



Maintenance of Laurel's Free-Roaming Cat Population Decline

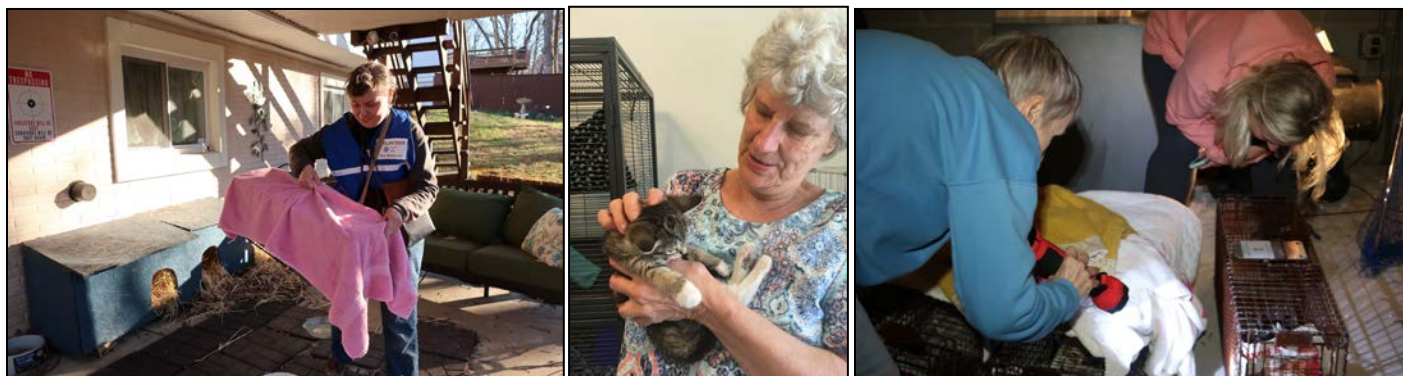
Project # 19-438

County: Howard, Prince George's, & Anne Arundel

Number of Cats Spayed:	115	Number of Dogs Spayed:	n/a
Number of Cats Neutered:	126	Number of Dogs Neutered:	n/a
Amount Received:	12,760.00	Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA):	0.00

Project Synopsis:

This project allowed us to fix the handful of unaltered remaining free roaming cats still on Laurel's streets, pet cats belonging to low income families, and young kittens and friendly cats that we have found on Laurel's street and brought into foster care to eventually rehome.



Project Description:

For this project we altered 241 cats throughout Laurel, Maryland. These cats were identified through our annual winter census and community outreach work. Our trapping teams worked with caretakers to TNVR the free-roaming cats and our pet cat transportation coordinator helped low-income residents arrange to have their pet cats fixed. We also pulled more than 100 abandoned friendly cats and young kittens off of Laurel's streets, altered them, and found homes for them through our fostering and adoption programs. All of these activities are aimed at achieving our ultimate goal of realizing a day when every Laurel cat has a good indoor home.

Summary of Approach:

Thanks in large part to funding from MDA and the hard work of our volunteers, Laurel is now in maintenance which, unfortunate means a lot more work. It's easy to find a colony of thirty cats, but much harder to find that one new female that showed up down the street and is going to have kittens next spring. We accomplish such through a combination of outreach projects including our winter census, door-knocking, and regular community education tables at events throughout Laurel. Once the tips come in, we send our trapping team to the site, and with the property owner's permission, round up all of the cats for vetting. Friendly cats and young kittens are brought into our foster program while unsocialized adults are returned to where we found them after vetting.

Accomplishments:

Through this project we altered 241 cats, rehomed more than 100 cats and kittens found on our streets, helped a number of low income families fix their pet cats, and drove local shelter euthanasia rates to a record low.



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SPAY AND NEUTER GRANTS PROGRAM



Lessons Learned:

Maintenance is really hard work! It's hard to find those last cats, but if you don't you'll be right back where you stated in just a couple of years.

Attachments:

See attached Laurel shelter euthanasia graphs for Price George's and Anne Arundel Counties.

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