

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING A NEW SECTION XX OF CHAPTER XX OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE, [Municipality, State]; AND FIXING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the [Council, Board, Etc.] of the [Municipality, state (“[City/County]”)] has determined that a process of trapping, sterilizing, vaccinating for rabies, eartipping, and returning cats to their original location is an effective and humane way to manage, and over time, reduce the population of cats within the [city/county]; and

WHEREAS, the [Council] has determined that this process, known as Trap-Neuter-Return, is the preferred approach for controlling the cat population, and that Trap-Neuter-Return shall be the prioritized disposition for any impounded community cats;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDINATED BY THE [Board/Council] [CITY/COUNTY] OF [Municipality, State], AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION A. That a new Section XX of Chapter XX, of the Municipal Code, [City/County] [Municipality, State], is hereby enacted:

SECTION XX: MANAGEMENT OF CAT POPULATION; PERMITTED ACTS.

A. **Definitions.** For purposes of this Section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. *“Community Cat”* shall mean a free-roaming cat that is abandoned, stray, lost, or feral and that may be cared for by a community cat caregiver, known or unknown.
2. *“Community Cat Caregiver”* shall mean a person who, in accordance with and pursuant to a policy of Trap-Neuter-Return, provides care, including, food, shelter or medical care to a community cat, while not being considered the owner, harborer, controller, or keeper of a community cat.
3. *“Eartipping”* shall mean the removal of the ¼ inch tip of a community cat’s left ear, performed while the cat is under anesthesia, in compliance with any applicable federal or state law, and under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, designed to identify the community cat as being sterilized and lawfully vaccinated for rabies.
4. *“Trap-Neuter-Return”* shall mean the process of humanely trapping, sterilizing, vaccinating for rabies, eartipping, and returning community cats to their original location.

B. **Permitted Acts.** The following actions shall be permitted in [Municipality] in pursuance of a process of Trap-Neuter-Return:

1. Trapping, for the sole purpose of sterilizing, vaccinating for rabies, and eartipping community cats, in community cats, in compliance with any applicable federal or state law, and under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, where applicable.
2. An eartipped cat received by local shelters will be returned to the location where trapped unless veterinary care is required. A trapped eartipped cat will be released on site unless veterinary care is required.
3. Community cat caregivers are empowered to reclaim impounded community cats without proof of ownership solely for the purpose of the implementation of the process of Trap-Neuter-Return as more particularly provided in this Section.

SECTION B. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby expressly repealed.

SECTION C. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage.