



PetPromise[®]
Life for Pets. Pets for Life.



Assistance Application and Caretaker Registration Packet



Total Feral

No positive human contact.
Hidden and mistrusting



Semi Feral

Some positive human contact.
Afraid of human touch.



Converted Feral

Past positive human contact.
Scared, abandoned pet.

Thank you for your interest in the PetPromise City Kitty Program. Through the PetPromise City Kitty Program, we provide, rabies vaccinations and spay/neuter surgery for feral cats who have caretakers who are willing to feed and care for these cats as outdoor feral cats for the rest of their lives. Additionally, PetPromise offers the use of its humane traps as well as guidance and support in the humane trapping of and post surgical care of altered feral cats and kittens. PetPromise volunteers also provide advice and assistance to novice caregivers in their guardianship of feral cats in their neighborhoods. This package of information will provide you with all of the information that you need in order to participate in this program.

♥ the solution
TRAP . NEUTER . RETURN (TNR)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. **OVERVIEW** of how the PetPromise City Kitty Program works.
2. **SERVICES** covered by the PetPromise City Kitty Program.
3. Why **EARTIPPING** is necessary.
4. Why we do not test for **FeLV or FIV**.
5. YOUR **RESPONSIBILITIES** if you are accepted into this program.
6. How to borrow **TRAPS** to help catch the cats in your feral cat colony
7. **HOW TO TRAP** your cats.
8. **HOLDING** procedures.
9. **HOW and WHERE and WHEN** to take your trapped cats for surgery.
10. How to **RECOVER** your cats after surgery
11. **RELEASING** the cats.
12. **COST** to participate.
13. What to do if **NEW CATS** join your feral cat colony
14. **CONTACT** Information

1. OVERVIEW

the problem

Removing and killing feral cats does not reduce feral cat populations. This only opens up the territory (as a feral cat population is territorial) for more cats to move in and start the breeding process all over again. Unspayed, feral female cats spend most of their lives pregnant and hungry, as will their female kittens that survive. Unneutered tomcats roam and fight to win mates (continuing the cycle of feral kittens) often suffering debilitating wounds in the process. Half of all feral kittens die within their first year.

♥ the solution
TRAP . NEUTER . RETURN (TNR)

TRAP - Humanely capture feral cats who can't be handled. Take them to the vets who treat their injuries and diseases.

NEUTER - Spay or neuter the cats and confine them safely until they recover.

RETURN-MANAGE - Return the cats to the original habitat/trapping site and provide for feeding and monitoring by volunteer caretakers.

Trap-Neuter-Return, the humane method of feral cat population control, is more effective than trap and kill, and it is more reflective of a caring human community. Feral cat populations are gradually reduced. Nuisance behaviors associated with breeding, such as the fighting, yowling and spraying are virtually eliminated. The spread of disease and malnutrition are greatly reduced. The cats live healthy, safe, and peaceful lives in their territories.

The PetPromise  Program

Through our City Kitty Program, we provide, rabies vaccinations and spay/neuter surgery for feral cats who have caretakers who are willing to feed and care for these cats as outdoor feral cats for the rest of their lives. Additionally, PetPromise offers the use of its humane traps as well as guidance and support in the humane trapping of and post surgical care of altered feral cats and kittens. PetPromise volunteers also provide advice and assistance to novice caregivers in their guardianship of feral cats in their neighborhoods.

Cost

While the City Kitty Program is designed to help all feral cat caregivers regardless of ability to assist with the cost of the medical care of the cats....we do ask that you make a donation to PetPromise to help us continue to offer this sort of assistance to other caregivers and cats in need.

2. SERVICES COVERED

Services Covered under the PetPromise  Program

- ❖ Spay or Neuter surgery
- ❖ Rabies Vaccination
- ❖ Ear Tipping
- ❖ Wound care, if necessary
- ❖ Other medical treatment if necessary for the well being of the cat.

Because the City Kitty Program is primarily for the purpose of altering feral cats in order to reduce the number of homeless cats born each year, we have limited funds and must allocate them for the purpose of providing spay and neuter services for these cats. Thus, we do not provide other veterinary care for these cats unless such care is necessary to prevent suffering or where the animal is injured and needs treatment to recover.

3. EARTIPPING

Cats that go through the PetPromise City Kitty Program are Ear-Tipped. Ear-Tipping is the universal symbol that a cat is from a managed colony and has been spayed or neutered. The ear-tip procedure removes the tip of the cat's left ear while the cat is under anesthesia so there is no pain. If a cat with a tipped ear is eventually adopted, the tipped ear is a symbol that this cat is a survivor!

4. FeLV and FIV TESTING

PetPromise, like many other Feral Cat organizations strongly opposes the killing of any feral cat simply because he or she tests positive for the FIV or FeLV virus. We believe that if the cat shows no active signs of ill health, they should be released back into their colony regardless of the test results. In fact, because we know we will release asymptomatic feral cats no matter what, we don't test in the first place. The reasons for these policies are many:

1. First and foremost, we don't kill positive, asymptomatic cats because we think it's unethical. Euthanasia is defined as the mercy killing of a suffering being. Too

often, when it comes to feral cats and other animals, killing is resorted to as a solution to whatever may be the problem- no place to house them, too expensive to treat, etc. In our view, such actions demonstrate a lack of respect for life and ultimately cause damage to us all. When killing is eliminated as an alternative, other solutions are found.

2. Secondly, initial test results are not always reliable, but with ferals, life or death decisions are often made based only on the first test. Reliability issues differ depending on whether FIV or FeLV is in question and what kind of test is being used.

For **FIV**, most veterinarians use the ELISA (Enzyme Linked Immunoabsorbent Assay) test, which detects whether FIV antibodies are present in the blood - not whether the virus itself is present. As a result, the test is completely unreliable for cats under six months of age who may have received FIV antibodies from their nursing mother, but may never have been exposed to the actual virus. For adult cats, because of the recent introduction of the FIV vaccine, there is now the possibility a positive test result means a cat has been vaccinated, not infected.

For **FeLV**, again the ELISA test is almost always the initial test used. In contrast to FIV, the FeLV ELISA does not detect antibodies, but whether the antigen of the virus is present in the blood. In other words, a positive test result indicates the presence of the actual FeLV virus in the blood. But, the test is extremely sensitive and is prone to false positives from improper handling. In addition, a cat in the early stages of FeLV infection can still fight it off. The disease does not take permanent hold until it enters the cat's white blood cells, which only another type of test, the IFA test (Immunofluorescence Assay, also known as the Hardy test) can determine. The IFA test must be performed at a lab and is more expensive. Consequently, if a cat appears otherwise healthy, a positive ELISA test should always be confirmed with an IFA test. Only if other severe pathological symptoms of FeLV are present should an initial positive ELISA ever be relied upon alone.

Given these facts, the practice of killing cats based on a one-time test inevitably leads to the death of animals who were never infected in the first place or who would have successfully fought the infection off given enough time.

3. In addition, FIV and FeLV positive cats have been known to live long lives and often may never get sick. The mortality rate is higher for FeLV positive cats who are infected as kittens. A study showed that most cats infected with FeLV as kittens die by the age of two to three years old. Still, while they are alive, they can live symptom free if properly fed and sheltered.

4. Moreover, killing cats who test positive for FeLV or FIV is ineffective colony management. Removing a positive cat from a colony does not eliminate the risk of infection to other cats, who have likely already been exposed to the virus.

5. Neutering helps for a couple of reasons. FIV is transmitted primarily by bite wounds and neutered cats tend not to fight. Neutering also means, of course, there are fewer kittens, who are the ones most likely to become infected with FIV or FeLV due to their immune systems not being fully developed and strong enough to resist.

6. Lastly, testing is a waste of resources. Studies have shown that the prevalence of FIV and FeLV positive tests in the feral population is low - the same as in the domestic cat population (about 4% for FeLV and 2% for FIV.) So to identify six positive test results means paying for the testing of 100 cats. Even at a low cost of \$20 per cat, that adds up to \$2,000! And even then, it doesn't mean the six positive cats actually have the disease, will ever get sick, or will ever transmit it. At a time when there is a crisis in feral cat overpopulation, the money should go towards neutering and proper colony management, not a dubious investment in testing.

NOTE: It isn't true that you are responsible for all the cats that die if you release a positive cat. This is the unfounded argument of those who still favor testing and euthanizing if a feral cat tests positive. First of all, we have yet to find any empirical evidence to support this theory. But even assuming the released cat does transmit the virus and another cat does get sick, just like a feral cat that is hit by a car after its release, it is not your fault or responsibility. TNR does not mean creating a world without risk for feral cats - it's about improving the situation, not about making it perfect. The disease was present before you came along. By getting the cats neutered and implementing a managed colony, you've vastly improved the quality of the cats' lives and no one should criticize your decision to let the animal return to his family and not kill him because of a test result.

5. YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

If you are accepted into the PetPromise City Kitty Program you will be responsible for:

- ❖ Supplying or borrowing humane traps in order to trap the cats.
- ❖ Ensuring that you trap the cats the night before their scheduled appointments.

- ❖ Transporting the cats to and from their scheduled appointments **on time**.
- ❖ Allowing the cats to recover in their traps for 24-48 hours after surgery in a sheltered and safe area.
- ❖ Providing food and shelter and any necessary medical care (if possible) for the cats for the remainder of their lives.

6. BORROWING TRAPS

All feral cats (this includes any cat that cannot be picked up and handled by the general population) must be transported and presented to the veterinarian's office in a trap. There are three reasons for this requirement:

1. It is safer for the veterinarians and their staff.
2. It is safer for the cat...as it is easier to give them anesthesia.
3. The cats can be returned to the traps so that they can be taken home for safe after surgery recovery.

PetPromise maintains a pool of humane traps for safely trapping and transporting feral cats to and from the veterinary clinic and for post-operative recovery. If you are approved for the PetPromise City Kitty Program, you will be given information about how to make arrangements to borrow traps from PetPromise. You should plan to pick up your traps at least one week prior to the cat's spay/neuter appointment. You will need to complete the Equipment Loan Agreement and bring it with you along with a check made out to PetPromise for the trap deposit amount when you pick up your traps.

*****NOTE:** it really helps if you start feeding the cats in the unset traps a week or two prior to the appointments...then they will just walk right in prior to the appointment and you can be SURE you will catch them the day prior to their surgeries. This is important, since it is ver hard to get feral cat surgery appointments with veterinarians willing to work with them and us....thus it is imperative that you have all of the cats trapped the day before their scheduled appointments...and that you are sure that you can catch them!

PetPromise loans traps free of charge. A refundable deposit of \$50 per trap (check or cash) is required upon loan of traps. Cash or checks will not be deposited or used by PetPromise, but will be returned to the borrower upon timely return of trap/s. Traps must be returned clean and in good working order.

Trap deposits will not be refunded if the borrower fails to return the trap

within the agreed upon time frame, or upon request of the PetPromise representative. If a trap is lost, stolen or damaged, the borrower agrees to pay for any repair up to and including the cost of replacing the trap if necessary.

Do not bring your cats to the veterinarian's office in carriers!

7. HOW TO TRAP FERAL CATS



Preparation for Trapping

If possible, get the cats used to being fed at the same place and time of day. **You should feed the cats in the trap with the trap unset and covered with a large towel for a week prior to the appointment date so that the cat will get used to going in and out of the trap without fear.** If you wait until a day or two before your appointment to place the trap in the feeding location...the cats will likely not approach the trap and you will find it difficult to trap them for their appointments. (You can fix the trap so that it will not trigger by using a small piece of wire or a bread twist tie to secure the door to the top of the trap so that it will not slam shut when the cats go into the trap to eat.)

Don't feed the cats the day/night before you are going to trap so the cats will be hungry. Be sure to notify others who may feed the cats not to leave food out either.

Plan to trap so that you don't have to keep the cat too long before surgery. Trapping the day/evening before is usually the best approach. Cats should not eat 12 hours prior to surgery.

Prepare the area where you will be holding the cats before and after the clinic. A garage or other sheltered, warm, protected area is best. Lay down newspapers to catch the inevitable stool, urine and food residue. You may want to use pieces of wood to elevate the traps off the newspapers. This allows the mess to fall through the wire away from the cats.

Prepare the vehicle you will use to transport the cats as well. Plastic may be an additional precaution. But remember that you will need to use newspapers or

some other absorbent material in addition to the plastic. (Urine will roll right off of the plastic and that isn't what you want.

Plan your day of trapping carefully. Remember that if you trap a cat and release it for some reason, it is unlikely that you will ever be able to catch it again....they learn very quickly.

If there are young kittens involved, remember that they should not be weaned from the mother before 4-6 weeks of age. If you are trapping a lactating female, you should wait until you have located the kittens and they are old enough to wean. If you wish to tame and foster the kittens to adopt out, they should be taken from the mother at 4-6 weeks. If you wait until the kittens are older than 4-6 weeks before trying to tame them you will find the job progressively harder with age.

Setting the Traps

Plan to set traps just before or at the cats' normal feeding time. This is often at night. Dusk is usually the best time to set traps. Plan to set one trap per cat that you are trying to catch. They should be staggered....with the openings facing different directions.

Don't trap in the rain or the heat of day without adequate protection for the trap. Cats are vulnerable in the traps and could drown during storms or suffer from heatstroke in the sun. Use common sense!

Fold a single piece of newspaper to line the bottom of the trap just covering the trip plate. Cats don't like walking on the wire surface and the paper helps to keep their feet from going through when you pick up the trap. Be sure that the paper does not extend beyond the trip plate. Too much newspaper can interfere with the trap mechanism or prevent the door from closing properly.

Plan placement of traps on a level surface in the area where the cats usually feed or have been seen. Cats are less likely to enter the trap if it wobbles. If trapping in a public area, try to place traps where they will not be noticed by passersby (who may not understand that you are not trying to harm the cat). Bushes are often places where cats hide and provide good camouflage for the trap.

Use smelly food to bait the trap. We find that canned Mackerel or Tuna is very effective and relatively inexpensive. It is best not to put any bowls inside the trap to hold food since the animal can easily hurt itself on it in a panic or while recovering from anesthetic.

Soak a small scrap of newspaper (2-3 inches by 3-4 inches) in the Mackerel/Tuna

juice and place it on the ground where you plan to place the rear of the trap.

Spoon 2-3 tablespoons of food onto the soaked newspaper scrap and place the trap on top of the food so the food is as far back in the trap as possible while still not accessible from outside the trap. (You want the cat to go all the way into the trap to avoid being injured when the trap door closes.) Press the trap down onto the food so that it squishes up through the wire. The idea is to make the food a little hard to get so that the cat has to go into the trap as far as possible and has to work at getting it long enough to trip the trap. (Some cats are very good at getting in and out of traps without getting caught. We don't want to make it too easy for them to get away with that trick. Also, having the food essentially outside of the trap prevents the cat from eating it in the trap before surgery and is less messy.)

After baiting the trap, open the trap door by pushing the top of the door in and pulling the bottom of the door upward. There is a small hook attached to the right side of the trap top. It hooks onto a tiny metal cylinder on the right side of the door. The hook holds the door in an open position which also raises the trip plate. When the cat steps on the plate it will cause the hook to release the door and close the trap.

After setting the trap, cover it with a large towel or piece of towel-sized material. Fold the material at the front end of the trap to expose the opening while still covering the top, sides and back of the trap. The cover will help to camouflage the trap and serve to calm the cat after it is caught.

Just before you are ready to leave the trap for the cat to enter, you may want to push the hook (ever so slightly) a little bit back off the cylinder to create a "hair trigger". (Don't get too carried away with this step or the trap will trip as soon as the cat takes a sniff!)

Waiting for Success

Never leave traps unattended in an unprotected area, but don't hang around within sight of the cat (or you will scare it off). The trapped animal is vulnerable. Passersby may release the cat or steal the trap! Wait quietly in an area where you can still see the traps without disturbing the cats. Check traps every 15 minutes or so. You can often hear the traps trip and see the cloth cover droop down slightly over the opening from a distance. As soon as the intended cat is trapped completely cover the trap and remove the trap from the area if other cats are not in sight. You may consider putting another trap in the same spot if it seems to be a "hot" one.

When you get the captured cat to a quiet area away from the other traps lift the cover and check for signs that you have the correct animal and not a pet or

previously neutered feral. If you note that you have captured a lactating female check the area for kittens and if you cannot find the kittens, we suggest that you release the female to care for the kittens. (If the kittens are under 4 weeks old, they will need to nurse every 2-4 hours...and could die if the mother is not released.) If you have trapped one of the cats scheduled for surgery, cover the cat back up as soon as possible. Uncovered, the animal may panic and hurt itself thrashing around in the trap.

Of course, there is always the chance that you will catch some other wild animal attracted to the food or an unintended cat. Simply release the animal quietly as stated in the releasing procedures here.

Helpful Hints

Bring a flashlight with you if trapping at night. It will come in handy for checking traps from a distance and might help you avoid a twisted ankle in the dark.

Females with kittens will be attracted by the sound of their kittens if the previously captured kittens are placed in a covered carrier just behind the trap. Similarly, kittens will be easier to trap if the previously captured mom is in the carrier. Never place the "bait" animal in the trap or anywhere where it may be harmed by the trapped animal. Even moms can hurt their babies if frightened enough. Be careful not to let the "bait" animal escape.

Some kittens can be caught without a trap but are still too wild to be handled easily. Use a thick towel to pick up the kitten to help protect you from scratching and biting. This also helps prevent the kitten from squirming away from you.

General Precautions

If you need to open the trap to slip water in or for any other reason, take EXTREME CARE as the cat may try to lunge and could bite. Wear heavy gloves and open the trap only enough to slip the dish in. Never try to grab a feral cat if he/she is escaping. Don't stick fingers in the trap or allow children or pets near the trap. These are wild animals and will scratch and bite. Any bite or scratch should be taken seriously- seek medical attention immediately. If possible, DO NOT RELEASE the cat. The cat must be quarantined. Contact the animal control agency in your area for quarantine instructions.

8. HOLDING PROCEDURES

After you have finished trapping, you will probably have to hold the cats overnight until you can take them to the vet.

Place cats in the prepared protected area. Don't feed them. You can place a

small bowl of water in the trap by opening the trap door just a couple of inches and placing the bowl by the trap door. Try to use a bowl that won't be tipped over easily. An empty catfood or tuna can works fairly well. Don't open the door too wide or the cat may escape. (Be sure to remove the bowl before transporting the cat to the vet.)

Keep cats covered and check periodically. They will probably be very quiet as long as they are covered. Don't stick fingers in the trap or allow children or pets near the traps.

9. HOW WHERE & WHEN TO TAKE THE CATS

Once you have been accepted into the program, you will be given an appointment date for your cats as well as the name, address and telephone number of the veterinary clinic where your cats will receive their surgery and care.

The cats will need to be taken to the designated veterinary clinic generally between 7:00 and 8:30 am on the morning of their surgery appointment (this will vary by clinic – the City Kitty Coordinator will confirm drop off times). They cannot have any food after 11pm on the day before their surgery.

Please note that feral and very shy cats will need to be brought to their appointments in traps (so that they can be tranquilized without harming the veterinarians or their staff).

Also, please check into the veterinarian's office before bringing the cats inside in order to avoid stressing the cats by exposing them to other animals and lights, etc. any longer than necessary. (HOWEVER, DO NOT LEAVE the cats in a HOT CAR UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES!)

You will need to pick the cats up on the day of their appointment sometime between 3:00 and 6:00 (the clinic should let you know when they are ready to go home.)

If you are unable to make your appointment, please make sure to call the designated veterinary clinic at least 2 days prior to your appointment time (or at least 24 hours prior to your appointment time in the event you will not have all of the cats but will still be keeping your appointment for the other cats).

PLEASE DO NOT BE LATE to drop off the cats or to pick up the cats. Our veterinary partners offer their time and effort towards helping us and these feral cats. They do not have to do this. The integrity of the City Kitty Program and

our ability to continue to help other cats in need resides with you. **If you are late or disrespectful to the veterinary staff.....you risk the entire program....and the lives of so many other cats who depend on us.** Please be respectful....the cats are depending on you!

10. RECOVERING CATS AFTER SURGERY

HOLD CATS AFTER SURGERY

Leave the cats in the traps or carriers in which they were placed after surgery. Do not try to move them to a larger cage. Keep the doors locked at all times unless performing one of the emergency or caregiving tasks that follow.

MONITOR AND KEEP WARM

Monitor the cats for bleeding, infection, illness, and appetite. Do not release the cats that night! Leave them in the trap. After surgery, both male and female cats must be kept indoors overnight in a warm, draft-free area such as a bathroom, spare bedroom, basement, or climate-controlled garage. Cats cannot regulate their body temperature while under anesthesia, so you must ensure that they don't get too cold or too hot. If at all possible, they should be kept in a room heated to about 70 degrees. The cats should not be placed on a cold or damp floor, which will induce chilling. Place them on blankets or layers of towels, with a space heater nearby or a heating pad on low placed underneath or on top of the cages. Be careful that the heaters are not too close and can overheat or burn the cats. CAUTION: Space heaters are fire hazards and should be monitored when in use.

SAFETY FIRST

Keep the traps/carriers covered with a sheet or blanket. Do not stick your fingers through the bars of the traps or otherwise attempt to touch or handle the cats. Stray or feral cats even when anesthetized may react to strange people, noises, and activity, and you or the cat could be injured. Even if the cats appear unconscious, they may still get out of the trap if you open the door.

CHECK HOURLY

Look in on the cats every hour to check their progress. The cats will be groggy as they recover from anesthesia. The anesthesia may have hallucinogenic effects and cause the cats to overreact to normal stimulation or to become aggressive. The anesthesia will wear off after about 4 to 24 hours. There should be no signs of bleeding.

EMERGENCIES

If a cat is bleeding, vomiting, having difficulty breathing, or not waking up after

many hours, call the emergency number listed on this sheet. If a cat is vomiting, his/her head should be turned so that liquid can come out. This may be achieved by tipping the trap somewhat so that the cat's position shifts. **CAUTION: Only open the trap door or handle the cat in the event of extreme emergency and only if you are confident that you will not be injured in so doing. If you must open the door, do so in an enclosed room and wear thick gloves to decrease possible injury. Do not place the cat back in vomit.**

FEEDING

Immediately after surgery, only feed kittens that are four months old or younger. Do not feed adult cats until at least eight hours after surgery. A small amount of canned food can be placed on a plastic lid with a little water around it. Open the trap door just a crack and slide the lid into the trap quickly without putting your hand inside and always keep an eye on the cat. If the cat moves toward the opening, close the door immediately to avoid letting the cat out. If you are unable to get the canned food into the cat, you can drop some dry food in through the cage grates instead. The cats may not have an appetite or may be too scared to eat.

11. RELEASING THE CATS

The morning after surgery, check to see that the cats are alert, clear-eyed, and not displaying any signs of illness. If the males appear healthy, they may be returned to where they were trapped 24 hours after surgery (barring inclement weather or extreme outdoor temperatures). The females need more time to recover, and should be held for an additional 24 to 48 hours.

The cats do not need to return to the clinic for suture removal as dissolvable sutures were used.

If you must keep the cats longer than one night, continue to provide food along with water. Moist food is preferable because it is more easily digested. Feed small amounts of food at first.

When cats are ready for release, return to the area in which they were captured and release them there. Do not relocate the animal! S/he will be disoriented and could die or be driven away by other cats in the area. Provide fresh water and food. The cats may disappear for a few hours or days, but will return after they have calmed down.

Be sure that the cat will not run into danger (like a busy street) when you release him/her.

When ready, simply hold the trap with the door facing away from you and open the door. The cat will probably bolt immediately out of the trap. NEVER PUT YOUR HAND IN THE TRAP. If the animal still will not leave, prop the door open with a stick and leave it for a while. A trapped skunk or possum, which is nocturnal, may decide to sleep in the trap all day and not leave the trap until dusk.

If the cat does not seem to be recovering well from the surgery, contact PetPromise asap so that we can have our veterinarian look at him/her before releasing.

12. CLEANING & RETURN of TRAPS

After releasing the cat, hose off the traps and disinfect them with bleach (1 part bleach to 30 parts water). Allow this solution to sit for an hour, then spray liberally and scrub with clean water to remove the bleach solution. Residual bleach - wet or dry - is harmful to cats. Return all borrowed traps promptly so that they may be used for the next clinic. Your \$50 per trap deposit will be returned when the trap(s) are returned in good condition. Never store traps in the "set" position (door open) as animals may wander into even unbaited traps and may die.

13. COST TO PARTICIPATE

The cost for the services that we provide range, on average, from \$50-\$100 per cat depending on medical needs. We ask that you donate at least \$10 per cat in order to help us continue to provide this assistance to other cats in need.

If you are in serious financial need and cannot make a donation at this time we understand and merely ask that you send a donation to PetPromise to help support the City Kitty Program when you are able.

Please send your check, made out to PetPromise to:

PetPromise
PO Box 14802
Columbus, OH 43214

Without you...we cannot continue help these cats.

If a new cat joins your colony, you will need to get this cat spayed or neutered as soon as possible so that your colony does not start to grow. Please notify PetPromise so we can get you another appointment for this new kitty.

14. CONTACT INFORMATION

PetPromise City Kitty Program

C/O PetPromise

PO Box 14802

Columbus, OH 43214

614.738.2149

citykitty@petpromise.org

FINAL CARETAKER CHECKLIST

Here is a handy checklist to make sure you have completed all of the steps involved in the PetPromise City Kitty Program. Check off each step as you complete it.

	1. Read and complete this application, including the attached Forms.
	2. Return the signed City Kitty Assistance Agreement along with your donation check payable to PetPromise by mail or PDF to PetPromise for review and consideration. Mail to: PetPromise 4812 Kenny Rd Columbus OH 43220 PDF version to: CityKitty@petpromise.org
	3. Once we receive your forms: a. You will be contacted if you are approved to participate in the program and given an appointment date for the spay/neuter of the cats in your colony. b. You will be instructed on how to make arrangements to borrow traps (Trap pickup should be scheduled for at least one week before the appointment.)
	4. Plan your trapping process. Be mindful of when you begin. Do not trap on days the clinic is not open for surgery – cats should not be held in traps for extended periods of time – ideally cats are trapped day of surgery to limit stress. Work with the City Kitty Coordinator to find out clinic details (open dates, drop off times, etc).
	5. Once you have a trapping plan, start the trapping process & once you have trapped cats, you will take to the designated veterinary clinic – work with the City Kitty Coordinator to obtain details of clinic address & drop off times. Plan to drop off your cats on the morning of their surgery, & be prepared to pick them up that afternoon – make sure you have a plan for where & how you will recover them (they can't be immediately released back outside – they need to properly recover from anesthetic).
	6. Take your cats home on the afternoon of surgery for recovery. You will be told at the time of drop-off or you will receive a call on the day of surgery to let you know what time you need to return to the veterinary clinic to pick up the cats.
	7. After the cats have recovered, return your cleaned traps.

	Once the clean traps are returned, your deposit check will be returned to you.
	8. Continue booking surgery until you have completely sterilized all of the cats in your colony. (You will need to reschedule a trap loan to do this.)
	9. Contact PetPromise for if new cats join your colony so they do not start to reproduce.