

Feral Cats in Texas

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Agenda

- ❖ Bio – Peg / Barn Cats
- ❖ Overview: Barn Cats, Inc.
- ❖ Feral Cats at Animal Services
- ❖ Feral Relocation
- ❖ Resources for Barning
- ❖ The Feral Relocation Handbook
- ❖ Questions



Overview: Barn Cats, Inc

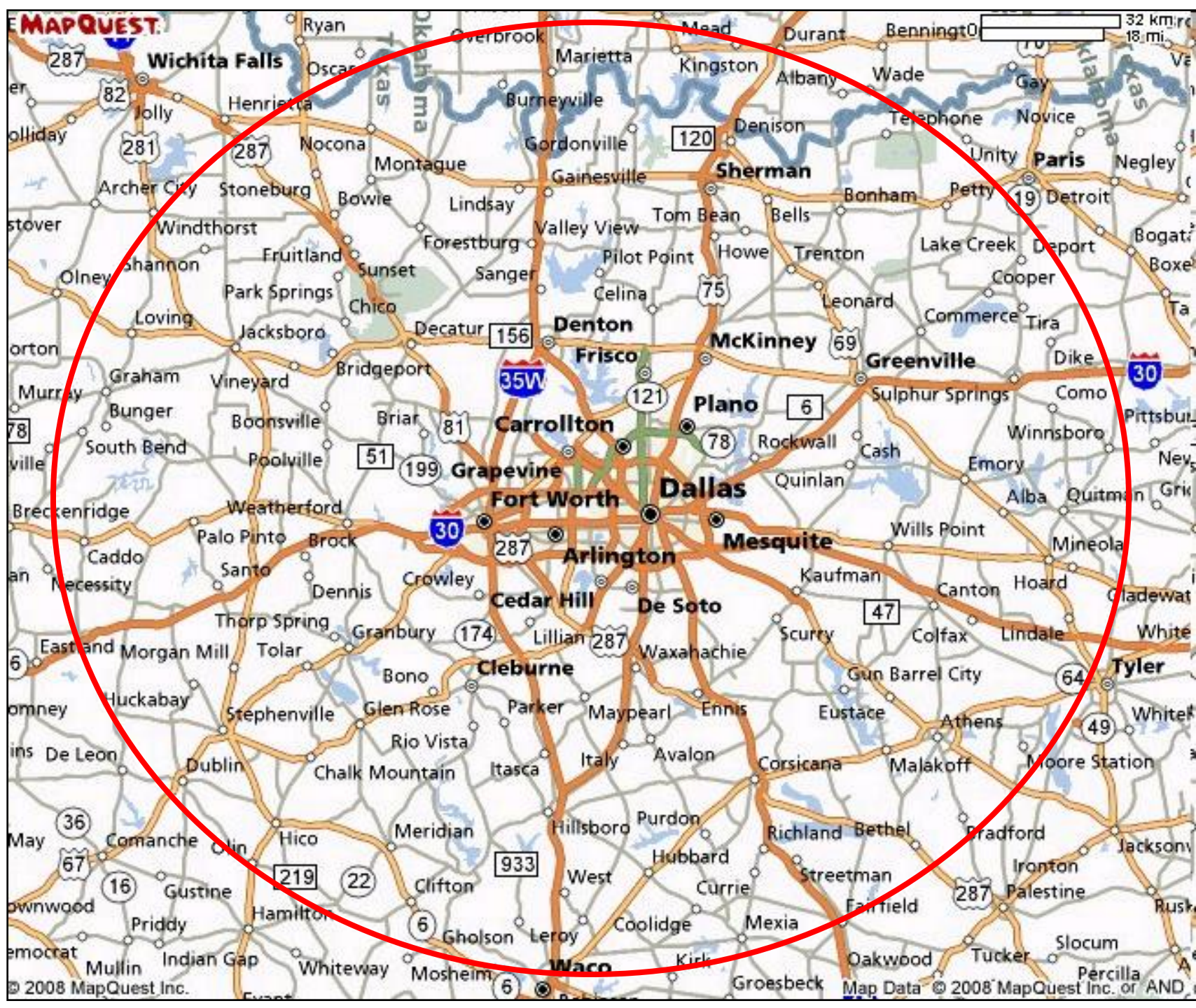


- ❖ September 2003
- ❖ Got the name incorporated, 501C3 completed, and designed a logo and website
- ❖ By December 2012 placed 4,735
- ❖ Mission: To promote the well-being of urban feral and semi-feral cats by placing them in safe, secure barn homes where they can live out their lives.
- ❖ Barning is all we do

We are non-toxic pest control



A detailed map of the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area. Major highways are shown in orange, including I-35, I-75, I-20, I-30, and I-67. The map shows a dense network of roads and numerous cities and towns. A large red circle is drawn around the central urban core, encompassing Dallas, Fort Worth, and the surrounding suburbs. The map is labeled with 'MAPQUEST.' in the top left corner and '© 2008 MapQuest Inc.' in the bottom left corner.



The Cats



Criteria for Acceptance

- Sterilized adults – NO KITTENS!
- Negative feline leukemia test
- Rabies / distemper shots
- Cage available

Where do they come from?

- Individuals
- TNR & adoption groups
- Hoarders
- North Texas unless national disaster
- Animal Services organizations



Feral Cats at Animal Services



At In Take:

- ❖ REMEMBER: A feral cat is not a pet
- ❖ Give them a place to hide
- ❖ A small carrier – a secure place – provides a way to move the cat
- ❖ DO NOT TRY TO HANDLE A FERAL CAT
- ❖ Transfer from a trap directly into a cage with a hidey box

Feral Cats at Animal Services



OK – Now What?

- ❖ Is the cat micro-chipped?
- ❖ Does this cat have a tipped left ear?
- ❖ Did this cat come from a registered feral colony?
- ❖ Is there an rescue organization doing any barning in your area?
- ❖ Does your animal services organization have a barn-home program?



Feral Cat Relocation from Animal Services



❖ Medical

- Sterilized with ear tip
- Tested negative for feline leukemia
- Rabies and distemper shots

❖ Interview

- Does someone live on the property?
- Is there a protected room, stall or cage to contain the cat so it can become acclimated before release?
- Not all barns are created equal



Feral Cat Relocation from Animal Services



❖ Successful Relocation

- Got to be contained for 2 weeks
- Get to know the new environment -- animals and people
- This is their new food source – not just mice!
- Safe place away from raccoons, etc.

❖ Protection from Predators

- Great Pyrenees
- Donkey
- Llama



Feral Cat Relocation from Animal Services



❖ Long-Term Protection

- Hidey place
- Up high
- Get away from predators
- Be aware of ants!

Feral Cat Relocation from Animal Services

❖ Long-Term Protection

- Feeder / Waterer
- Cat Ladder
- Winter hidey box
- Litter box
- Beds / Boxes / Tubs

❖ Be Aware of the Weather

- Is there electricity in the barn?
- Heat lamps
- Heaters
- Insulated hidey box
- Freezing water in winter

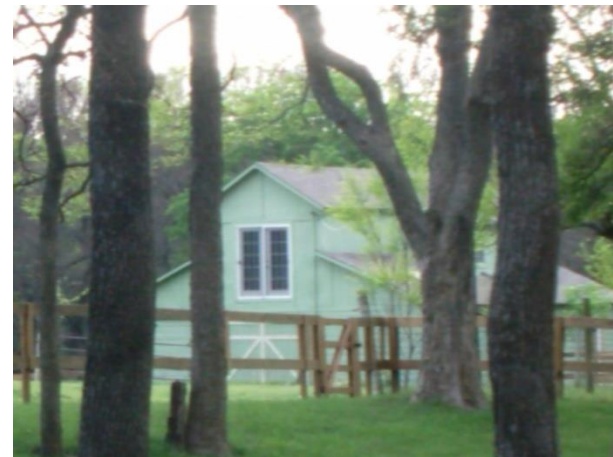


Feral Cat Relocation from Animal Services



❖ Finding Locations for Relocation

- www.ohorse.com
- Local Horse Clubs (Arabian, Paint, etc.)
- Dairy Farms
- Sheep and Goat Farms
- People who raise chickens and/or rabbits
- Plant Nurseries
- Rock Yards & Landscapers
- Backyards & Gardens
- Sheds & Warehouses



Feral Cat Relocation from Animal Services



❖ Unusual Locations for Relocation

- Dallas Heritage Center
- Home Depot Nursery
- Dallas Gun Club
- Crossroads Polo Club
- Country Club Golf Courses
- School Agriculture Barns
- Therapeutic Riding Locations
- Winery
- Vehicle Repair Yards

Feral Cats at Animal Services



Best Option:

Partner with an organization in your area that does barning because they will:

- ❖ Find the barns.
- ❖ Interview the barn owner.
- ❖ Deliver the cats.
- ❖ Provide any equipment needed.
- ❖ Pick up and clean the equipment.



Feral Cats at Animal Services



Problems:

- ❖ The group may not be able to take all your feral cats at the time you have them
- ❖ They should not ever take kittens for a barn.
- ❖ Do you have the resources to get the vet work done before the cats are released?
- ❖ Could your municipality provide any support and/or funds to the group?

Humane Group Resources



Not all groups are created equal...

- ❖ What is their mission? You want one that JUST DOES BARNING.
- ❖ It is physically impossible to do barning and also do TNR, adoptions, etc. ... there are just not enough hours in the day.

Humane Group Resources



1. Barn Cats Inc, info@barncats.org, www.barncats.org 972-315-2875
37 North Texas counties around Dallas/Fort Worth and 5 counties in Oklahoma along the Red River
2. Texas Barn Cats 210-232-2790 or 210-378-9036 info@texasbarncats.org
www.texasbarncats.org area 100 miles radius of San Antonio – located in Bulverde, TX
3. Barn Cats Buddies part of the Humane Society of Central Texas (Waco) 254-754-1454
www.humanesocietycentraltexas.org Area around Waco



Humane Group Resources



4. Austin Pets Alive! barncats@austinpetsalive.org
www.austinpetsalive.org 1156 West Cesar
Chavez, Austin, TX 7870 512-961-6519
5. Austin Humane Society – Leticia Stivers
lstivers@austinhumanesociety.org
www.austinhumanesociety.org 512-646-7387
6. Feral Cat Alliance of Texas (979) 862-4569 or
(979) 450-5467 AFCAT@cvm.tamu.edu
Mail: Department of Veterinary Integrative
Biosciences TAMU 4458
College Station, TX 77843-4458



Humane Group Resources



7. Helotes Humane Society, P.O. Box 908 Helotes, TX 78023 Phone: 210-422-6242 Email address: hhsanimals@yahoo.com



8. Texas Humane Heroes – formerly Humane Society of Williamson County, Kynama Wald at kwald@hswc.net



National Resource for Feral Cats

Alley Cat Allies

7920 Norfolk Avenue, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814-2525
Phone: 240-482-1980



Animal Services Resources



Will work for food!

Excellent mouser
seeking permanent position
with local family or business.

Got rats? We got cats!

Animal Care Services Barn Cat program
• Cats are sterilized and vaccinated.
• All adoption fees waived!
Call 207-6666 for more information.



DENTON ANIMAL SHELTER



Take Home a New Friend

1. San Antonio Animal Care Services, contact Jean at 210-207-6644
2. Denton Animal Services, contact Dallas Newell at dallas@unt.edu or Animal Services at 940-349-7594

Animal Services Resources



3. Pasadena Animal Services, contact Lou Ann Nolan 281-991-0602 X20
4. City of Pearland Animal Services, contact Shari Coleman 281-652-1970 281-652-1973



5. City of Georgetown, Georgetown Animal Shelter at (512) 930-3592 or email jackie.carey@georgetown.org
6. Tomball Save Our Strays (SOS), info@Tomballsos.org



Search

- Barn Cats, Inc.
- Barn Cats
- Barncats
- Texas Farm Bureau
- America's Heartland TV
- Ellis County On-Line Magazine



Feral Cat Relocation from Animal Services



So, what is the best option for your municipal Animal Services organization?



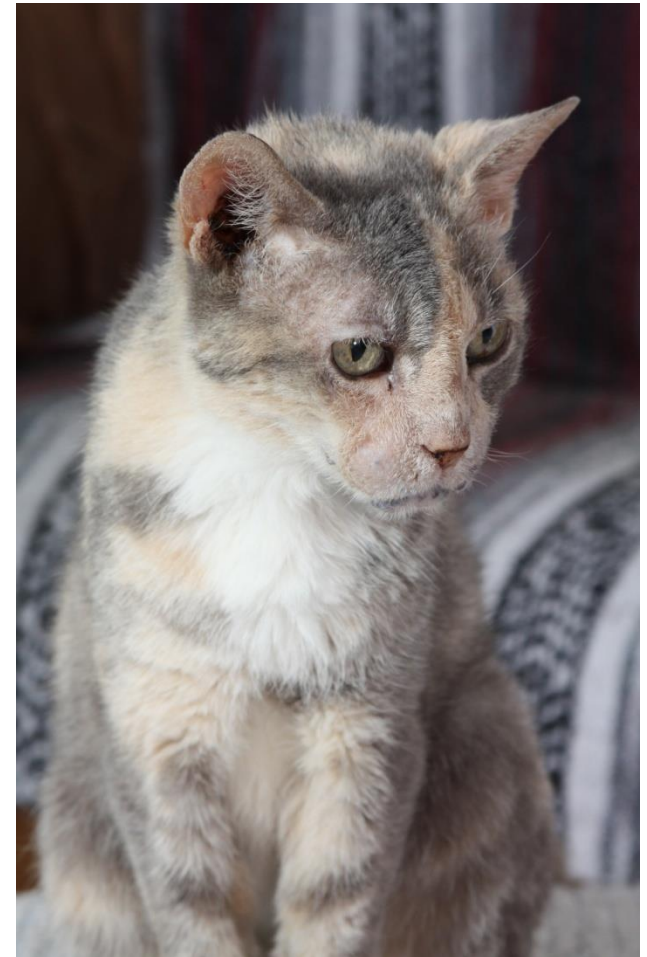
- ❖ Is there a barning organization in your area?
- ❖ Could your municipality provide some assistance to that organization if they agree to take all or a percentage of your feral cats?
- ❖ Are resources available to pay for the vetting that is needed to place a feral cat?

The Feral Relocation Handbook



If your organization decides to do provide cats to barn owners, you need to provide some sort of “instructions” to make the relocation successful.

- ❖ Containment to get acclimated
- ❖ Needs of the cats following release
- ❖ Hidey place for the cats
- ❖ Protection from predators
- ❖ On-going requirements of the cats
- ❖ Long-term medical needs



The Feral Relocation Handbook



Sent an email to info@barncats.org and a softcopy will be sent to you when the document is completed.



Questions?



Join the Barn Cat Blog at

<http://barncatslewisville.blogspot.com/>



**“Got Rats?
We have Cats!”**



Thank You!