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## **What Can I Do About Feral Cats?**

We are very lucky to live in an area where many people care about the plight of feral cats. There are humane options.

Read about feral cats. Please visit us at [www.shadowcats.net](http://www.shadowcats.net) and at [www.alleycat.org](http://www.alleycat.org). Alley Cat Allies is the national information clearing house for all things feral.

There is a local program available through the Austin Humane Society for free spays and neuters for feral and homeless cats in Austin and surrounding areas. Rabies vaccines are also included. For more information see the information on our website or contact the Austin Feral Cat Coordinator at [lstivers@austinhumanesociety.org](mailto:lstivers@austinhumanesociety.org) or (512) 968-7131.

Most usually we can not physically come out and trap your cats for you. However, we can teach you everything you need to know, loan you traps if we have them available and if not, help you locate traps for loan and provide information for low/no cost veterinary services. On occasion and depending on the availability of our trappers, their prior commitments, your particular situation and proximity to Round Rock, we may be able to provide this service to you. As we are a non profit organization, donations to our organization will be requested in order to continue this program. . If you are in Austin , we may be able to locate an Austin trapper to assist you.

Trapping classes are held on demand in Round Rock. We can help you with most any feral cat questions you might have, educate, inform and assist you with local resources. You are not alone. Pre-registration is required to [feralfriend@austin.rr.com](mailto:feralfriend@austin.rr.com) and directions can be given at that time. There is no fee for the class. Traps can be loaned after completion of the class as we have them available. A deposit of \$60 must be left but is returned after the trap is returned

Cats should rarely be relocated. They already have a home- right where they are. If you remove them, new cats will move in within months. It is much better to sterilize them so they are not breeding and their numbers over time will attrite to a much smaller stable population. We can assist you in doing this.

If you decide to relocate your feral cats, the first rule is, DON'T.

However, if you decide to re-home to a barn placement or the like, read all you can about the relocation process at [www.alleycat.org](http://www.alleycat.org). There is a specific process to this that should be followed fully to ensure the cat bonds to this area and stays. *There should always be a food and water source for them and a safe shelter (barn, outbuildings, etc)*

Killing or removing feral cats is not the answer. Trap, Neuter, Return is the humane alternative to decrease feral cat populations.