

Feral Cat Rescue

**Offering a Humane
Solution to Feline
Overpopulation**



LOCATED IN HAMILTON, MONTANA

Feral Cat Rescue

Dedicated to the humane treatment of feral and stray cats through trap-neuter-return, education, spay/neuter, foster care and adoption.



Facts

- **Free-roaming cats are responsible for most of the homeless cat population in shelters. (source: Feral Cat Project)**
- **According to the Humane Society of the United States, one breeding pair of cats and their offspring can produce more than 400,000 cats in 7 years.**
- **The number one cause of death of healthy pet cats in the United States is overpopulation. (source: Feral Cat Project)**
- **The number of feral cats in the United States has been estimated to be over 60 million. (source: Feral Cat Coalition)**



The Solution

Goal: to end the suffering and killing of unwanted and abandoned felines.

- **Feral Cat Rescue works to fulfill their mission through a three pronged approach:**
 - **Trap-Neuter-Return**
 - **Kitty Kupboard Food Bank**
 - **Foster Care and Adoption**



Trap Neuter Return (TNR)

**The Humane
way to stabilize
and reduce
feline
populations.**



What is it?

Trap-Neuter-Return is a management plan in which stray and feral cats living outdoors in cities, towns and rural areas are humanely trapped, evaluated and sterilized by veterinarians.

Kittens and tame cats are adopted into good homes.

Healthy adult cats too wild to be adopted are returned to their familiar habitat under the lifelong care of volunteers.

Feral adults who cannot be returned to the area they came from are held for adoption into barn, warehouse or shop homes.

*Sterilization surgery
in progress*



How it works



Humane live trap

Trap-Neuter-Return works by lowering the feline population through the prevention of continual reproduction .

Colony sizes are reduced over time by natural attrition.

It helps cats lead healthier lives by reducing negative behaviors of mating, spraying, fighting and over-breeding.

To date: Feral Cat Rescue has trapped, neutered and returned over 700 cats in Ravalli County.

Kitty Kupboard Food Bank



How does it work?

Collects and distributes cat food

- 1. To feed spayed and neutered cats living in feral colonies.**
- 2. To help feed cats whose owners cannot afford to do so.**
- 3. To feed cats in Rescue foster homes.**



All cats being fed by Kitty Kupboard are spayed or neutered.

Since its creation in 2009, Kitty Kupboard has distributed over 35,000 pounds of cat food in Ravalli County.

Foster Care and Adoption



What We Do



Kittens and socialized adult cats become candidates for adoption into appropriate homes, as pets.

Unsocialized adult cats who cannot be returned to their place of origin are placed up for adoption into barn homes or as warehouse or shop cats.

Until adoptions take place, volunteers open their homes and barns to provide love and foster care for these animals.

No healthy cat is ever euthanized.

Here are a few of our 260 former rescue residents enjoying their forever homes

*Sophie &
Jake*

Tough

Roxy



Rusty

Where does the money come from?

Feral Cat Rescue operates on an average annual budget of \$12,000.

This money comes from:

Cash donations

In kind support such as food and supply donations

Grants

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)

Petco

The staff is entirely volunteer. Resources go directly toward the rescue programs.



2012 Accomplishments

In 2012, Feral Cat Rescue's efforts continued to improve the lives of Bitterroot Valley felines.

Trap/neuter/return improved the lives of 88 free-roaming cats while preventing a minimum of 132 kittens from competing for available homes.



Feral Cat Rescue's foster network took in 46 cats and kittens and adopted 45 into new homes.

Kitty Kupboard Food Bank supplied 11,142 pounds of cat food to approximately 390 kitties from Florence to Darby.

2012 Finances

**Feral Cat Rescue received just over \$11,000
In financial support in 2012.**

Operational expenses were \$13,100.



- **Kitty Kupboard distributed \$7,800 worth of cat food.**
- **\$2,040 provided food, litter and supplies for our foster network which houses an average of 50 to 60 cats.**
- **Donations funded over \$3,000 in spay/neuter expenses**

Looking to the future

Goals for the coming year



1. Increase our trap-neuter-release program, engaging the Valley's full-service veterinarians.
2. Develop an Educational/Awareness/Media Relations program to establish a more humane, effective community standard when addressing our free-roaming cat population.

Faqs



Q. What is a feral cat?

A. A feral cat is a cat who has lived its whole life with little human contact and is not socialized or a stray cat that was lost or abandoned and has lived away from humans long enough to revert to a wild state. Feral cats avoid closeness to people.

Q. Are Feral cats unhealthy?

A. Studies have shown that feral cats are generally in good health and pose no threat to human wellbeing.

Q. Don't feral cats threaten small birds?

A. Feral cats are not a significant cause of bird and wildlife decline. Human development, drought, pollution and pesticides are major contributors to the decline in the small bird populations.

Q. What is the best way to control the growing number of feral cats?

A. Decades of experience have shown that campaigns to exterminate feral and free roaming cats don't work. Nonlethal population control such as trap-neuter-return is the only method proven to be effective in reducing the feral cat populations in any environment, both short and long term.

Q. How can I help?

A. Spay and neuter your own pet cats and encourage friends and relatives to do the same. When adding a cat to your family, adopt from a rescue or shelter. Volunteer as a foster "parent" to a homeless kitty. Support the efforts of organizations like Feral Cat Rescue.

A Few of Our Currently Adoptable Felines

