

## **CITY REQUIREMENTS REGARDING ANIMALS RUNNING AT LARGE**

### **CODE SECTION 518.01 - DEFINITIONS.**

(1) "Animal" means any live or dead dog (*Canis familiaris*), cat (*Felis catus*), monkey (Nonhuman primate mammal), guinea pig, hamster, rabbit or any other warm-blooded animal which is a domesticated pet, or used for exhibition purposes, or is intended for use in research, testing or experimentation.

(13) "Running at large" means off the premises of the owner, and not under his/her physical control by leash, cord, chain, tether or other physical control.

### **CODE SECTION 518.02 - ANIMALS RUNNING AT LARGE.**

No owner of any animal, livestock, poultry, wild or exotic animal shall permit such animal, livestock, poultry, wild or exotic animal to run at large.

### **CODE SECTION 518.04 - NUISANCE CONDITIONS PROHIBITED.**

No person shall keep or harbor any animal, livestock, poultry, wild or exotic animal in the municipality so as to create offensive odors or unsanitary conditions.



## **FERAL AND FREE ROAMING CATS IN PAINESVILLE, OHIO**

Unfortunately, the City of Painesville does not provide assistance with feral and/or free roaming cats. While there are laws that prohibit animals to run at large (including cats and dogs), it is difficult to prove ownership. This is particularly true of cats because they are not required to be registered and often do not have on collars identifying ownership. As a result, we have put together this brochure to inform residents of how to address this situation.

This brochure provides information on feral cats and area resources. If feral or free roaming cats are a problem in your neighborhood, the City of Painesville recommends the following:

- 1) Obtain an appropriate trap and/or hire a company to trap the cats.
- 2) Monitor the trap on a regular basis – more given inclement weather conditions.
- 3) Contact the resource list on the following page to determine if they have room and/or will accept feral or free roaming cats.



## **A Guide to Feral and Free Roaming Cats**



## DID YOU KNOW?

Feral Cats are the “wild offspring of domestic cats” and are primarily the result of pet owner’s abandonment or failure to spay or neuter their animal, allowing them to breed uncontrolled. Feral cats can be found behind homes, near businesses, and in alleys, parks and abandoned buildings. Feral cats are elusive and do not trust humans.

A pair of breeding cats, which can have two or more litters per year, can produce 420,000 offspring over a seven-year period. The overpopulation problem carries a hefty price tag. Statewide, it creates a huge problem because hundreds of millions of dollars are spent each year on animal control, shelters, and related expenses.

## BE PART OF THE SOLUTION, NOT THE PROBLEM?

### 1) **SPAY OR NEUTER YOUR PET/S!**

Sterilizing animals is an important step in maintaining their good health. Spaying just one female cat can prevent the births of more than 57 kittens over a two-year period.

### 2) **DO NOT LET PETS RUN AT LARGE!**

No animals should be left out to roam the neighborhood. Pets should be on a leash or tied out at all times. Failure to do so is a violation of City Ordinance and can cause problems for you and your neighbors.

Feral cats are a problem when they form colonies in areas where they are not wanted. They damage property, spread disease and kill desirable birds and

mammals. They can injure or even kill domestic pets. They create mess and smell and distress the people and animals around them.

### 3) **DO NOT FEED THE ANIMALS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!**

Feeding stray cats and dogs outside invites all kinds of animals which could be dangerous and/or diseased. In addition, it creates a safe place for feral cats to congregate. One stray or feral cat will result in many more before you know it.

## AREA RESOURCES

The following organizations may provide shelter, trapping services or information on low cost spay/neuter services in the Painesville region. Prior to taking a cat to one of the agencies listed, please contact them and determine if they have capacity to accept the animal. This will save you time and money.

a) **Lake County Humane Society**  
(Welfare and Animal Protection)  
7564 Tyler Boulevard  
Mentor, Ohio 44060  
Phone: (440) 951-6122  
Email: info@lakehumane.org

b) **Pet Fix of Northeast Ohio**  
(Spay/Neuter Mobile Clinic)  
885 East 222<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Euclid, Ohio  
Phone: (216) 732-7040  
E-mail: director@petfixnortheastohio.org  
Website: petfixnortheastohio.org

c) **ASPCA Cleveland**  
(Animal Protection)  
1729 Willey Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44113  
Phone: (216) 771-4616  
Email: contact@clevelandapl.org

d) **Caroline’s Kids Pet Rescue**  
(Cat Sanctuary)  
7394 Morley Road  
Concord, Ohio 44077  
Phone (440) 449-3496  
E-mail: carolineskidz@aol.com

e) **Holly Cat Whiskers**  
(Feral Cat Rescue)  
2461 Hubbard Road  
Madison, Ohio 44057  
Phone: (440) 796-8801

f) **Happy Trails Cat Sanctuary**  
(Help Abandoned Cats)  
11320 Pine Acres Lane  
Chesterland, Ohio 44026  
Phone: (440) 759-0076  
E-mail: dlazarus@hlcommunication.com

g) **Animal Rescue Center**  
(Animal Protection Organization)  
36370 Vine Street  
Willowick, Ohio 44095  
Phone: (440) 942-1753

h) **Catch a Critter**  
(Trapping Services)  
3131 Whitehorn Road  
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118  
Phone: (216) 925-0214

