

Operation SOS (Save Our Strays) Feline Task Force Meeting

Fort Myers, Florida, 10/13/09—On Saturday, November 14, 2009 from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm Lee County Domestic Animal Services will hold a task force meeting for residents interested in participating in a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Program for feral and community cats. The meeting will be held at the agency's shelter, 5600 Banner Drive, Fort Myers, next to the Lee County Sheriff's Dept.

The Lee County Board of County Commissioners on March 24, 2009 approved a TNR Program that provides sterilization and vaccination of feral (wild) outdoor community cats to reduce overpopulation and euthanasia in shelters. Lee County Domestic Animal Services is in desperate need of community taskforce members dedicated to animal welfare who can donate their time, whether a few hours or a few days per week, to ensure the program's success.

Responsibilities include assisting residents with setting traps, transporting trapped cats for sterilization appointments, returning sterilized and vaccinated cats back to their original trapping site, and providing education.

Representatives are needed for the following cities and areas: Bonita Springs, Fort Myers, Cape Coral, Lehigh Acres, North Fort Myers, and Estero.

Each year over 2,000 feral cats in good health are unnecessarily euthanized when the TNR Program could save these lives. TNR is a more humane solution than eradication in preventing pet overpopulation. Feral cats breed at a faster rate than they can be trapped for eradication so the most humane and cost effective solution is TNR.

For information about TNR or to make a reservation for the Task Force Meeting contact Lee County Domestic Animal Services at (239) 533-9200 or via email at dward@leegov.com. Help Lee County Domestic Animal Services save lives one pet at a time by becoming a member of the Lee County Operation SOS (Save our Strays) Feline Task Force.

