



cat depot®
The Resource for
Rescue, Adoption, and Education

TNVR POST-OPERATIVE DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS FOR CARETAKERS OF COMMUNITY CATS

Thank you for helping to lessen the burden of overpopulation.

All community TNVR cats are given a long-acting injection of anesthetic for surgery. Many cats will have only partially recovered from anesthesia at the time of discharge, and full recovery may take 24 hours. You need to monitor the cats for 24 hours following discharge in order to provide the best care possible for the cats. Failure to contain them in a safe place overnight following surgery WILL likely result in death as they are too compromised to protect themselves from other cats and predators.

Do NOT remove the cats from their traps.

Please Carefully Read and Do the Following:

- You will be contacted at phone number listed on Medical Release Form with a specific time for pickup. **Please arrive no later than 4:00 P.M. on day of surgery to pick up your cat(s).**
- Keep the cats in their traps until the next morning. **Do not** take the cat out of its trap or transfer to a crate or carrier after surgery. Too much room to move around can cause pain, extreme injury, death or escape. The safest place is in its trap.
- Post operative cats will be groggy and need to sleep. Do not stimulate the cat with bright light or sound. Turn off your radio during transport. If you smoke, refrain from smoking during transport. Please do not disturb them by reaching into the trap – they often overreact and may bite! **Some community cats are not used to being touched.**
- **Carefully** lift sliding door of trap just enough to slide in food & water for the evening.
- Place the trap on plastic and newspaper to protect flooring.
- Keep the trap loosely covered with a thin sheet. All 4 sides should be open to maintain airflow. This sheet provides protection and security, similar to an enclosed cat Carrier.
- Provide shade and shelter. When hot, provide a fan.
- **If you notice abnormal bleeding from the surgical site, call us immediately at: 941-366-2404 ext 301, Monday through Sunday 8:30am – 4:30pm**

Releasing Cat(s):

- When you release the cat(s) from their trap the next day, immediately provide food and water.
- Only release cats that are **fully awake**.
- Only release cats in the same location from which they were trapped. **Do not relocate cats** as they will be driven off by territorial cats or other animals. Their natural instinct is to return home. Relocating a community cat can result in death or starvation. Relocations are strongly discouraged. However, counseling is available for problem locations.

To release the cat, uncover the trap and allow the cat to recognize the area, point the trap away from danger (such as a busy street), and lift up the back door. Stand back and patiently allow the cat to leave at its own pace.

In case of emergency AFTER HOURS, call Blue Pearl Emergency Veterinary Hospital at 941-923-7260, or Animal ER of University Park 941-355-2884.