

Alliance for Contraception in Cats & Dogs
(ACC&D)
5th INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

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SINCE ALLEY CAT ALLIES WAS FOUNDED
In 1990

Trap-Neuter-Return is Mainstream

- > 600 groups nationally for feral cats and TNR.
- > 331 cities have TNR ordinances or endorse.
- National Feral Cat Day – Oct. 16th – events all 50 states.





OBSTACLES FOR FERAL CATS
“Bad News”

National and Local Obstacles








NATIONAL OBSTACLE
The **NEED** to Change Local Policies

More cats die in shelters than by any other documented cause.

- More than 70% of all cats who enter shelters are killed.
- Virtually 100% of feral cats brought to a shelter are killed, because they aren't adoptable.
- TNR colonies are not safe from “catch and kill.”





Good News

Overcoming MYTHS & Creating Humane Programs

- **FACT:** Neutering (TNR) on large-scale common place.
Examples: DC, Atlantic City, Chicago, Tangier Island, Baltimore
- **NEED:** Neutering cats where people are – animal control and shelters.
- **NEED & PRIORITY:** More cats faster – rapidly prevent litters (safely!)








Continuing with Benefits to Cats & People

- Feral cats are focus of many cities and NGO's
 - Huge & critical niche – stopping feral cat reproduction
- Build on momentum – we have solid understanding of outdoor cats (healthy as indoor cats.)
- **NEED:** Rabies vaccination for all CATS (TNR, AKA TNVR).




Don't let the PERFECT be the enemy of the GOOD

- **IDEAL:** contraceptive vaccine to last the life of cat – empirical evidence of feral cats living 15-20 years
- **GOOD:** Interrupt litters if even 1 or 2 years to support TNR.
- Must be safe & in cats' best interest! (*Human/Cat Bond*)
- How to mark feral cats? (tag? tattoo?; *Think Tank*)







LOCALIZED OBSTACLES

	Buy-in From Animal Control	Buy-in From Community	Traps / Trapping	Transportation (Shells)	Holding / Recovery Area	DVM	Surgical Suite	Rabies Vaccine	Money \$\$\$??	Who??	High Volume	Benefits to Cats (no anesthesia)	FDA Approval	EPA Approval	Behavioral Change
Surgical Neuter	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Contraceptive #1	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?
Contraceptive #2	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?




Non-Surgical CONTRACEPTIVES

Considerations

- Field work finds feral cats living to 15+
- Length of efficacy for feral cats?
- Contraception for entire colony – 100% of the cats?
- Cost to produce?
- Oral delivery
- Rescuers of "Porch" Cats
 - 34 % cats in homes



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IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING, ANY ROAD WILL TAKE YOU THERE

Join us in the Field!

Alley Cat Allies & Large-Scale TNR...

- Boardwalk Cats Project – Atlantic City
- Feline Frenzies – AC, NOLA, DC
- DC CAT; Baltimore; Ft. Worth and many more
- Tangier & Chincoteague Island



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