

“Never doubt that a small group of concerned citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

— Margaret Mead,
American Anthropologist

What FCCO does.

Founded in 1995, FCCO provides spay/neuter clinics where caregivers can bring in the feral cats they feed.

The cats receive basic medical care including vaccinations, are spayed or neutered, and returned to the caregivers.



With our 24-foot mobile surgical hospital, FCCO holds spay/neuter clinics in communities throughout Oregon and SW Washington. In 2008 we reached our 35,000th cat—an accomplishment that underscores the importance of our program and the unfortunate enormity of the overpopulation problem.

Through our clinics, we prevent the births of future generations of kittens, and improve the quality of life for each individual cat. Equally important, reducing the number of cats living outdoors saves the lives of birds and other small wildlife on which cats sometimes prey.



Traps are available in most areas we serve and easy-to-follow trapping instructions can be found on our website.



Dedicated to the humane treatment of feral cats and to the prevention of future generations through spay/neuter programs and education.



PO Box 82734
Portland, OR 97282

503-797-2606

www.feralcats.com



**Feeding a feral or stray cat?
Know someone who is?**



What is a feral cat?

A feral cat is an untamed domestic housecat who was either born outside or who was abandoned and over time has become unsocialized to people.

Feral cats live wherever they can scavenge for food—near dumpsters,

behind businesses, in parks and backyards. It is difficult to know exactly how many feral cats live in our country, but the estimate is around 60 million.

It is a common myth that cats can “rely on their instincts” and survive on their own.

Generations of domestication have left cats without many of the natural adaptations necessary to live on their own.

They rely on humans for food and care, and without our help, they suffer unnecessarily.

It is humane and compassionate to feed feral cats—but feeding alone isn't enough—you must have the cats spayed or neutered.

Cat overpopulation.

Cat overpopulation is a serious problem. It results in abandonment and cats taken to shelters where many are euthanized due to overpopulation. In 2008, more than 20,000 cats were euthanized in Oregon—many of them because there simply are more cats than available homes.

Why are there so many cats?

- A cat can have kittens at as young as 5 months of age.
- The average length of pregnancy is just 60 days.
- Cats can become pregnant while still nursing kittens.
- Females can have at least 2 litters per year with males fathering far more kittens.
- People don't get their cats spayed or neutered before the cats reproduce—and yes, even one litter is too many.
- People abandon cats or let their intact housecats roam free.

Reducing feral cat populations.

Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) works.

TNR is a humane and effective approach to reducing feral cat populations. Caregivers who are feeding feral cats trap them in humane live traps, take the cats to be spayed/neutered and vaccinated, and after they have recovered, return the cats to where they are being fed. Adoptable cats or kittens are removed and placed into new homes whenever possible. TNR directly reduces the number of cats breeding, and it also allows for education about the importance of spaying and neutering.

Not feeding the cats does not work.

Unless there is another food source nearby, the cats won't leave the area. A cat can go without food for several weeks and continue

to breed. Trying to starve out cats results in hungry, unhealthy animals vulnerable to disease and parasitic infestations, such as fleas and ear mites.



Trap and remove does not work.

When cats are trapped and removed from an area, new cats move in to take advantage of the available resources, and quickly form a new colony. This phenomenon is known as “the vacuum effect.” Relocating feral cats is very challenging and is best considered as a last resort option.

Be part of the solution.

- Spay/neuter your companion animals. Encourage friends and family to do the same.
- Spread the word about FCCO and encourage anyone feeding feral cats to contact us.
- Don't allow your housecats to roam free—keep your cat indoors or safely confined to your property.
- Volunteer your time to help feral cats.
- Please make a donation to FCCO to support our compassionate and much-needed services.



Please don't look the other way and hope the cats go away. No person ever asked to be responsible for a feral cat. They need your help. We are here to help you.

Feral cats are the result of abandonment or failure to spay and neuter.



Yes, I would like to help feral cats.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Phone _____

email _____

I would like to contribute:

\$100 \$50 \$25

Other: \$ _____

Contact me about donating monthly

MEW

(Monthly Electronic Withdrawal)

I would like to volunteer with FCCO, please contact me.

Send to: **Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon
PO Box 82734
Portland, OR 97282**

Please remember FCCO in your will or estate plan.

FCCO is a 501c3 organization and your contributions are tax deductible.



“Many have forgotten this truth, but you must not forget it. You remain responsible, forever, for what you have tamed.”

—Antoine de Saint-Exupery

