

Project TNR
NJ's Humane Solution for Feral Cats



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Finding a Trapper!

Congratulations! Look no further!! YOU are ideally qualified to be the trapper for cats you feed and care about outside!

We know it's daunting at first. We know these cats are not your cats and not your responsibility. We know you are just trying to do the right thing by reaching out for help, and you feel like all you've gotten in return is being saddled with a responsibility you didn't ask for and have no interest in assuming! We're sorry for that.

We get it!

Problem is – your neighbors probably feel the same way, and so does your township and your municipal shelter if you have one – which means chances are if you don't give it a go – no-one else will either and obviously the situation will only get worse over time.

We are working on making sure municipalities include this community issue in their repertoire – many towns are beginning to see the logic and use progressive management strategies to manage community cats!

Perhaps you are lucky enough to live in one of those towns! Call your municipal clerk and ask who holds the animal control contract for your township and does it include stray or community cat management.

If it does – great – work with your township from there to get all of these cats TNR'd or placed into rescue or shelter if they are friendly!

If your town does NOT offer any resources for community cats yet – then our cat lady Sandra will find a way to help you gather all of the information and resources you need so that you CAN help these cats yourself! If you are willing and able, she hasn't met a problem yet that could not be overcome!

If you are not physically capable of some aspects of doing TNR – she will help look for volunteers and groups who may be able to assist with any parts you can't do!

The goal of Project TNR, a program of Animal Protection League of NJ, is to introduce Trap-Neuter-Return to communities as the humane, effective and cost-effective method of controlling feral cat populations. Trap-Neuter-Return is a comprehensive program that will result in lower animal control costs, fewer to no births, reduction of nuisance complaints by residents and the alleviation of public health concerns.

Be warned though – just because you *think* you can't do it doesn't mean you can't do it 😊

Pretty much anyone can do TNR – you just need the willingness to listen and learn and the commitment to follow through to the end! We will be beside you every step of the way metaphorically of course! There are not enough hours in a day for our Cat Lady to literally come and help you do this.

A couple of prime examples for you



Meet Sister D – she's 82 now and still TNR's any unfamiliar cat who crosses her path! At the age of 72-76 she worked with a TNR group in Trenton – trapping but also volunteering to do the weekly drive to the clinic at least twice a month every month for 4 years. This involved loading up 18 traps into her car, driving to the clinic, and then unloading and carrying into the clinic all 18 traps, on her own. She would also pick them up later that day and drive them back. No, she never did this in full habit attire – but that sure would have been an interesting sight if she had!

Meet Diane. She lives in an assisted living facility because she's confined to a wheelchair. She also has no car. Lots of people at the complex would feed the cats, but no-one took the extra step to do something so that kittens wouldn't continue to be born here. Diane looked for help, and we looked for help for her too – but we just were not having luck finding anyone, and she knew cats were pregnant already. She decided to order a small trap online. When it was delivered, she plonked it in her lap and wheeled herself outside and set that trap! (After she had planned what to do if she trapped a cat of course!) A kitten went in almost immediately! She hoisted that trap back up on her lap, and cared for the cat overnight in the trap.

Do you know, the next morning, she got herself and the kitten in the trap onto a BUS the next day, and delivered that kitten to the clinic for vetting? She spent a few hours in the area, waiting to collect the cat again, and then back on the bus and home she went. She would have continued to the best of her ability if a volunteer had not thankfully stepped up to help after that!

If you've read all of that and you are ready for support, guidance, and maybe even some hands on help if they can – check out our list of TNR volunteers here: <https://aplNJ.org/feral-cat-advocacy/tnr-lynx/>. Hopefully there is one near you!

If not, not to worry – Sandra will guide you through – give yourself a chance before you count yourself out! Email her at catlady@aplNJ.org or call her 732-446-6808 press 1 for the Cat Lady 9am – 1pm Mon to Fri.