

LAST HOPE, INC.
Animal Rescue & Rehabilitation
P.O. Box 61
Syosset, NY 11791

Fix –A-Feral Program 2010
631-425-1884
www.lasthopeanimalrescue.org

April 2010

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.

Feral cats have reached epidemic numbers on Long Island. **Last Hope** promotes a Trap, Spay/Neuter Release (TNR) program. In 2003, **LAST HOPE** initiated its “**FIX-A-FERAL**” program as an incentive to get you, the public, to TNR the feral cats that you are feeding. These cats must be spayed and neutered and 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.** If you would like to help by having a yard sale and contributing the proceeds to the program, please contact us.

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. Copies will not be accepted by the participating veterinarian. If the voucher is lost, it will not be replaced - so keep it in a safe place!

LAST HOPE ANIMAL RESCUE – 2010 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	\$ 35.00	Rabies/Distemper Vaccines	Tuesday, Wednesday By Appt Only - Drop off the night before -no extra charge	Dr. Tricia LaSalla 535 Sunrise Highway West Babylon, NY 11704
Dix Hills Animal Hospital 631-271-8383	\$ 30.00	Rabies Vac - 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 Thru Friday Drop off 9-11AM No Appt Necessary	Dr. Hirsch, Dr. Molnar 84 East Main Street East Islip, NY 11730-2528
Greenlawn Animal Hospital 631-757-8700	\$ 35.00	Rabies Vaccine	Mon Thru Friday By Appt Only	Dr. Jeff Garretson 51A Broadway Greenlawn, NY 11740
Helping Paw 888-738-3497	\$ 30.00	Rabies/Distemper Vaccines – No extra charge for pregnancy	Schedule as per website Drop off 8:45-9:30AM	Dr. Diane Levitan www.helping-paw.org
Huntington Anim Hosp 631-423-7020	\$ 30.00	Rabies Vaccine	Monday and Tuesday By Appt Only	Dr. Jeff Kramer 113 Walt Whitman Rd Huntington Sta, NY 11746
Jericho Animal Hospital 516-938-4106	\$ 35.00	Rabies Vaccine - CATS WHO TEST POSITIVE FOR FELV/FIV WILL BE EUTHANIZED	Monday Thru Thurs By Appt Only	Dr. Kevin Cummins Dr. Daniel Flinn 360 West Jericho Turnpike Syosset, NY 11791
Manorville Pet Vet 631-722-8100	\$ 30.00	Rabies Vaccine No extra charge for Pregnant cats	Monday,Wed, Friday By Appt Only	Dr. Pamela Moks 20 Ryerson Ave Manorville, NY 11949
Oakdale Animal Hospital 631-567-3050	\$ 25.00	Rabies Vaccine Females kept the night of surgery	Friday only By Appt Only	Dr. Cathy Grey 1191 Montauk Highway Oakdale, NY 11769
Setauket Animal Hospital 631-751-8950	\$28.50 Male \$35.00 Fem	Rabies Vaccine	Monday Thru Friday By Appt Only Drop off 9:30AM	Dr. John Lu 88 Gnarled Hollow Rd Setauket, NY 11733

Cats in Traps OR Cat Carriers ACCEPTED At ISLAND RESCUE

Island Rescue 631-968-8700	\$ 30.00	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	\$ 30.00	Rabies/Distemper Vaccines	Mon – Fri, Sat by appt only CALL FOR DROP OFF TIMES	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**

LAST HOPE ANIMAL RESCUE – 2010 FIX- A -FERAL PROGRAM

MANDATORY AGREEMENT

Please fill in the following information and answer ALL the questions below. 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. I understand that it is the policy of Jericho Animal Hospital and Dix Hills Animal Hospital to test all cats for Feline Leukemia and AIDS prior to spay/neuter. **Cats testing positive for either Feline Leukemia or Feline AIDS at Jericho Animal Hospital AND Dix Hills Animal Hospital 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.

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 VET'S OFFICE

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name (print): _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____

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

1. Where are the cats that you are feeding located? Are they all in one spot?
(It is very important that you provide as much detail as possible regarding the location of the feral cats you are feeding. Please provide us with street name, number, town, municipality, township. If possible, please draw us a map of where the cats are located).

2. How many cats are in the feral colony? _____

3. Have you received vouchers from Last Hope before? _____ If so, when? _____

4. Have you spayed or neutered any feral cats at your own expense? _____ Number _____

5. Have you worked with or received help from any other organization? _____

If so, who and when? _____

6. How did you learn about our program? _____

7. **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 name _____

Traps can be obtained by contacting our volunteer, Sue, 631-682-7543. A 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 Agreement/Questionnaire back to:

Last Hope, Inc., P.O. Box 61, Syosset, NY 11791 (Attn: Feral Cat 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 which 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 \$68.00. 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. When spaying/neutering **Make sure to tell the veterinarian to use dissolvable stitches as it will be almost impossible to retrap the cat for stitch removal.** 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 veterinarian 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.