

A Walk on the Wild Side



If you are feeding an outside cat, please contact FCR immediately!

We can help trap and spay or neuter outdoor cats.

Email FCR at info@feralcatrescuemd.org

CATS HAVE 3 TO 4 LITTERS A YEAR!

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Season's Greetings to All!

Feral Cat Rescue has had another successful year thanks to your continued support. This is our biggest year ever regarding the number of cats we have been responsible for vetting. We took in 161 adoptable cats and adopted out 150. More importantly, we were able to pay for an additional 370 cats to be vetted. Most were feral cats but some were domesticated.

We want to thank all the folks at Calvert Well Pet Clinic. We take all our cats there because they are a nonprofit clinic. We want to thank All Kinds Veterinary Hospital who has always given us a break on the more serious cases. We are also grateful to Petco for providing us a place to show cats every weekend so we are able to find homes. Thank you to all our volunteers for their dedicated service. A huge thanks needs to go out to our foster families. We could never have taken in all those cats without them caring for the cats and bringing them to Petco each week. Thank you to Cindy and Sandy who bring us food and litter every Saturday. Thank you to all of you for giving us money so we can make this happen. We are very frugal. Most money goes toward vetting and we drive the extra distance to get the best bang for our buck.

When FCR started in 2007, the number of cats being euthanized at Tri County Shelter was 550 per month. That number has steadily decreased thanks to our efforts along with the efforts of other rescue groups and your continued support. In 2015, 204 were euthanized per month. We still have work to do.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! PLEASE DONATE. PLEASE VOLUNTEER. PLEASE FOSTER. PLEASE SPAY/NEUTER CATS YOU SEE IN YOUR YARD. EMAIL: info@feralcatrescuemd.org TO BORROW A TRAP. LET'S GET ALL THESE CATS SPAYED AND NEUTERED. CHECKS CAN BE MAILED TO PO BOX 623 GREAT MILLS, MD 20634

Thank you,
Diane Harris
President-Feral Cat Rescue



CLICK THIS BUTTON !

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RELOCATING FERAL CATS – CAN YOU HELP?

By Diane Harris

Sometimes feral cats can be found living next to a very busy road or the property owner doesn't want them there. That leaves rescuers with the difficult task of finding appropriate outdoor homes.

You cannot just trap the cats and dump them somewhere else. They would wander off and possibly starve to death. They must be housed in a shed with a window or a light or a big cage for 30 to 40 days to acclimate. Feral Cat Rescue has the cages. They have to learn that there is a food source where they are now living. Feeding them canned food as well as dry food entices them to stay and to think that life is pretty good. It is also helpful to have a buddy from their former colony.

The difficult lies in finding someone who owns property off the main roads and will put out fresh food and water for two cats that will most likely never give them affection in return. They will keep the rat, mice and therefore snake population down. We are looking for good Samaritans. Do you know any who might allow two or three ferals to live on their property? Can you post on facebook or share this message with everyone on your email list?

FERAL CAT RESCUE NEEDS YOU!

We need volunteers to:

- p Do adoption events at Petco
- p Help with fundraising
- p Trap Cats
- p Foster
- p Transport Cats to Vet
- p Do Humane Education with youth groups
- p Update websites
- p Campaign to find appropriate outdoor locations to relocate feral cats



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MAKE FCR GO VIRAL – HELP GET CATS ADOPTED THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA

By Rebecca Lira

You can help make Feral Cat Rescue's adoption events more successful by hardly lifting a finger!

Post upcoming adoption events on your Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts. Share a photo of your adopted or fostered cat, tell the world how much you love your furry friend, and give the details of FCR's adoption events.

Tell your social media network that FCR will be at Petco from 11am to 3pm every Saturday and Sunday. Post links to the adoption information at <http://www.feralcatrescuemd.org/forms.html> or link to the Feral Cat Rescue Facebook page. You can share FCR's posts, too – especially those cute pics of available kitties!

Not social media savy? That's okay! Spread information anyway you can. The more people know about us, the more cats will find homes.

Let's build our following and turn those followers into fosters, adopters, and new volunteers for Feral Cat Rescue!



A CALL FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY VOLUNTEERS!

Feral Cat Rescue is hoping to participate in Annmarie Garden In Lights Pet Night on January 1, 2017, but we need volunteers to work this event and the Petco adoptions on the same day. In previous years, Pet Night has brought in 150-500+ people. This is a great opportunity for FCR to connect with pet lovers in the area and hopefully find more homes for cats and more support for all that FCR does. Set up is from 5-6pm and the event ends at 9pm.

If you can work this or any event please contact Diane or Lisa Reed, FCR Vice President & Events & Volunteer Coordinator, at or 301-247-2157

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CALLI & RIPLEY'S STORY

Feral Cat Rescue received an email from a woman who had a cat with a severely infected eye. She also needed help in getting the 24 cats vetted that were in her house and outside. Two volunteers went to look at the cat with the infected eye named Yoshi to see what we could do. Due to overcrowding Yoshi's eye had been scratched by another cat. There were 19 cats and two sisters living in a space that was about 20 feet by 15 feet. The women have very kind hearts but were clearly in over their heads and needed help vetting and finding homes.

First we took Yoshi and 4 of the other most adoptable cats from the house and got them vetted and fostered. We gave the women a trap to catch the illusive mother cat outside that was nursing four little ones in a box on their porch. We also vetted the other 14 cats and returned them to their inside living situation where they live to this day. We are hoping when kitten season slows down to try to get some of those adopted but at this point in time we still have Cali & Ripley pictured here who need to find a home. Yoshi had to have the infected eye removed and she is happily the only cat living with a terrific couple. We also found homes for the four baby kittens. Won't you consider adopting Calli and Ripley together? You could foster to adopt to see if you don't fall in love before paying money if you aren't quite sure. They are super sweet and very well behaved. Let us know please!



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DO YOU KNOW WHAT TNR IS?

DO YOU KNOW IT IS INTERNATIONAL?

By Diane Harris

Where lions once lounged, today EAR TIPPED feral cats can be found roaming around the Roman Coliseum according to Cherie, Joy & Amber. They are volunteers with Feral Cat Rescue who recently vacationed in Rome. My daughter Holly reported to me that she saw many ear tipped cats in Jerusalem. Disneyland has 200 vetted, ear tipped feral cats and no rat, mice or snake problems. Ear tipped you ask? Ear tipping is when a small part of the ear is cut off during the spay/neuter surgery to identify that cat as a vetted cat. Often cats look alike and it helps to be able to identify a cat as already vetted.

Our main mission is to improve the lives of feral cats. One way that we do this is to do what is known as Trap, Neuter, Return, Maintain. It has clearly become international. People email us and tell us about cats they are feeding. We lend them traps and they bring them to us for inexpensive vetting. The cats are dewormed, ear tipped, vaccinated against rabies and spayed or neutered. They are then returned to their original location where someone continues to help the cats. These people are called colony caretakers. They provide warm shelters, and food and water as well as medical care if needed.

TNRM helps stop overpopulation and prevents females from the burden of 3 to 4 litters a year. It helps prevent the spread of feline aids and leukemia. It prevents males from roaming to find females in heat and it prevents males from fighting for mating rights. This prevents injuries. This is the humane solution for feral cats.



Photo from: <https://www.favrify.com/cats-of-rome/>

BUDDY'S JOURNEY

Buddy found not one but three Feral Cat Rescue people in three separate locations before finally finding his forever home. A cat was hanging out by my house. He wouldn't come near me so I fed him and trapped him. He was vetted and ear tipped and I put him back outside at my house.

He was outside at my house for months and became really friendly with me. He would practically trip me going down my steps because he wanted attention. I realized he was the same cat that another volunteer had found outside her house 25 miles away. She had brought him to my house in a carrier months before so that I could take him to be vetted but the carrier fell apart and he disappeared into the woods. This has happened several times and no other cat ever came back.

But Buddy did.

I decided to get him combo tested and bring him into my house so he could go to adoption events. A woman who has adopted several cats from FCR came in to Petco and said he had been hanging out at her house. She had fed him but he had disappeared months and months ago. I asked her where she lived. She lived within a mile of Amy. Buddy had found Gerri, then Amy and then me. He was such a friendly guy that he was adopted within a month and his new family just loves him.



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PLEASE DONATE



Feral Cat Rescue, Inc. is a participant in the 2016 and 2017 Chesapeake Bay Area Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). The St. Mary's County CFC recently merged with the CBA CFC. The open season (September 15 – December 15) provides federal employees an opportunity to pledge money in support of Feral Cat Rescue's efforts to rescue hundreds of cats and kittens. The CFC is one of many ways in which Feral Cat Rescue seeks to raise funds and we appreciate your consideration of this option for the upcoming 2016 campaign and subsequent years.

More about the Chesapeake Bay Area CFC campaign (CFC#0405) can be found at <http://www.cbacfc.org>. Feral Cat Rescue is listed in the current catalog (the CFC Nexus) under local organizations (#62544). We would appreciate if you could select us to make your donation.

Other ways to donate:

- Give Time: Feral Cat Rescue is always looking for Volunteers and Foster Families. Volunteers can help at adoption events, at local fund raising events, by trapping ferals for vetting, maintaining feral colonies, and transporting cats to vet appointments.
- Give Goods: Donations of quality, meat based food are always greatly appreciated. FCR maintains outdoor colonies throughout the county, and making sure these outdoor cats receive healthy food goes a long way in maintaining the cats' health and quality of life.
- Give Money: Monetary contributions go directly to help cats in St. Mary's County. Spaying, neutering, and vaccinating cats are our biggest costs, and our primary goal. Any money FCR receives goes toward this goal of vetting all feral cats and, therefore humanely reducing their population.

YES I WANT TO HELP!

Feral Cat Rescue depends entirely on your donations as it is an all-volunteer organization. Your contribution goes directly to help the cats. All contributions are tax-deductible.

You can also make a secure online donation using a credit card, debit card, or PayPal account. Save time and postage! Donate on our website www.feralcatrescuemd.org.

I enclose \$_____ (i.e. \$40 neuter or \$15 rabies; but we appreciate any amount).

I am interested in volunteering

I am interested in fostering

MAIL TO:

Feral Cat Rescue, Inc.

PO BOX 623

Great Mills, MD 20634

Name _____

Address _____

City, ST, Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

"We are Animal Rescuers, our work is never done, our homes are never quiet,
our wallets are always empty, but our hearts are always full."



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<http://www.feralcatrescuemd.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/FeralCatRescueofSoMD>

