# What should I do if....?

# CATS ARE SLEEPING UNDER MY PORCH, SHED,ETC.

#### **REASON:**

They are looking for a dry, warm shelter. Easy Solutions:

- Block open areas with lattice or chicken wire (be sure to search for anyone hiding first.)
- Provide a shelter, like a small dog house, hidden away.

#### I SMELL CAT URINE

#### Reason:

Tomcats spray to mark their territory

**Easy Solution:** 

• Practice TNR! Neutered cats have less of the urge to mark and their urine is less pungent.

#### FEEDING CATS ATTRACTS WILDLIFE AND INSECTS. REASONS:

Food is left out too long or at inappropriate times.

**Easy Solutions:** 

- Keep the cat feeding area neat to avoid insects.
- Feed cats at a designated time during daylight hours.
- Only provide enough food to finish in one sitting. Remaining food should be taken in before twilight.

# CATS ARE YOWLING, FIGHTING AND HAVING KITTENS

#### Reason:

Yowling and fighting are breeding behaviors. Cats thats are not sterilized will breed frequently.

Easy Solution:

 Practice TNR! Spaying/neutering will reduce hormones causing these behaviors-male cats will stop competing and more kittens will not be born. TNR with Animal Care Trap~Neuter~Release We offer Free community cat Spay/Neuter surgeries to all Campbell County Residents.

Borrow a humane cat trap from the Animal Shelter with a refundable deposit.



Call for more information (859)635-2819 Campbell County Animal Shelter 1989 Poplar Ridge Road

Help keep Community Cats spay/neuter program free by making a donation at www.campbellcountyky.org

# Living With COMMUNITY CATS



Working toward making Campbell County a no-kill community (859) 635-2819 www.campbellcountyky.org



# What is a community cat?

A community cat is a cat that lives outdoors and does not have one particular home or owner. They may be friendly or in some cases not socialized with people. These cats typically depend on humans for their food, whether it is a neighborhood caretaker, dumpster or other source.

# What is Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR)?

Trap-Neuter-Return, commonly referred to as "TNR," is humane and is the most effective method for controlling the cat population.

TNR benefits the cats and the community. Using this technique, community cats living outside are trapped, neutered, vaccinated, ear tipped ( the universal symbol of a sterilized cat), and then returned to their outdoor home.

# Why not trap and remove?

If you begin to trap and remove, other cats will move into the territory and will fill the space left behind by the removed cats. This is called the "Vacuum Effect".

The new cats integrate into the area and produce more kittens. This leads to a renewed call for trapping and removal and the cycle just continues.

# **TNR Stops The Cycle!**



### Why should I TNR?

Whether you love or loathe community cat, Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is the answer to effectively reducing the number of cats in your community. TNR reduces most cat-related nuisances like spraying, fighting, yowling and is a benefit to public health and safety.

#### **Advantages of TNR**

- It immediately stabilizes the size of the colony by eliminating new litters.
- The nuisance behavior often associated with feral cats is dramatically reduced, including the yowling and fighting that come with mating activity and the odor of unneutered males spraying to mark their territory.
- Those returned to the colony guard the territory, preventing unsterilized cats from moving in and beginning the cycle of overpopulation and negative behavior.
- To reduce the number of kittens and cats flowing into local shelters. This results in lower euthanasia rates and the increased adoption of domestic cats already in the shelters.



#### Who qualifies as a community cat?

- Unwanted or abandoned cats living outdoors full-time in Campbell County.
- Kittens should weigh at least 2 pounds and be healthy enough to undergo spay/neuter surgery.
- House pets DO NOT qualify, as they rely solely on humans for their survival.

#### What should I do if I find kittens?

- The best place for kittens younger than eight weeks old is with their mother, if at all possible.
- Community kittens should be trapped, spayed/ neutered, and returned to home territory.
- Friendly kittens can be adopted into loving homes after they are fixed.



By helping community cats in need, you will be part of the solution to cat overpopulation. You will also lessen the burden on overcrowded shelters and rescue groups.