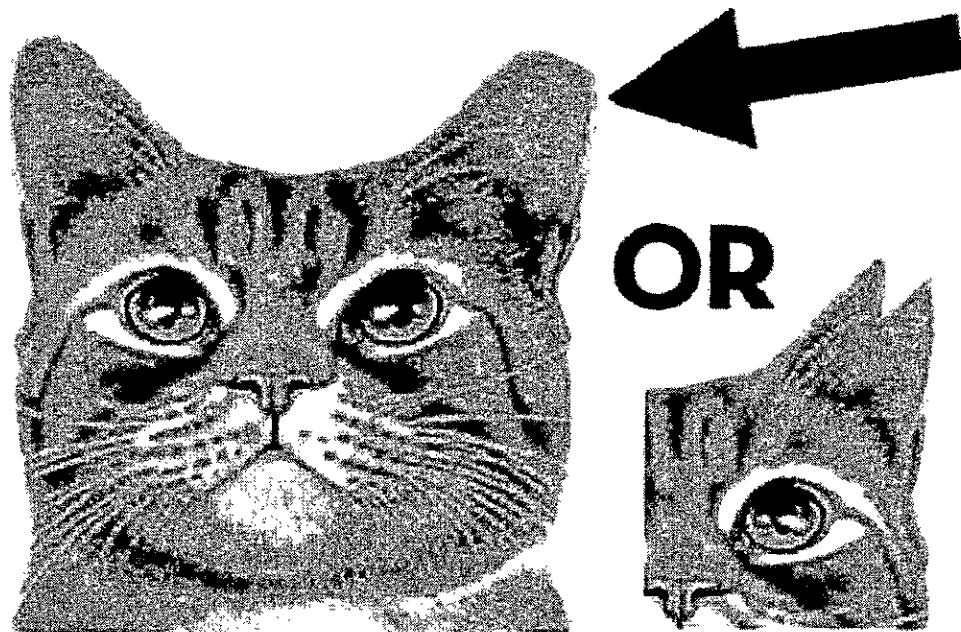


# Have you seen cats with ears like this?



These cats have been "ear-tipped" or "notched". This is a surgical alteration showing that a free-living cat has been spayed/neutered. It's part of "TNR", which means "Trap", "Neuter", "Return".

These cats should never be re-trapped or brought to a shelter, unless sick. Instead, they should be left in their neighborhood to provide cat population control. Studies have shown by just being there, they prevent other cats from moving into the area. And, because they have been fixed, they will never have litters of kittens.

Even if you don't like cats, TNR ear-tipped cats have an important job to do in keeping our neighborhood a nice place to live.

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What is TNR?

TNR is short for Trap-Neuter-Return. You can recognize a TNR'D cat by the tipped ear. Some tips are straight, some jagged, some notched. These cats go by many names including feral, stray, homeless, free-roaming, ownerless, community or neighborhood cats.

The tipped ear tells you that the cat has been trapped, altered, and vaccinated for rabies. It is then usually returned to the same area where it was trapped but some may end up placed in colonies. In some instances, a trapped cat may go to a shelter or sanctuary or may even be adopted.

Relocating feral cats can be a difficult process and should only be attempted after every effort has been made to maintain the cats safely in their original territory. Besides being very dangerous for cats, it also is frequently ineffective.

## Why spay/neuter

### Get the facts

Pet overpopulation is the number one killer of dogs and cats in the United States.

Each year, an estimated ten million dogs, cats, puppies and kittens are put to death in our nation's animal shelters as a method of population control. The majority of these animals were young, healthy and adoptable. In addition, millions of abandoned pets and feral cats suffer on the street as they attempt to survive on their own.

How can you help prevent pet overpopulation?

The Answer: spay/neuter your pets!

### Facts about cats...

A female cat can begin breeding as young as 4 months old.

A female cat can become pregnant while still nursing.

One unaltered female cat and her offspring can produce over two million cats in 8 years.

