

**TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return) Program Options for Healthy, Feral Cats and Kittens
Santa Clara County – as of September 2014**

There are several options for getting healthy feral cats TNR'd. (Feral is defined as a cat that cannot be touched by humans.)

When considering which program to use, please keep in mind the following:

- The program parameters and guidelines can change at any time. Before taking any cats through a specific program or clinic, contact the clinic to confirm the services they offer.
- For the safety of the cats and staff, all cats must arrive in covered, humane traps. Some clinics have restrictions on the number of cats per trap. (If two go into the trap together, you may be required to transfer one of the cats to another trap yourself, or to provide a second trap for recovery, so check with the clinic.)
- The clinics/programs are for healthy cats only; cats that are unhealthy might not make it through surgery or could be at risk of euthanasia, depending on the clinic/program.
- Each clinic/program has different requirements as to what they will charge for "add-ons" (pregnant, inheat, cryptorchid, etc).
- Each clinic/program has different age requirements for altering kittens. Some will spay/neuter kittens at 2 pounds while others will spay/neuter only kittens who are 4 pounds or larger. Additionally, these requirements can change each season, so it is important to check with the clinic **before** you take in any kittens.
- Ear tips are required in each program.

Basically, there are four programs available for feral cats:

1. HSSV (Humane Society Silicon Valley)
 - 901 Ames Avenue, Milpitas, CA 95035
 - Spay/neuter clinic for ferals Monday-Friday and 1-2 Saturday's per month
 - By appointment only; call 408.262.2133, extension 108
 - Check-in is 6:30-7:30a and pick-up is 5:00-6:00p

Cost:	Normally, the cost is \$25 but currently HSSV has a grant so that ferals are free. There are no surcharges for pregnant, inheat or cryptorchid.
Services:	Included are spay/neuter, FVRCP, Rabies, flea treatment, deworm, microchip (registered to you) and ear tip.
Kittens:	They will alter kittens who are 2 pounds and larger.

2. The County Program is available to all residents of Santa Clara County, through the use of participating veterinarians. All clinics require appointments. The following website contains information on the County Program:

<http://www.sccgov.org/sites/acc/SpayNeuterProgram/Pages/default.aspx>

Cost:	The cost is \$10-\$25, depending on your residence. There are surcharges for additional services, e.g. pregnant, inheat, cryptorchid, flea treatment, microchip and insertion, deworming, etc.
Services:	Included are spay/neuter, FVRCP and Rabies.
Kittens:	Check with each clinic to determine age requirements for kittens. Some will spay/neuter kittens at 2 pounds, while others will not spay/neuter kittens under 4 pounds.

3. SJACS (San Jose Animal Care and Services) – **Spay/Neuter Clinic**

- 2750 Monterey Road, San Jose, CA 95111
- Walk-in spay/neuter clinic for ferals Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday; no appointment is required; the clinic does not operate during holiday periods
- Check-in is 7:30-8:30a and pick-up is 5:00-5:30p

Cost:	The cost is \$25. There are no surcharges for pregnant, inheat or cryptorchid. There is an additional charge for deworming.
Services:	Included are spay/neuter, FVRCP, Rabies, flea treatment, microchip (registered to you) and ear tip.
Kittens:	They will alter kittens who are 4 pounds and larger.

4. SJACS (San Jose Animal Care and Services) – **Feral Freedom Program**

- 2750 Monterey Road, San Jose, CA 95111
- Surrender cats from 7a-9p daily

The Feral Freedom Program is available to all residents of the SJACS contracted service areas which are Cupertino, Los Gatos, Milpitas, San Jose (excludes unincorporated areas) and Saratoga. With the Feral Freedom Program, you surrender the cat to the shelter and have no further association with the cat. **We recommend that you use one of the other listed programs under any of the following circumstances:**

- If you care about/are bonded with the cat(s), we recommend that you use one of the other programs. Feral Freedom has several steps involved in getting the cat altered and safely returned to its home; if there are any missteps along the way, the cat may not get back to its home and you will not know what happened.
- If kittens are under 3 pounds, we recommend that you use one of the other programs. Kittens under 3 pounds are at risk with this program. If they are not friendly or pulled by rescue, they likely will be euthanized.
- If the cat is visibly pregnant or is known to be lactating, we recommend that you use one of the other programs. Cats are held a mandatory minimum of 3 days with the Feral Freedom Program. Depending on the surrender day and the number of cats in queue for surgery, the stay could be 5-7 days or longer. With an extended absence of a lactating mother, kittens may not survive. The stress of shelter captivity may induce premature labor in a pregnant cat which could put both the cat and birthed kittens at risk.

Under Feral Freedom, there are four possible outcomes for the cat:

- 1) If unhealthy, the cat will be euthanized without contacting or conferring with you.
- 2) If healthy and adoptable, the cat may be put up for adoption. (Keep in mind that the closer the shelter is to capacity, the more friendly the cat has to be in order to make it to adoptions. During kitten seasons, the bar for making it to adoptions is very high.)
- 3) If adoptable but with a health or behavior issue, e.g. heart murmur, dental problems, shy, etc, or if it is an unadoptable kitten under 3 pounds, the cat will be placed on the Needs Rescue List, with the hope that a rescue will pull it. Again, it depends on the time of the year. If rescues are already full, the cat will not be pulled and likely will be euthanized.
- 4) If healthy and unadoptable, the cat will be put through the Feral Freedom Program. At no charge, the Feral Freedom Program provides for spay/neuter, FVRCP,

Rabies, flea treatment, microchip (registered to Town Cats) and ear tip. Volunteers return the cat to the address provided on the surrender form.

Cost:	There is no cost as cats are surrendered to SJACS.
Services:	Included are spay/neuter, FVRCP, Rabies, flea treatment, microchip (registered to Town Cats) and ear tip.
Kittens:	They will alter kittens 3 pounds and larger; any smaller kittens are at risk of euthanasia.

Updated 09.2014