

# Trapping Tips

708.738.1438 voice ☎ 630.214.3603 fax  
info@tripleRpets.org ☎ www.triplerpets.org  
Post Office Box 86 ☎ Western Springs, IL 60558



*Last Updated February 2019*

## Training Cats to Use a Cage Trap

This technique is ideal for backyard cats. The more time they have to spend with the trap, look it over, live with it, the better. Place the trap at the feeding station, the place where the cats normally feed or hang out. Securely tie the trap door open so that it cannot close. Ideally, you should leave the trap in one place, 24/7, chain it to something if you need to, and leave all food in the trap. Do not place food anywhere else but in the trap. You want all the cats to eat from the trap.

Start off with the food bowl placed in the front opening. If one or more of the cats eats from the bowl in that position, move it further into the trap at the next feeding. If they don't touch the food in 24 hours, you may need to start the bowl just outside the trap. You may also need tastier food.

If there is no food anywhere else but, in the trap, the cats' choice is to either go in the trap and eat or go hungry. In time, one or more of the cats will get up the nerve to try it out. That cat will demonstrate to the others that it's safe. The cats can take turns eating in the trap; they don't have to all eat at once.

Once they're comfortable with eating from the bowl, at the next feeding, place it closer to the back of the trap. You don't need to wait until all are eating before moving it. Once they're all eating from the back of the trap, you're ready to untie the door so that it can close and set your traps! Be sure to cover the traps with a large towel.

Tough love. They will be happier and safer once they are spayed than they ever have been in their lives.

## Selective Trapping: The Bottle Trick

You may need to pick out a particular cat to trap first, such as a female, or perhaps several of the cats already have been ear-tipped and you'll want to trap only the cats that are intact still. You can control the trap and pick out the cat you want while still allowing the other cats to eat happily and without alarming them. In order to do this, you want to control the trap's door.



Find a soda bottle that's the right height to prop open the trap door. Get 30-50 feet of twine or cord that will not stretch and tie it around the neck of the bottle. Prop the trap door open with the bottle taking up as little of the opening as you can.

Put a bowl of food at the back of the trap, and, taking string in hand, back off as far as you need to so that the cats no longer take notice of you. You may be able to sit in your house or car, with a view of the trap. Ideally, you should be in a position where you're looking at the side of the trap, and somewhat to the rear of it. In this position, a cat eating from the trap will not be "tipped off" by seeing you move to yank the cord.

Take up any slack in the cord, now. Wait for your target cat to eat. Other cats may eat first, but you can catch them later. Your target cat may back out of the trap, but she will come back. You want her rear end to be 6 or 8 inches inside the trap and let her settle. Give her time to stop looking around and to put her face in the food, and then YANK the cord.

# Caretaker Agreement

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Under the Cook County Feral Cat Ordinance, feral cat colony caretakers can register with a Sponsor Agency such as Triple R pets to be afforded the rights provided under the ordinance. All documentation is CONFIDENTIAL and no specific information regarding caretaker names and addresses is distributed outside of Triple R Pets without the caretaker's approval. **Caretakers agree to the following. Please initial each item. I agree to:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Read** and be familiar with the Cook County Feral Cat Ordinance
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Register** the colony with Triple R Pets and provide descriptions of each cat in the colony
- \_\_\_\_\_ Help to humanely **trap** each cat in my colony
- \_\_\_\_\_ Help to **transport** each cat to the holding facility or clinic in an approved humane cat trap
- \_\_\_\_\_ Help cover the **cost** of the medical services typically \$45 per cat
- \_\_\_\_\_ See that Triple R Pets receives a copy of the medical services your cat has received
- \_\_\_\_\_ Never leave a trap out unattended or overnight
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ensure the trapped cat is fully and completely covered with a towel or cover at all times
- \_\_\_\_\_ Never transport the trapped cats in the back of an open-bed truck or in the closed trunk of a car
- \_\_\_\_\_ Understand that the cat's left ear will be "ear-tipped" for future identification purposes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Understand that if a cat is pregnant the procedure is to spay and abort
- \_\_\_\_\_ Observe the colony cats and keep records of any illness, unusual behavior, or new cats / kittens, and complete a periodic census when required
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provide spay / neuter surgery for any cat / kitten **before** placement in the adoptive home
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have every cat in your colony spay / neutered, vaccinated, ear-tipped and micro-chipped
- \_\_\_\_\_ Continue to provide food, water and, if feasible, shelter for colony cats
- \_\_\_\_\_ Notify Triple R Pets if you become unable or unwilling to continue as Caretaker of the registered colony

***I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT AND SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL. I HAVE RECEIVED A COPY THE COOK COUNTY FERAL CAT ORDINANCE. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Colony Address, City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Caretaker Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Caretaker Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Caretaker Home Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Caretaker Cell Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Caretaker E-Mail (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Caretaker Address, City, State, Zip Code (if different from Colony Address)

**Triple R Pets Office Use:** Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Received By: \_\_\_\_\_



# Program Eligibility

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## How to Get Your Feral Cats a Full Service Feral Spay/Neuter Package for Only \$45

### To be eligible for the Triple R Pets' \$45 discounted package you need to:

- Complete the online TNR Assistance Request at [triplerpets.org/tnr-programs/request-for-tnr-assistance](http://triplerpets.org/tnr-programs/request-for-tnr-assistance)
- Attend a TNR Workshop or already be a registered Colony Caretaker
- Complete the Caretaker Agreement

### What services are in the Triple R Pets' feral cat package:

- Spay/neuter surgery
- Ear-tip
- Rabies vaccination
- Distemper vaccination (not available at NAWS)
- Parasite control for worms, fleas, ticks and earmites
- Microchip registered to Triple R Pets and automatic entry to Triple R Pets' database

### Take your ferals to one of these low-cost clinics:

- Cat Nap from the Heart
- NAWS
- PAWS Chicago Lurie Clinic
- South Suburban Humane Clinic
- Southwest Animal Care Center

### Donate \$45 for each cat directly to Triple R Pets

- **Online** PayPal or credit card at <http://triplerpets.org/donate/> Click on Add Additional Information and state the number of feral cats that you brought in to spay/neuter

OR

- **Send check** payable to **Triple R Pets** to  
Triple R Pets  
P.O. Box 86  
Western Springs IL 60558

### Requirements for transport and check-in:

- Only one cat per trap
- Traps must be a minimum of 9" X 9" X 26"
- Trap must have a towel completely covering the cat
- Both the trap and the towel must be labeled with the cat's name and the caretaker's name
- At PAWS Chicago only. A green label must be attached to the trap. Labels are available only at workshops.

# Trap Rentals

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**Renting traps:** Traps are expensive equipment and policies for renting them may change frequently. Call ahead and make sure of the rental policy of the organization.

**Local police stations,** building departments, animal control departments may rent out traps to residents.

**Anti Cruelty Society,** Chicago, IL  
unknown deposit

Contact: 312-633-8338 ext 8090

**CatNap from the Heart,** La Grange Park IL  
\$50 deposit refundable upon return of the trap

Contact: 708-352-3914

**Estelle Marcus Clinic,** Munster, IN  
\$10 deposit refundable upon return of the trap

Contact: Kim at Tel: 219-922-3811

**PAWS,** Chicago, IL  
Deposit required

Contact: Cecilia at Tel: 773-475-9425

**NAWS,** Mokena, IL  
\$50 deposit refundable upon return of the trap

Contact: 708-478-5102

**Spay Illinois,** Lisle, IL  
unknown deposit

Contact: Bobbie at Tel; 630-961-8000

**Triple R Pets:**  
Contact: 708-738-1438

La Grange, Tinley Park, Chicago Heights at scheduled workshops

\$50 deposit refundable upon return of the trap Traps are available only to registered caretakers

## Recommended traps to buy:

Tomahawk Live Traps, 1-800-272-8727 [www.livetraps.com](http://www.livetraps.com)  
model 605NC for details see [https://www.livetraps.com/index.php?dispatch=products.view&product\\_id=32683](https://www.livetraps.com/index.php?dispatch=products.view&product_id=32683)  
Cost \$67 order online or by phone, this model may not be sold in stores

TruCatch Traps 1-800-247-6132 [trucatch.com](http://trucatch.com)  
Model 30LTD for details see [trucatchtraps.com/t-n-r-ltd-light-duty](http://trucatchtraps.com/t-n-r-ltd-light-duty)  
Cost \$75 order online or by phone, this model may not be sold in stores

Other traps such as Havahart or Ranger are not recommended because they usually do not have a safety backdoor and the trip tension may not be adjustable

# Low Cost Clinics

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Several low-cost clinics in our Chicagoland area work directly with Triple R Pets. At these clinics, each cat will receive the full feral cat package through Triple R Pets for the discounted \$45.

**To be eligible** for the Triple R Pets' \$45 discounted package you need to:

1. Complete the online TNR Assistance Request at [triplerpets.org/tnr-programs/request-for-tnr-assistance](http://triplerpets.org/tnr-programs/request-for-tnr-assistance)
2. Attend a TNR Workshop or already be a registered Colony Caretaker
3. Complete the Caretaker Agreement

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- At PAWS Chicago only. A green label must be attached to the trap. Labels are available at workshops.

## **CatNap from the Heart** 1101 Beach Ave, La Grange Park, IL 60526 708-352-3914

- Appointments are required; call and state that you are with Triple R Pets
- Clinic days: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
- Drop off / Pick up Times: Usually, 8 am and 4 pm the same day

## **NAWS** 9981 190th St, Mokena, IL 60448 (708) 478-5102

- Appointments required; call and state that you are with Triple R Pets
- Clinic days: Tuesday and Friday only
- On Monday, drop off 9 am pick up 5 pm; On Friday, drop off 9 am, pickup 4 pm

## **PAWS Chicago Lurie Clinic:** 3516 West 26th Street, Chicago, IL 60623 773-521-7729

- Appointments required and can be made one day or more days in advance for five or fewer cats; Call and state that you are with Triple R Pets
- Traps must have a green label taped to the top of the trap; labels are available only at a TNR workshop
- Clinic days: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (Triple R Pets discount does not apply on Sundays)
- Drop off time 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM the day of surgery. Pick up 4:30-6 PM the same day

## **South Suburban Humane Low-Cost Clinic** 137 W. Joe Orr Rd, Chicago Heights IL 60411 708-755-1110

- Appointments required. Call and state that you are with Triple R Pets
- Clinic days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
- Drop off / Pick up: Inquire when the appointment is made; the clinic may provide overnight holding

## **Southwest Animal Care Center** 11010 Southwest Highway, Palos Hills IL 60465 708-974-3772

- Southwest Animal Care Center is a private veterinary office owned by Dr. Leslie Dahl
- Appointments required. First call Triple R Pets 708 738 1438 for approval. Then call Southwest to schedule your appointment
- Clinic Days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday (by appointment only)
- Drop off/Pick up Times: To be arranged by you when the appointment is made

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**Other low-cost clinics** in Chicagoland, but these clinics do not work directly with Triple R Pets and will charge full cost and may not provide all services.

When you call to make an appointment at any of the clinics, ask what services are provided and what the total cost will be. Services and costs vary and can change.

Remember that Cook County requires proof of surgery, eartip, rabies vaccination and microchip registered either to you or to an approved Sponsor of the ordinance such as Triple R Pets, PAWS Chicago, or CatVando.

**ADOPT (Naperville Clinic)** 420 Industrial Drive, Naperville, IL 60563 (630) 355-2299  
Website: [www.adoptpetshelter.org/clinic/](http://www.adoptpetshelter.org/clinic/)

**Anti-Cruelty** 510 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60654 (312) 644-8338  
Website: [www.anticruelty.org/spayneuter-clinic-and-pet-health/](http://www.anticruelty.org/spayneuter-clinic-and-pet-health/)

**Estelle Marcus Clinic** 421 45th Street, Munster, IN 46321 (219) 922-3811  
Website: [www.humaneindiana.org/clinic/](http://www.humaneindiana.org/clinic/)

**Lowell Animal Hospital** 1765 Morse Street, Lowell, IN 46536 (219) 247-0555  
Website: [www.lowellanimalhospital.com](http://www.lowellanimalhospital.com)

**Spay Illinois** 2765 Maple Ave., Lisle, IL 60532 (630) 961-8000  
Website: [www.spayillinois.org](http://www.spayillinois.org)

**VCA Forest South Animal Hosp** 24341 Western Ave, University Park, IL, 60484 (708) 672-6166  
Website: [www.vcahospitals.com/forest-south](http://www.vcahospitals.com/forest-south)