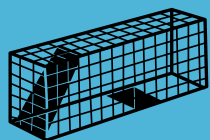


Feral/Community Cat Post-Surgery Instructions

Leave Cat in Trap



Allow the cat to remain in the trap until fully awake and ready for release. This should be in a temperature controlled area. Cover trap loosely with light blanket or towel to minimize stress but allow space for them to get air.

Cleaning Cat Waste

Place newspaper, a tarp, plastic, etc. on the floor under the trap to catch urine, feces, and food that may fall from the trap. The trap should be carefully elevated on bricks, pool noodles, or other suitable objects to allow waste to fall to the floor so the cat is not lying in it. Please use good judgement so that the trap cannot topple over when the cat moves.

Food & Water



You may offer the cat water and small amounts of food at a time when they are fully alert. Wet food is best as it offers water intake as well and can be dropped into trap without opening it.

Monitoring

If this is a friendly community cat, it is recommended to monitor the incision if possible. A small amount of redness and swelling is normal. Opening of the incision or excessive bleeding at incision site is an emergency.

Ear Tipping



Feral/community cats' left ears are tipped to show they have been spayed/neutered and vaccinated. A small amount of bleeding is normal but will not persist. The ear tip scab will fall off naturally.

No Human Medication!



Human medication can be dangerous and fatal! Do NOT give any medication that is not prescribed by a veterinarian specifically for this cat. This cat has received a long-lasting pain injection at the time of surgery.



Incisions on MALES are left open

They are left open to drain. It is normal to see some discharge and some "oozing" for male cats.

Releasing the Cat

Once the cat is alert, clear-eyed, and shows no sign of illness, they may be released. Males can often be released the morning after surgery; Females may need to be kept for an additional day. Keeping/confining a feral/community cat longer than 48 hours often creates increased stress, which will prevent proper healing, so use best judgement when it comes to weather or extreme temperature when releasing. Always release the cat back where it was trapped and leave fresh food & water at release site.

The following symptoms should be addressed IMMEDIATELY:

pale gums; depression/lethargy; persistent vomiting, appetite loss, or diarrhea lasting more than 24 hours post-surgery; heavy discharge or bleeding from incision or vulva; difficulty breathing; difficulty with urination or bowel movements; or significantly decreased water intake



Spay Memphis offers rechecks Tuesday - Friday from 9am - 2pm. However, a truly feral cat will have to be sedated (for a small fee) to be handled for a recheck so it is recommended to call (901-324-3202, press 1) or email (info@spaymemphis.org) to let us know the issue prior to coming in.

Spay Memphis cannot be held responsible for complications resulting from failure to follow post-op care instructions or for any animal requiring attention outside of our business hours. If there is an emergency when we are closed, the following facilities may be able to see your pet, **at your own expense**:

- Animal Emergency Center : 901-323-4563 (3667 Summer Avenue)
- Day & Night Animal Hospital/RescueVet: 901-500-7556 (4670 Summer Avenue)

