

**“STOPPING THE CYCLE”**  
**TRAP/NEUTER/RETURN WORKS**  
**Saving Money. Saving Lives. A Plan for Every Cat.**

In November 2016, Lower Swatara Township became a participating community of the Steelton Community Cats Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) program. Lower Swatara Township adopted the TNR concept not only because it is a humane and compassionate answer to reduce the reproduction of free-roaming/community cats in the township, but also to save taxpayers' money. Residents who are concerned and need help regarding free-roaming cats in their neighborhood and cat colony feeders/caretakers who need assistance to manage their outdoor cat population now have the resources they need at no cost to them. The service assists in paying for the spay/neuter surgeries so the cats cannot reproduce, thereby controlling the population growth of a cat colony. Another valuable service provided through this program is that each cat is vaccinated for rabies and distemper to prevent disease, dewormed, and ear-tipped to identify the cat as being neutered and vaccinated.

In little over a year's time, more than 120 community cats were trapped by residents participating in this program. Controlling the population of a cat colony is significant in many ways. Female cats can have up to three litters of kittens each year. Within 6 months, the female kittens can start having kittens. By not spaying/neutering cats and kittens to stop the reproductive cycle, cat colonies will nearly triple in size within a year and will continue to multiply year after year.

To learn more about TNR and for assistance in spaying/neutering your cat colony, call Steelton Community Cats at 717-877-4146 so we can add you to our 2018 trapping schedule. SCC has more than 100 traps and they are provided to you for use at no cost. SCC's Trap/Neuter/Return two-day clinics begin in February and monthly clinics are held thru November. Male cats are kept at our facility for two nights following their surgery. Female cats are kept for three nights and sometimes longer if they were pregnant. Cats that are ill or injured are treated by a veterinarian and will not be returned to their colony until they are healthy and able to survive in their normal living environment. Our 2018 TNR Trapping and Surgery schedule can be found on our website at [www.steeltoncats.org](http://www.steeltoncats.org).

Established in 2010, Steelton Community Cats is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, all-volunteer organization. VOLUNTEERS are always needed. So, if you love animals and would like to join our team, please contact SCC at 717-877-4146. Also, donations are important to the success of this program and enables SCC to purchase food and litter, pay for antibiotics and veterinarian medical care for sick and injured cats, as well as to offset costs to purchase medical equipment and supplies to run our monthly TNR clinics. Donations should be made payable to Steelton Community Cats and can be mailed to SCC, P. O. Box 7618, Steelton, PA 17113.

Please note that Steelton Community Cats is a Trap/Neuter/Return program and not a rescue/shelter. If you need assistance from a rescue organization, following are the names of a few local ones: Castaway Critters (717-831-5010; e-mail at [info@castawaycritters.org](mailto:info@castawaycritters.org)) Loving Care Cat Rescue ([www.alovingcarecatrescue.org](http://www.alovingcarecatrescue.org)), PAWS (717-957-8122), and Furry Friends Network (717-255-8756).