





TNR - Gaithersburg/Germantown

County: Montgomery

Number of Cats Spayed: 77 Number of Dogs Spayed: 0

Number of Cats Neutered: 89 Number of Dogs Neutered: 0

Amount Received: \$8,250.00 Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): \$0.00

Project Synopsis:

We concentrated our spay/neuter effort for this project in the Gaithersburg/Germantown area, in target zipcodes which had been the source of many intakes to the Montgomery County Animal Services and Adoption Center (MCASAC). The work took place in several neighborhoods with known concentrations of feral cats.





Project Description:

The goal was to provide 150 surgeries for feral cats located in select Montgomery County Zipcodes (20874, 20876, 20877, 20878, 20879, and 20886).

Summary of Approach:

TNR volunteers approached residents and known caretakers in neighborhoods with high concentrations of feral cats, in zipcodes selected for their contribution to intake at the Montgomery County Animal Services and Adoption Center (MCASAC). Our TNR volunteers worked the areas systematically, developing liaisons with the caretakers in order to return as many times as necessary. Assistance of residents with the TNR process was encouraged whenever practical. The intense effort put into working with residents in a non-adversarial way has been key to this project. The goal has been to put the feral colonies on a maintenance basis, such that vigilance together with continuing TNR availability will keep them under control at a lower level of effort. As an organization, we are committed to continuing to serve these neighborhoods past the term of any particular grant.

Accomplishments:

We did 166 spays/neuters, exceeding the project goal of 150. Substantial number of cats were TNRed in a particular neighborhood with a high concentration of trailer homes, as well as in other known colonies.





Lessons Learned:

(1) Any TNR-focused effort must cope with the problem of kitten intake. Although this topic is outside the scope of the grant, organizations need to realize they will have to deal somehow with kittens found in the colonies. (2) The major limiting factor for TNR overall in Maryland is clinic availability. Most of the TNRs under this grant took place in the first half of 2021 when Covid-related restrictions had eased and clinics were ramping up operations. So fortuitously, this issue wasn't a real problem for the performance on this grant. However, ongoing, our experience is that availability has tightened again. The existing spay/neuter clinics are doing great work but more of them are needed.

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