



P.O. Box 7025
Wantagh, NY 11793
631-425-1884

www.lasthopeanimalrescue.org

Fix –A-Feral Program 2012

February 2012

Dear Fellow Cat Lover:

Thank you for your recent inquiry for information on our feral cat program. Attached, you will find some information for your review. Please read the information and fill in and mail the **mandatory** agreement. We will mail the vouchers to you **AFTER** we receive the completed agreement. **Do not trap any cats until you receive the vouchers from us.**

Feral cats have reached epidemic numbers on Long Island. In 2003, **LAST HOPE** initiated its “**FIX-A-FERAL**” program as an incentive to get you, the public, to trap, spay/neuter, release (TNR) the feral cats that you are feeding. These cats must be returned to the location where they are trapped. You must commit to feeding these cats for their lifetime – feeding out of dumpsters is not an acceptable food source. If you are able, we also recommend providing some shelter for the feral cats. We urge you to look at the Alley Cat Allies website, www.alleycat.org, for information about TNR and caring for feral cats. We have attached instructions explaining the TNR process.

LAST HOPE does not remove the cats from a location nor do we provide euthanasia services for these cats. If you want to remove the cats, if you are moving or if their safety is questionable, TNR is not the right program for you. You must trap these cats and arrange for euthanasia at a veterinarian’s office or bring them to the local municipal shelter in your community.

This program is intended for use by the general public in order to assist with the financial burden of spaying and neutering of feral cats. **OTHER RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD NOT BE UTILIZING THIS PROGRAM**, as it is taking much needed assistance away from the individual who is in dire need of help. We suggest you develop your own program for feral cats.

All funding for the Fix-A-Feral Program comes from Last Hope, Inc. We spend significant time writing grants to get funds from the few organizations that will fund programs for animals. Much of our own money earned from flea markets, garage sales, walk-a-thons, and donation pleas goes into this program. **BECAUSE OUR FUNDS ARE LIMITED, THIS PROGRAM MAY BE DISCONTINUED AT ANY TIME.** Our website www.lasthopeanimalrescue.org has a list of the town shelters – Hempstead, Oyster Bay and Babylon provide assistance with TNR. There is also a list of other low cost spay/neuter organizations. There are more low cost alternatives available at www.LICP.org.

Please read the attached information and return the completed agreement to us. It’s time for you to learn how you can assist with the growing number of feral cats in your neighborhood. Do not delay—get trapping!!

Once we have received your completed agreement, we will mail the vouchers to you. Please allow 14 days for processing. No more than five (5) vouchers will be issued per household. They must be used by the expiration date printed on the voucher. Expired vouchers will not be replaced. The vouchers are for your use and you may not give them to any other individual. If the voucher is lost, it will not be replaced - so keep it in a safe place! Faxed or photo copies will not be accepted by any of the vets.



**2012 FIX-A-FERAL PROGRAM
MANDATORY AGREEMENT**

Please fill out the following form and answer ALL the questions below, PRINT it, SIGN it and MAIL to PO Box 7025, Wantagh, NY 11793 Attn: Feral Cat Program. You can save data typed into this form. If you are not specific about the location of the feral cats, you will receive a follow-up phone call from a volunteer.

I, the undersigned, have read through all the literature provided and agree to the terms identified. **All cats brought to Jericho Animal Hospital and Dix Hills Animal Hospital will be tested for Feline Leukemia and AIDS prior to surgery. Cats testing positive for either will be euthanized while the feral is sedated. If you do not agree with this policy, please select one of the other participating hospitals.**

I would like to utilize the services of _____ (Animal Hospital).

I have _____ (number) of feral cats to neuter or spay.

DO NOT TRAP ANY CATS UNTIL YOU RECEIVE THE VOUCHERS FROM US

I agree that neither **LAST HOPE, INC.**, nor the veterinarian performing surgery, or any of their agents, or employees shall be, at any time or to any extent whatsoever, liable, responsible, or in any way accountable for any reactions to this procedure.

I agree to pick up the cat after surgery and will arrange for the appropriate post-operative care. I assume full responsibility for the care, feeding and protection of this feral cat for the duration of its life. I understand that the cat **MUST BE RELEASED TO ITS TRAPPING SITE.** If the feral cat becomes sick or injured, I will see that every attempt is made to provide appropriate veterinary care or humane euthanasia. I will not allow this cat to suffer needlessly.

Photo ID required at all animal hospitals.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name (print): _____ E-mail: _____

Street: _____ Town: _____ Zipcode: _____

Phone #: (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____

- Where are the cats that you are feeding located? *Please provide us with street name, number, town, municipality, township.*

- How many cats are in the feral colony? _____
- Have you received vouchers from Last Hope before? _____ If so, when? _____
- Have you worked with or received help from any other organization? _____
If so, who and when? _____
- How did you learn about our program? _____
- If someone will be helping you trap and transport to the vet, their name must appear on the voucher and the person will be asked to present photo ID. Trapper full name** _____

Traps can be obtained by contacting our volunteer, Sue, email suzziteach@yahoo.com (Suffolk County) or Marilyn Gorman, 516-242-3386 (Nassau County). A \$65 cash deposit is required and will be refunded after the trap is returned.

Please refer to the LI Cat Project www.licp.org for additional help with traps and trapping.

*Please mail **COMPLETED** Agreement back to: Last Hope, Inc., P.O. Box 7025, Wantagh, NY 11793
Attn: Feral Cat Program*



2012 FIX-A-FERAL PROGRAM

**ALL CATS MUST BE IN TRAPS AND WILL BE EAR-TIPPED
AT THE FOLLOWING ANIMAL HOSPITALS – PHOTO ID REQUIRED**

Veterinary Hospital	Fee to Client	Fee Includes Spay/Neuter AND	Days of Surgery	Doctor/Address/Phone Number
Aldrich Animal Hospital 631-669-3161	\$ 30.00	Rabies/Distemper Vaccines	Tues, Wed, Fri By Appt Only-Drop off night before-no extra charge	Dr. Tricia LaSalla 535 Sunrise Highway W. Babylon, NY 11704
Dix Hills Animal Hospital 631-271-8383	\$ 35.00	3 Yr. Rabies Vaccine, FELV/FIV test – Cats who test positive for FELV/FIV will be euthanized	Monday and Friday By Appt Only	Dr. Alison Rhein 1166 E. Jericho Tpke Huntington, NY 11743
East Islip Vet Group 631-277-8700	\$ 30.00	Rabies/Distemper Vaccines	Monday - Friday Drop off 9-11AM By appointment ONLY	Dr. Andersen 84 East Main Street East Islip, NY 11730
Jericho Animal Hospital 516-938-4106	\$ 35.00	Rabies Vaccine FELV/FIV test - Cats who test positive for FELV/FIV will be euthanized	Monday - Thursday By Appt Only	Dr. Kevin Cummins Dr. Daniel Flinn 360 W. Jericho Turnpike Syosset, NY 11791
LI Animal Surgery 631-627-6900	\$ 30.00 \$ 35.00 No extra charge for pregnancy	Rabies Vaccine Only Rabies, Distemper Vaccine, Flea Treatment, Deworm	Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri Drop off by 10AM	Dr. Mary Harrison 305 West Roe Blvd Patchogue, NY 11772
Manorville Pet Vet 631-722-8100	\$ 30.00 No extra charge for pregnancy	Rabies Vaccine	Mon, Wed, Fri By Appt Only	Dr. Pamela Moks 20 Ryerson Ave Manorville, NY 11949
Oakdale Animal Hospital 631-567-3050	\$ 30.00	Rabies Vaccine, Capstar, Pain Meds. Females kept the night of surgery – males if bad weather	Monday and Friday By Appt Only	Dr. Cathy Grey 1191 Montauk Highway Oakdale, NY 11769
Setauket Animal Hospital 631-751-8950	\$28.50 Male \$35.00 Female	Rabies Vaccine	Monday thru Friday By Appt Only Drop off 9:30AM	Dr. John Lu 88 Gnarled Hollow Rd Setauket, NY 11733

Cats ACCEPTED in Traps OR Cat Carriers

Farmingdale Dog & Cat Clinic 631-694-5454	\$35.00	Rabies/Distemper Vaccines	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday by Appt only	Dr. Gay Senk 908 Conklin Street Farmingdale, NY 11735
Island Rescue 631-968-8700	\$ 35.00	Rabies/Distemper Vaccines	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday CALL FOR DROP OFF TIMES	Dr. Jacqueline Perkins 1500 North Clinton Ave Bay Shore, NY 11706
Island Rescue 631-569-2601	\$ 35.00	Rabies/Distemper Vaccines	Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, CALL FOR DROP OFF TIMES Sat by Appt only	94 Medford Ave Patchogue, NY 11772

**** PLEASE NOTE ****

**THE ADDITIONAL FEE FOR PREGNANT CATS CAN VARY FROM \$18.00 - \$60.00 PER CAT
ALL VETERINARIANS CAN REFUSE SURGERY IF THE CAT IS IN POOR HEALTH**



2012 FIX- A -FERAL PROGRAM Trapping Information and Instructions

- A. There are only **two** humane solutions for the wild cat:
Euthanasia in a humane fashion (contact your veterinarian or local animal shelter).

OR

Spay/Neuter and Release. If someone is committed to feeding these cats on a daily basis (cat food, not table scraps!!) and the environment in which they are living is relatively safe, they can be easily trapped, neutered and returned to the environment that they know. They will be happier outdoors than cooped up in a house where they will most likely hide all day and prowl at night. If time, finances, and space permit, you may want to set up some outdoor shelter for these animals in the winter. Straw makes an excellent bed. Cats like small, dry spaces into which they can nestle. Check out Alley Cat Allies – www.alleycat.org for help with care of feral cats.

- B. MATERIALS, there are 5 items required for trapping wild cats:

1. A trap (“TOMAHAWK” or “HAVE-A-HEART”). Tomahawks may be purchased via Tomahawk Live Trap Company, P.O. Box 323, Tomahawk, Wisconsin 54487. Phone: (800) 272-8727 or www.livetrapp.com. They cost about \$60.00. You should order trap #606 (cat transfer trap with sliding door). Have-A-Heart traps are available at Agway and Home Depot.
2. Bait (tuna, sardines or mackerel, the smellier the better);
3. Towel or sheet (to cover the trap after a cat is captured);
4. Flashlight (for night-time trapping);
5. Patience and Fortitude. Never stop trapping until you are absolutely certain every cat has been trapped. There are always more cats residing in an area than you see.

- C. PROCEDURE

1. One week prior to trapping, notify your neighbors of your intentions to trap. Ask them to tag their household cats or keep them indoors.
2. Establish a feeding pattern – feed at the same time, and the same place every day. This will ensure that the cats will be where you want them, when you want them.
3. Contact the veterinarian or animal shelter and explain what you are planning to do. **It is important to make arrangements first.** DO NOT trap a cat and then start looking for someplace to bring it or someone to take it!
4. Do not feed the cats for a day, and then set the trap. If they are extra hungry, you have a greater chance of getting them to go into the trap. Set the trap with tuna, sardines or mackerel – something very smelly. **Having a trap with a sliding back door is especially helpful in releasing an animal that you did not want to trap. DO NOT EVER ATTEMPT TO PICK UP OR TOUCH A FERAL CAT.**
5. When you have trapped the animal, cover the trap with a towel or sheet to calm the animal. Even tame cats panic when trapped. However, they do quiet down when covered. **DO NOT LEAVE THE TRAP SET OVERNIGHT OR UNATTENDED.** Trapped cats can be left in the trap overnight as long as they are covered and in a safe secure place, i.e. garage, basement, etc., protected from dogs and other wildlife.
6. Cats can be transported to veterinarian or animal shelter in the trap. Put a piece of plastic (a garbage bag works well) under the trap as some cats may urinate out of fear and stress.
7. Our participating vets will notch the cat’s left ear (ear tipping) when the cat is under anesthesia. This alerts others that this cat has been spayed or neutered already.
8. Often males can be released within 12 hours after surgery, ask the veterinarians about this. **Females should be held at least 48 hours after surgery.** Have a cage available for this purpose; cats cannot be left in the trap for any length of time. **Please remember, these cats do not understand what you are trying to do, they just feel trapped and threatened and they may become hostile, so exercise caution at all times.** If using a cage, lining it with newspapers makes it easier to clean. You will need a litter box and dishes for water and food.
9. After the appropriate recovery time, transport the cat back to the release site. Open the door of the carrier, step back, and they will just run out. They probably won’t even stop to thank you.