

Feral Cat Discharge and Recovery Information



By bring cats here today for sterilization, you have helped lessen that burden of cat overpopulation and we thank you. Your cat(s) were given an injectable anesthetic for today's surgery. Full recovery may take up to 24 hours. Since our clinic is not staffed 24 hours a day we ask that the caretakers monitor the cat overnight to provide the best possible care to the cats.

Please Read the Following Carefully:

1. Please keep the cats in their trap until the next morning. This provides protection and security. Covering the traps may also help keep the cats calm.
2. Many cats will be groggy and need to sleep, do not disturb the cat by reaching into the trap as they may over react and bite!
3. Do not give the cat food or water in the trap until the cat is fully awake. They may vomit if fed and could inhale the water if still groggy from the surgery. Put food in the trap only if you can do so safely.
4. Keep the cats in their traps in a comfortable area until the next morning. They are susceptible to heat and cold while recovering.
5. NORMAL behaviors that occur during recovery include deep sleep, head bobbing, wobbly movements, fast breathing and shivering. These behaviors should resolve by the next morning. NO cat should be released while still showing these signs.
6. ABNORMAL behaviors during recovery include continued bleeding from the surgery site. A small amount of bleeding from the left ear tip is normal and should stop by the next morning.
7. **Do not** try to handle the cat (this includes putting pain meds in the mouth), no matter how asleep the animal appears. They may startle quickly resulting in injury to the cat or a bite.

If you have any concerns about the recovery of the cat during normal business hours please call 425-0005. After hours (after 6pm Mon - Sat and all day Sunday) please call 904-735-2770 to discuss the situation.

RELEASING THE CAT - If the cats are fully awake the next morning they may be released back into their colony. If the cat appears to not be fully awake or is bleeding, please call 904-425-0005 **before** removing the cat from the trap.