



**Humane Society of Somerset County's  
MDA – TNR Program**

**Grant ID  
FY24-9032  
Feral Cat**

**County(ies) Served:** Somerset County

**Date of Final Report:** 7/2/24

**Number of Cats Spayed Total:** 165

**Number of Cats Neutered Total:** 122

**Total Number of Surgeries Completed:** 287

**Grant Amount Awarded:** \$13,600.00

**Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA):** \$0.00

**Project Synopsis:**

The FY 2024 TNR project was highly successful. We were granted \$13,600 to spay and neuter feral cats. The allocated funds allowed us to sterilize 287 cats. We completed this work within the first 5 months of the grant period. We hope to secure another grant for FY2025 to sustain this important work.

**Project Description:**

Utilizing the MDA award grant funds provided and our human resources, we offered spay-neuter assistance to low-income residents and public areas for 272 feral cats. Specifically, by concentrating our efforts in 4 different zip codes: Deal Island 21821, University of MD Eastern Shore 21853, ECI Prison 21890, Public Housing Crisfield MD 21817, we were more effective. We propose to complete another 250 spay/neuter surgeries during the next six months remaining in this grant period using other grant funds. The entire purpose of our program is to reduce the possibility of a rabies outbreak, further reduce the homeless cat population, alleviate the prevailing animal suffering and unnecessary euthanasia it causes, and ultimately reduce the homeless cat population in Somerset and surrounding counties.

**Summary of Approach:**

We used three trappers to move from area to area, but only a few cats in that area were sterilized first. This seems to be the best approach. We don't move on until the site or job is completed. We also learned to trap and hold some animals in pens until it's time for our clinic. We are also purchasing more new cat pods, devices to place at the end of traps to give trapped cats a place to hide and relieve some of the stress on the animals. We schedule 50 cats per month to keep up with demand and reduce the cat population as quickly as possible.

**Accomplishments:**

Sterilizing another 287 cats and preventing more litters of new kittens in the targeted areas is a significant help with our program. While trapping and interacting with residents, we also learned of other colonies. Continuing forward with our program, we will do our utmost to humanely manage them all. We believe another 200 cats will need TNR on Deal Island alone at this time. A few more another spring, the situation is expected to worsen. Therefore, we are prioritizing this remote area of the county once again, along with several other zip codes. Thank you, MDA



**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SPAY AND NEUTER GRANTS PROGRAM**



### Lessons Learned:

Planning around major weather events is a big factor with our TNR work. We have learned to trap animals in advance of bad weather and hold them in pens until it's time for our clinic. We have also purchased some new cat pods, devices to place at the end of traps to give trapped cats a place to hide and relieve some of the stress on the animals. Importantly, we have started a new and successful "Trap Your Own Cats" opportunity for residents in our County. Getting them involved is critical to our success; it's a partnership that works. After receiving requests from our targeted area, we partner with the residents, training them and providing the traps to clean up their location. We purchased 20 more traps and covers just for this purpose. Everyone can't do it, but many can, and this helps us. Volunteer trappers are difficult to find. Therefore, we are now progressing at an even quicker pace.

### Project Photos:



### For More Information Contact:

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