

## **Humane Trapping**

Humane trapping a cat is not the recommended 1<sup>st</sup> step. Once a cat is trapped, it is extremely challenging to trap a second time. Trapping a cat can also be difficult as cats can be "trap reluctant" in general. Following are reasons an owner should use a humane trap:

- 1. There is no possibility of leaving an open access to the home, or a baby monitor/camera outside. Also, the cat has not been seen on camera or heard on the monitor.
- 2. The cat has been located in a different area too far from home.
- 3. Luring has not been effective. The cat continues to run from owner.
- 4. Another animal may be eating food that is left outside.
- Food has been eaten that was left outside or in the place the cat was sited. (If this is the case, please use <u>The "Walk" Method (See attachment)</u>. It would also be beneficial to call us for clarifying details.)

## **Trap Set-up and Placement**

- 1. It is extremely important to make sure the trap functions easily and locks.
- 2. Place the trap in bushes near the door or exit cat escaped. If you do not have any bushes then place trap between objects nearby such as flower pots, children's toys, or chairs for example making sure there is nothing behind the trap or that it is pushed up against a wall. A cat likes to look inside of a trap and it appear that there is an escape route.
- 3. If it does not impede closing and locking, a used towel can be placed over the trap covering the sides and top. Again, make sure the back is not covered.
- 4. DO NOT place anything else inside the trap except food.
- 5. It is best to set up a camera approximately 7 feet from the trap in case your cat is coming to the trap, but not going in. There are steps to take if your cat is not going in the trap. We recommend <u>The "Walk" Method.</u>



6. A trap must be checked often for the safety of any animal that gets trapped. We recommend at least every 4 hours. It is best to position the trap near a window of the home where the owner can quietly look to see if the trap door is closed without making any disturbing noises. Opening and closing a door with access outside can spook the cat from coming up to the trap.

## Placing the Food in the Trap

- 1. The key is smell. Use Friskies pate, tuna, or sardines in water. If your cat likes tuna then you will want to immediately move to sardines as they smell much stronger than tuna. Also be aware that tuna and sardines dry out quicker than wet food. Make sure to use plenty of food.
- If the cat has not eaten in several days then place the food all the way to the back of the trap behind the trip plate. A camera will allow the owner to see if the cat comes up to the trap, but does not go in. Please contact us for advice & use <u>The</u> <u>"Walk" Method</u> for trapping.
- 3. Do not place food in a bowl as a cat can pull the bowl towards them avoiding the trip plate. Instead place on a small paper plate or small Tupperware lid. The key is flat.
- 4. Tuna juice is effective to pour around the trap.
- 5. Replace the food every 24 hours at the same time daily preferable just before dusk.

## If the cat is eating the food, but avoiding the trip plate please contact us for advice on tricks to help set off the trap.