the best time of day and location to attempt trapping, based on cat's habits and TCAP schedule (below). If you are the feeder, this would ideally be at the time and place you feed.
- If you are not the feeder, you may want to begin feeding just for the purposes of trapping and discontinue once all cats are trapped.
- If you are the feeder, withhold food the day before you intend to trap to ensure the cat is especially hungry.
- If possible, trap only on Sunday, and Tuesday-Thursday, but not on the Tuesday before the last Wednesday of the month, due to TCAP's feral fix schedule. If you are uncertain, ask your M-CCC rep. However, do not miss any one-in-a-lifetime opportunities just because it's not a trapping day!
- If you feed and cats are proving hard to trap, begin feeding in the unset trap. Trap can be propped open with bungee cord, water bottle, carabiner, etc. Ask your M-CCC rep if you need help or a demonstration.

TCAP (Spay/Neuter clinic) schedule -

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| Okay to trap – clinic is open the following day |
| Do not trap – clinic is closed the following day and cat will have to be held over |

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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

Trapping and Pre-surgery

- Trapping should not occur when the outside temperature is above 95° or expected to rise above 95° during trapping. Traps will not be set in sunny areas when the temperature is over 85°. Keep in mind the sun travels during the day. Trapping should not occur when the outside temperature is below 45° or expected to drop below 45° during trapping. If you feel these restrictions will prevent success, consult with your M-CCC representative.
- Prepare the trap by lining the bottom with newspaper, and baiting. Set and watch from afar. If traps are not fully in sight, visually check frequently. At a maximum, unattended traps should be left no longer than 60 minutes, 30 minutes in cold or warm weather. If you need to trap overnight, ensure cat will be safe if trapped and will not be checked on for up to eight hours – out of weather, away from predators. If this is not going to be possible, consult with your M-CCC representative.
- Once a cat is trapped, cover the trap with a towel or sheet - this will help keep the cat calm. Place carabiners, clips, or bungees on both doors to keep them securely closed. **DO NOT REMOVE THE CAT FROM THE TRAP UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.** If there is a problem, call your M-CCC representative.
- **AT THIS POINT, IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO OVERNIGHT, CALL YOUR M-CCC REPRESENTATIVE FOR PICKUP.**
- Overnight the cat in an isolated, secure area, with cover on. Do not feed or water. Cat may defecate and urinate in trap so be sure the surface the trap is set on is washable. You may want to put a towel or plastic liner between the trap and the surface to help contain mess. See Post-Surgery instructions for more care details.
- **AT THIS POINT, IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO TRANSPORT CAT TO TCAP, CALL YOUR M-CCC REPRESENTATIVE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PICKUP THAT NIGHT OR NEXT MORNING.**
- Before 8:00 the next morning, bring the cat to TCAP at 1856 Precinct Line Rd Suite 108, Hurst, TX 76054, (817) 837-4500 behind the Dickey's Barbecue north of Walmart. The earlier the better as TCAP will take a maximum of 12 ferals cats total each day. **IT IS STRONGLY SUGGESTED YOU ARRIVE AT 7:00 AM AT THE LATEST.** If you have trapped more than 4 cats, recruit someone to go with you or call your M-CCC representative, as TCAP has a per-person maximum of 4 feral cats per day. Expect to be at TCAP until approximately 8:30 pm. Dress for weather and bring extra blankets for covering cat if the weather is cold as the line forms outside.
- See sample TCAP registration sheet for instructions on how to complete it to comply with TCAP's process and M-CCC's recordkeeping needs. Payment will be expected at time of drop-off. Present your M-CCC voucher at that time if you have been given one.
- **AFTER DROP-OFF, IF YOUR M-CCC REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE PICKING THE CAT UP, CALL OR TEXT HIM OR HER WITH THE DAY'S PICKUP TIME, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU AT THE DESK WHEN YOU CHECK IN.**

Post-Surgery

- TCAP will inform you when the cat will be ready for pick-up at the time of check in, generally between 3 and 4 in the same afternoon.
- Transport the cats safely back to your secure, indoor or protected outdoor location where cats will be in a temperature-controlled environment, dry, and away from danger.
- Monitor the cats for any illness. Call TCAP if you have any problems (you will receive a post-surgery emergency number when you pick the cat up).
- For your and the cats' safety keep them in their covered traps at all times.
- If newspaper needs changing, use the comb to confine the cat to one side of the trap while you change the paper on the other side, then do the other side by luring the cat over or by waiting until the cat moves on its own. If you have not been given a comb because supplies are short, you can also use any number of implements to mimic a comb – several straightened wire coat hangers, yardsticks, dowels, etc.



Trap divider in use – any of several long, thin metal or wooden implements can be used to keep cat on one side of trap.

- Feed the cat according to the aftercare sheet from TCAP. This can be done easily by giving canned food on a small paper plate and slipping it under the door after placing the comb between the cat and the door. Water is not needed as long as canned food is fed, although mixing a little water in is beneficial.
- Return the cats to the area they were trapped, male cats 24 hours after surgery, female cats and male orchietomies 48 hours after surgery. Complicated spays (in heat, pregnant) must be confined at least a full 48 hours post-surgery but preferably for 72 hours. Remember to feed canned food once or twice per day depending on appetite and to change paper at least once per day.
- Clean the traps with a hose followed by spraying with bleach or shelter/veterinary disinfectant.
- Return trap AND GREEN COPY OF TCAP REGISTRATION SHEET to M-CCC representative. You may keep rabies tag. Please make a photocopy of sheet if you need one for your records.

Always remember you are dealing with a wild animal. Use a comb or improvised imlemet - NEVER open the cage doors without securing the cat first. NEVER let the cat out for any reason. If you are having problems, call your M-CCC rep for help.

You understand and agree that Texas Coalition for Animal Protection will not perform spay/neuter surgery on cats not in humane traps, and you or Mid-Cities Community Cats cannot properly care for cats pre- or post-operatively in any container other than a humane trap; therefore YOU UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT ALL CATS TO BE SPAYED/NEUTERED AT TCAP MUST BE EITHER TRAPPED BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF MID-CITIES COMMUNITY CATS OR BE PRESENTED TO MID-CITIES COMMUNITY CATS OR TCAP FOR SPAY/NEUTER IN A HUMANE TRAP.

YOU UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT IF YOU OVERNIGHT/TRANSPORT/RECUPERATE OR PRESENT ANY CAT TO MID-CITIES COMMUNITY CATS IN ANY CONTAINER OTHER THAN A HUMANE TRAP, THE CAT MAY ESCAPE AT ANY TIME AND YOU WILL BEAR RESPONSIBILITY AND WILL HOLD MID-CITIES COMMUNITY CATS HARMLESS. YOU UNDERSTAND THE POSSIBLE OUTCOMES OF A FERAL CAT ESCAPING INCLUDE THE DEATH OF THE CAT DUE TO IT BEING OUTSIDE ITS TERRITORY OR RELEASED TOO SOON AFTER SURGERY.

Your rep:

Name _____ Text/cell: _____ Landline _____