

LAST HOPE, INC.
Animal Rescue & Rehabilitation
P.O. Box 7025
Wantagh, NY 11793

Fix –A-Feral Program 2020
631-425-1884
www.lasthopeanimalrescue.org

March 10, 2020

Thank you for your recent inquiry for information on our feral cat program. Attached is a list of our participating vets and the **mandatory** agreement that must be filled in and returned to us. We will mail the vouchers to you **AFTER** we receive the completed agreement. We cannot fax or email the vouchers. **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, return (TNR) the feral cats that you are feeding. These cats must be returned to the location where they are trapped. **It is important to TNR every cat in the colony.** 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. Please refer to the Alley Cat Allies website, www.alleycat.org, for more information about TNR and caring for feral cats

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.

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, raffle sales, other fundraising functions, 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 and other low cost organizations. **The internet is your best resource.**

Once we have received your completed agreement, we will mail the vouchers to you. Please allow 7 - 10 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 vets will check that the name on the voucher matches your photo ID. Faxed or photo copies will not be accepted by any of the vets.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PAPERWORK OR TRAPPING, PLEASE CONTACT US THRU OUR WEBSITE. A VOLUNTEER WILL GET BACK TO YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

**LAST HOPE ANIMAL RESCUE – 2020 FIX –A- FERAL PROGRAM
PHOTO ID REQUIRED AT ALL ANIMAL HOSPITALS**

ALL CATS MUST BE IN TRAPS AND WILL BE EAR-TIPPED

Veterinary Hospital	Fee to Client	Fee Includes Spay/Neuter AND	Days of Surgery	Doctor/Address
Integrative Veterinary Therapies 631-924-7700	\$ 15.00 No extra if pregnant	Rabies and FVRCP vaccines.	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday By appointment only	Dr. Dominic Gucciardo 135 Middle Country Rd Ridge, NY 11961
Jericho Animal Hospital 516-938-4106	\$ 15.00 No extra if pregnant All cats will be tested for FELV and FIV.	Rabies Vaccine, If the cat tests positive for FELV, he/she will be euthanized. If the cat tests positive for FIV(Feline Aids), the client will decide if the cat should be euthanized or neutered and returned.	Monday Thru Thurs By appointment only	360 W Jericho Turnpike Syosset, NY 11791
Basic Pet Care 631-694-0330	\$ 15 No extra if pregnant	Rabies Vaccine	Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday By appointment only	Dr Kevin Cummings 642 Route 109 Lindenhurst, NY 11757
LI Spay and Neuter 631-496-9966	\$ 15.00 No extra if pregnant	Rabies Vaccine	Monday, Tuesday, Thurs, Friday By appointment only	Dr. John Berger 3135 Route 112 Medford, NY 11773

Feral Cats ACCEPTED in Traps OR Cat Carriers and WILL BE Ear-Tipped

Farmingdale Dog and Cat Clinic 631-694-5454	\$ 15.00 No extra if pregnant	Rabies, FVRCP Vaccines	Monday, Tuesday By appointment Only	Dr. Gay Senk, Dr. Keuhn, 908 Conklin Street Farmingdale, NY 11735
Island Rescue 631-968-8700	\$ 15.00 No extra if pregnant	Rabies, FVRCP Vaccines	Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday Call for drop off times	Dr. Linda Treglia 1500 North Clinton Ave Bay Shore, NY 11706

Island Rescue requires that any stray cat who will not be ear-tipped will be examined before spay/neuter. This is an additional appointment that will cost you at least \$ 55.

ALL VETERINARIANS CAN REFUSE SURGERY IF THE CAT IS IN POOR HEALTH

LAST HOPE ANIMAL RESCUE – 2020 FIX –A- FERAL PROGRAM
MANDATORY AGREEMENT

Please fill in the following information (print clearly) and answer ALL the questions below.

I, the undersigned, have read through all the literature provided. **All cats brought to Jericho Animal Hospital will be tested for Feline Leukemia(FELV) and Feline AIDS(FIV) prior to surgery. If the cat tests positive for FELV, he/she will be humanely euthanized while sedated. If the cat tests positive for FIV, I have the OPTION of having the cat euthanized or neutered and returned to me.**

The vouchers can be used at ANY of the animal hospitals listed on the previous page.

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

DO NOT TRAP ANY CATS UNTIL YOU RECEIVE THE VOUCHERS FROM LAST HOPE

I agree that neither **LAST HOPE, INC.**, nor the veterinarian performing surgery, or any of their agents, or volunteers 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 arrange for the appropriate post-operative care. Males can be released the day after surgery. Females should be held at least 48 hours after surgery. 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 RETURNED 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 need needlessly.

Please print clearly in pen.

Name _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Cell Phone # _____ Home Phone # _____

If someone is helping you trap and transport to the vet, their name must appear on the voucher.

Photo Id is required at all animal hospitals. Trapper full name _____

Where are the cats that you are feeding located? **STREET ADDRESS AND TOWNSHIP** _____

How many adult cats are in the colony? _____ How many kittens? _____

How old are the kittens? _____ Can you handle them? _____

How long have you been feeding this colony? _____

Traps can be obtained by contacting Marlyn Gorman, 516-242-3386. We ask for a \$65 cash deposit which will be refunded when the trap is returned.

Please scan and email this completed agreement to salemm25@aol.com or mail to: Last Hope, Inc., PO Box 7025, Wantagh, NY 11793 Attn: Feral Cat Program.

If you have any questions, please contact us thru our website – www.lasthopeanimalrescue.org

Trapping Information and Instructions

A. There is only **ONE** humane solution for the feral cat:

TNR – TRAP, NEUTER AND RETURN. If you are 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 feral 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.livetrapping.com. They cost about \$65.00. You should order trap #606NC (cat transfer trap with sliding door). Have-A-Heart traps without a sliding door are available at Agway and Home Depot.
2. Bait (tuna in oil, 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. **It is important to make arrangements first. Have your vouchers in hand and make an appointment if required.** 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, shed, basement, etc., protected from dogs and other wildlife.
6. Cats can be transported to the 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 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. Put a small cat carrier in the cage...most cats will hide in it, making releasing the cat easier.
9. After the appropriate recovery time, transport the cat back to the site. Open the door of the carrier, step back, and they will just run out. They probably won’t even stop to thank you.