



Cheap Fix Cat Clinic

Project #

25-10062

County: Prince George's County

Number of Cats Spayed: 122

Number of Dogs Spayed:

Number of Cats Neutered: 112

Number of Dogs Neutered:

Amount Received: \$20,400

Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): \$0

Project Synopsis:

This grant funded the spay/neuter of 234 community cats within the zip codes 20712, 20722, 20781, 20783 and 20785. Volunteers targeted colonies in order to sterilize all cats with each colony. Volunteers brought cats in traps to Spay Spot for sterilization, held the cats after surgery for 24 hours at our facility for recovery, and then transported and released the cats back to their colonies.



Maryland Department of Agriculture

Spay and Neuter Grants Program



Project Description:

The Cheap Fix Cat Clinic used volunteers to communicate with colony caretakers, trap community cats, schedule and transport sterilization surgeries for the cats, and return the cats to their colonies afterward. The goal of the Clinic is to decrease the community cat population of targeted neighborhoods overall and also prevent these community cats from being brought to the Prince George's County Shelter, where they would be at high risk for euthanization.

Summary of Approach:

Experienced trappers from Outlaw Kitties and ACR set traps in targeted colonies (based on requests for help from caretakers and trappers' own observations). They ensured 100% sterilization of all colony members. The trappers brought the cats to Spay Spot for sterilization, then returned the cats to their colonies after a 24 hour recovery period. Kittens who are young enough to be socialized, and many friendly cats who had been abandoned outdoors, were removed from the colony after sterilization and adopted out by the caretakers.

Accomplishments:

We were able to fully close several colonies, including two very large ones on the grounds of apartment complexes. We sterilized 234 community cats in total and removed kittens and friendly cats from the colonies, decreasing the local outdoor cat population immediately and setting the stage for further decrease over time as the sterilized feral cats die of natural causes.

Lessons Learned:

Some of the success of TNR depends on cooperation from colony caretakers, who are attached emotionally to the cats. Caretakers may refuse certain practices standard to TNR projects, such as eartipping in this case, which may affect how the clinic prices each spay/neuter. In the future, we will ask clinics for cost assurance forms for "feral cat" sterilizations and "pet cat" sterilizations as some distinguish between the two. In our assessment, however, all cats living in colonies are community cats and contribute to the outdoor cat population.

For More Information Contact:

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