



# HUMANE VOICE

## ***NJARA Administers NJ Feral Cat Spay/Neuter Program***

*By Rebecca Hess, NJARA*

Thanks to the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance (NJARA) has taken over administration of the Feral Cat Spay/Neuter Program, which provides financial assistance towards the spaying and neutering of ferals who will be returned to their colonies. NJARA is also coordinating the efforts of six other organizations working on Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) in New Jersey and acting as a resource for feral cat caregivers throughout the state.

### ***Feral or stray?***

Stray cats are companion animals that have been abandoned or lost. Ferals have had minimal human contact during their lives and are extremely wary of humans. In most cases, adult feral cats have reverted to a wild state and are unable to be socialized and adopted. Unaltered feral cats display many behaviors that are considered undesirable by humans, such as spraying, fighting, yowling, and birthing many litters of unwanted kittens. Most or all of these issues disappear once a cat has been spayed or neutered.

### ***What is TNR?***

TNR is an effective, humane way of controlling the feral cat population. TNR programs involve spaying or neutering feral cats, vaccinating them against rabies, then returning the cats to their habitat. The cats form cohesive communities called colonies which are managed by caregivers who provide food, water and long term medical care for the cats. If any kittens or stray cats enter the colony, they are removed by the caregiver, socialized if necessary and placed for adoption. TNR has been successful internationally and is quickly proving its effectiveness in the United States. Through TNR and natural attrition the number of cats will stabilize and over time decrease.

### ***What are the Alternatives?***

In towns where TNR is not implemented, feral cats are often dealt with by "trap and remove." These programs consist of trapping ferals, bringing them to

the local animal shelter where they are held for the requisite seven days and then euthanized if they are deemed unadoptable. The attempted total elimination of cats by trapping and euthanizing has been found to be ineffective and costly. This process creates a void and without fail new cats move into the area. It is a cycle that repeats itself over and over again.

### ***Working Together***

NJARA's goal is to make New Jersey a TNR friendly state and they would like to be considered as the feral cat resource center! Their office is staffed Monday thru

*Continued on Page 2*



***Automatic feeders ensure a steady supply of food***

### ***For more information:***

Contact Rebecca Hess, Feral Cat Program Coordinator for New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance. Phone 732-446-6808 or email [rebecca@nj-ara.org](mailto:rebecca@nj-ara.org).

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## HUMANE VOICE

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## We Need You!

**Board Members:** We're always looking for new board members to bring fresh ideas and talent to the board. If your organization is a voting member and you're interested in helping, we'd like to talk to you. Just call us at 856-740-1344.

**Committee Members:** Bring your special talents and energy to areas of interest. You just need to be an individual or voting member of the AWFNJ. Call or email info@awfnj.org if you have any questions or would like to help.

## NJARA Administers NJ Feral Cat Spay/Neuter Program

By Rebecca Hess, NJARA

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Friday from 10 am - 6 pm to answer questions regarding feral cats or TNR. NJARA can provide information on low cost spay/neuter, where to borrow a humane trap, how to trap, help individuals contact other caregivers in their area, and much more.

NJARA needs feral advocates to speak to their towns about the importance of TNR. NJARA will provide resources to enable concerned individuals to speak intelligently about implementing a TNR program in their own town. NJARA can also provide advice on how to organize a TNR effort and raise funds for spay/neuter. They are also creating a volunteer network of feral cat caregivers to work together and will offer valuable help and advice to TNR newcomers or experienced caregivers who need a hand. Any individuals that are able to trap, transport to the vet, loan traps, feed or help in any way should contact NJARA through the phone or email listed on page one.

### Getting, and Staying, Connected

A newsletter is in the works and NJARA is very excited to be able to network with New Jersey's feral cat caregivers in this way. They will continue to reach out to the public and educate NJ residents on the benefits of TNR. Fund raising and grant opportunities are being researched to extend the Dodge Foundation's spay/neuter Program. NJARA is striving to provide a support system for caregivers who are feeling isolated or discouraged.



*Building a feral cat winter shelter*

### Feral Cat Resources:

Find the information you need to develop a TNR program or work with the community, visit Alley Cat Allies at [www.alleycat.org](http://www.alleycat.org) or (202)-667-3630

For helpful programs for your community, including care tips, visit Neighborhood Cats at [www.neighborhoodcats.org](http://www.neighborhoodcats.org) or (212) 662-5761

To locate affordable spay/neuter services, contact SPAY/USA at [www.spayusa.org](http://www.spayusa.org) or 1-800-248-SPAY

For NJ feral cat information, visit Stray Catz at [www.straycatz.org](http://www.straycatz.org) or (609) 587-5246

For downloadable brochures and information about feral cats, visit Wild About Cats at [www.wild-about-cats.com](http://www.wild-about-cats.com)

**Shelters: Need help with  
your business plan or  
developing partnerships?**

**Making Plans to Make a Difference:  
Business Planning for Shelters to Inspire, Mobilize, and Sustain Change**  
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Order your shelter's copy today!  
[www.aspca.org/shelters](http://www.aspca.org/shelters)



***NOTE: NEW DATE***

**AWFNJ  
Annual Conference  
April 1-2, 2005**

**Ocean Place Resort  
Long Branch, NJ**

**email: [conference@awfnj.org](mailto:conference@awfnj.org)**

**Missed the 2004 Conference?**

**Order a Copy of the Workshop Handouts!**

The AWFNJ is making copies of Conference 2004 workshops available. Please send \$2 for up to 2, and \$5 for the entire set of handouts to cover copies and postage. This year most of the workshops are available on CD. If you prefer CD, please check the box. Fill out this form and mail to: **AWFNJ, 816 N. Delsea Dr. #160, Glassboro, NJ 08028.**

Be sure to include this form:

Please send me the following workshop handouts:

I'd prefer the CD where available.

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crime Scene Investigation   | <input type="checkbox"/> The Nuts and Bolts of Implementing a Community-Wide Trap-Neuter-Return Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Envision Success  | <input type="checkbox"/> Behavioral Assessments and Shelter Enrichment for Felines                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> De-Stressing & Enriching Your Shelter's Kennel Environment  | <input type="checkbox"/> Rebels with a Cause: Reaching Teens Through Service-Learning                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animals and the Law   | <input type="checkbox"/> Incredible Journeys – A Look at Animal Relocation                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> When the Customer ISN'T Always Right: A New Approach to Customer Service and Adoption                 | <input type="checkbox"/> How to Write a Good Proposal for Funding                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matchmaking: How to use Your Dog's Behavior Evaluations to More Successfully Match Dogs with Adopters | <input type="checkbox"/> Statewide Spay/Neuter Program to Reduce Euthanasia                             |

# LEGISLATIVE NEWS

The AWFNJ does not specifically endorse or support these proposed bills. We are providing this important information and would appreciate your input. Please send your comments to [info@awfnj.org](mailto:info@awfnj.org).

## NEW JERSEY

Bills to watch:

### **A2570**

**Would permit renters to keep certain animals as pets after providing written notice to their landlords**

For a detailed reading of the bill, go to [http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2004/Bills/A3000/2570\\_R1.PDF](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2004/Bills/A3000/2570_R1.PDF)

### **A1135**

**Prohibits use of certain underwriting guidelines pertaining to dogs harbored on property insured under homeowners policies**

For a detailed reading of the bill, go to [http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2004/Bills/A1500/1135\\_I1.HTM](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2004/Bills/A1500/1135_I1.HTM)

### **A2411**

**Provides for civil action against person committing act of cruelty against domestic companion**

For a detailed reading of the bill, go to [http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2004/Bills/A2500/2411\\_S1.HTM](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2004/Bills/A2500/2411_S1.HTM)

### **A2930**

**Provides certain requirements for donation container solicitations by charities**

For a detailed reading of the bill, go to [http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2004/Bills/A3000/2930\\_S1.HTM](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2004/Bills/A3000/2930_S1.HTM)

### **S1718**

**BSL - "Responsible Pit Bull Ownership Act"**

**Authorizes municipalities to require a license for a person to own, keep or harbor a pit bull.**

For a detailed reading of the bill, go to [http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2004/Bills/S2000/1718\\_I1.PDF](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2004/Bills/S2000/1718_I1.PDF)

The AWFNJ oppose this bill.

To find your legislator, go to: <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/legsearch.asp>  
To view other pending animal legislation go to <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/bills/BillsBySubject.asp>  
and entering the subject "Animals"

## NATIONAL

### **H.R. 4264**

**The Animal Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act**

**To amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen prohibitions against animal fighting, and for other purposes.**

For a detailed reading of the bill, go to <http://thomas.loc.gov>

### **H.R. 4121**

**Consumer and Producer Protection Act**

**To amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to help ensure a healthy food supply, and for other purposes.**

For a detailed reading of the bill, go to <http://thomas.loc.gov>

To find your Congressional Official go to <http://www.congress.org/congressorg/home/> or call 202-224-3121  
To look up a National bill, go to <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/bills/index.html>

## LAW SEMINARS

For helpful seminars on a variety of law topics go to the NJ State Bar Foundation at [www.njsbf.com](http://www.njsbf.com)  
or call (732) 249-5000

# CUMBERLAND COUNTY SPCA

## SHELTERING AND HUMANE LAW ENFORCEMENT BLEND TO HELP ANIMALS

Each year more than 5,000 lost, abused, abandoned, sick and injured animals, and pets whose owners just don't want them anymore, are brought to the Cumberland County SPCA (CCSPCA). Beside the large task of operating an animal shelter, the CCSPCA goes a step beyond. One goal of the Cumberland County SPCA is to stop cruel and inhumane treatment of animals before it happens. The society is the only law enforcement agency in Cumberland County authorized solely for the protection of animals. CCSPCA investigates more than 1,000 reports of animal abuse or neglect each year.

At the shelter, every animal receives the highest level of care including an examination by a veterinarian technician to evaluate its health and temperament. Each dog/puppy is vaccinated, wormed, heartworm tested, spayed or neutered and fitted with a collar, ID tag and leash before going to its new home. Every cat/kitten is vaccinated, wormed, spayed or neutered, fitted with a safety collar, ID tag and cat carrier before being adopted.

After 50 years at the same location, the Cumberland County SPCA has moved. The new 16,000 square foot building is located on 10 acres at 1244 North Delsea Drive in Vineland. It will double the Society's ability to house stray and unwanted animals, and will allow them to care for approximately 100 dogs and 200 cats at any given time, thus greatly reducing euthanasia. The new shelter will consist of many enhanced features including new areas to house the animals, a grooming room, a humane education room and a spay and neuter wing.

Two new "get acquainted" rooms will be a welcome addition, which will reduce the waiting time for pets to meet their new owners. A grooming room will give staff members the opportunity to make the animals more appealing and more comfortable while awaiting adoption.

The most exciting addition to the Delsea Drive facility is the new spay/neuter wing. This will eliminate the veterinarian's need to work in the mobile spay/neuter van and then have to transfer the animal into the building for recovery. It will also allow the CCSPCA to alter shelter animals before adoption, and will offer low-cost spaying and neutering to the general public. This will make a tremendous impact on pet overpopulation.

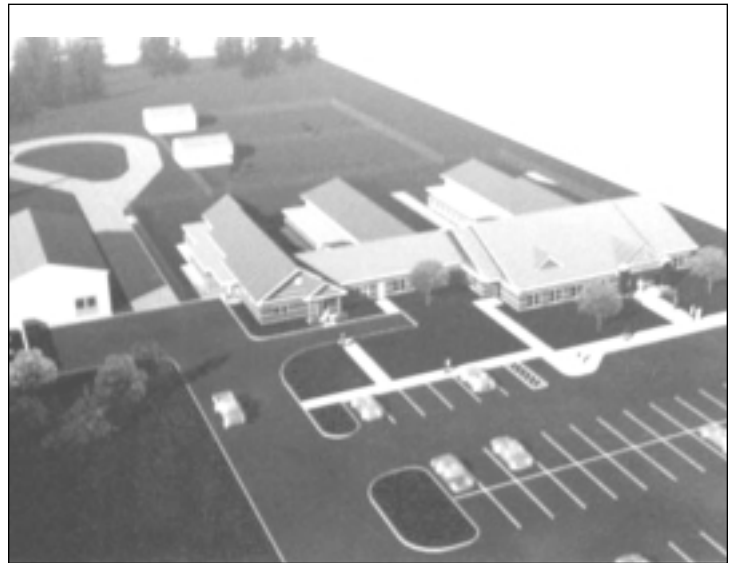
As a proactive measure CCSPCA is changing the way people think about animals through their humane education programs and shelter tours. The new humane education/conference room will provide cruelty agents on-site facilities for teaching responsible pet ownership, pet care, safety and respect for all living creatures. These programs are free of charge to area schools and organizations.

The Cumberland County SPCA relies completely on public support to operate as they are not funded by the county and receive no Federal or state monies. The new facility was built at no cost to the taxpayers. The money used to finance the shelter comes from fees charged to adopt, reclaim or release an animal; fees charged municipalities to house their stray animals; dues, donations, fundraisers, and bequests from caring individuals.

Without the CCSPCA, the community would be faced with uncontrollable pet overpopulation, disease and suffering of thousands of animals.

Feel free to visit Linda Catalano, Executive Director, the staff and all of the animals at the new Cumberland County SPCA Shelter on Delsea Drive in Vineland. Call 856-691-1500 or check out their website at [www.ccspca@petfinder.com](http://www.ccspca@petfinder.com)

### Cumberland County SPCA's new 1,600 sq. ft. facility



**2004  
UPDATE!**

## **FREE\*** **NJ ANIMAL LAW CD**

**\*for NEW members**

**JOIN THE AWFNJ TODAY AND RECEIVE A  
FREE CD OF NJ ANIMAL STATE LAWS  
HOW CONVENIENT... JUST POP IN THE CD.  
NO MORE SEARCHING THE INTERNET**

**\*FREE to NEW members  
\$5 to existing members  
\$15 non-members**

Use the membership application on the back of this newsletter to order the CD or join the AWFNJ.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## NOVEMBER

### First Annual Adopt-a-Senior-Pet Month

Sponsor: Petfinder.com  
<http://www.petfinder.org>

### November 6

#### Pasta Night

Sponsor: St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center  
973-377-7094 ex.228 or [www.sthuberts.org](http://www.sthuberts.org)

### November 7 - 13

#### National Shelter Appreciate Week

Sponsor: The Humane Society of the United States  
202-452-1100 [www.animalsheltering.org](http://www.animalsheltering.org)

### November 7 - 13

#### How to Start an Animal Sanctuary Workshop

Sponsor: Best Friends Animal Society  
Kanab, Utah  
435-644-2001, X317 or email:  
[humane.ed@bestfriends.org](mailto:humane.ed@bestfriends.org)

### November 21 & 28

#### Santa Paws

Sponsor: St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center  
973-377-7094 or [www.sthuberts.org](http://www.sthuberts.org)

### November 21

#### Evening of Giving

Sponsor: People For Animals  
908 688-1073

### November 27 & 28

#### Pictures with Santa

Sponsor: Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter  
973-386-0590 or [www.njshelter.org](http://www.njshelter.org)

## DECEMBER

### Home 4 the Holidays Program

Sponsor: Helen Woodward Animal Center  
858-756-4117 x 302 or [www.animalcenter.org](http://www.animalcenter.org)

### December 4 - 5 & 11 - 12

#### Holiday Fair

Sponsor: Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter  
973-386-0590 or [www.njshelter.org](http://www.njshelter.org)

### December 5

#### Santa Paws

Sponsor: St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center  
973-377-7094 or [www.sthuberts.org](http://www.sthuberts.org)

### December 11

#### Open House & Tree of Remembrance

Sponsor: Animal Welfare Association  
856-424-2288 or [www.awanj.org](http://www.awanj.org)

### December 14

#### Tree of Love

Sponsor: St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center  
973-377-4962 or [www.sthuberts.org](http://www.sthuberts.org)

### December 16

#### Tribute Tree

Sponsor: Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter  
973-386-0590 or [www.njshelter.org](http://www.njshelter.org)

### December 16

#### Tree of Love

Sponsor: St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center  
973-377-4962 or [www.sthuberts.org](http://www.sthuberts.org)

## JANUARY '05

### January 8 - 12

#### North American Veterinary Conference

Orlando, FL  
(352)375-5672

### January 20-25

#### Association of Professional Humane Educators Conference

Palm Beach Gardens, FL  
[www.aphe.org](http://www.aphe.org)

## SEND US YOUR EVENTS!

*We promote members' events and would love to help you by including your listing in our quarterly issue of Humane Voice and in our weekly e-newsletter.*

**Send event information to: [info@awfnj.org](mailto:info@awfnj.org) or call 856-740-1344**

# EDITORIAL

The opinions stated in the editorial do not necessarily reflect the AWFNJ position.

## Get your marbles and meet me at the playground.

By Heather Cammisa  
Jersey Shore Animal Center

FERAL cats. Ignore the issue and it won't go away. Margaret Slater, in her book *Community Approaches to Feral Cats*, defines a "feral cat" as any cat who is too poorly socialized to be handled (and therefore must be trapped or sedated for examinations) and who cannot be placed into a typical home. Estimates of the numbers of these cats suggest there may be at least one feral cat for every 10 citizens. Although many of us feel exasperated by the feral cat situation in our state, we cannot feel resistant to new ideas and trying, maybe for the n-th time, with the n-th group of people, new methods. This is not a case of better living through denial. Everyone involved, truly everyone, shares the same goal: reduce the number of feral cats. We may all differ on how to get there and what is needed to get there. Only one thing is for sure: if you don't represent and share your situation and experiences, the best plan cannot be crafted. It takes input from everyone to understand this challenging issue.

We have before us an exciting opportunity, a funded opportunity, to work toward our shared goal. The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation has awarded a grant to help statewide. The lead organization is New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance and the AWFNJ is here to assist in communication. We must all recognize that no one outside our community of animal control, humane societies, feral caregivers, veterinarians, rescue organizations, advocacy groups, municipal representatives, wildlife rehabilitators, health officers et al

will solve this situation. It is up to us.

We need to start where we agree and craft partnerships to handle these cats. We need to agree that it is more than T.N.R. There must be more letters involved: T for testing for feline AIDs and Leukemia; V for vaccination and re-vaccination to assure public health; M for monitoring and true management of colonies; E for euthanasia for cats that test positive or for whom there is no responsible caregiver on permitted, non-wildlife sensitive property; C for community education to reduce antagonistic views of feral cats and to direct those who feel that they need to do more. We cannot alienate one another through indifference, ignorance or harmful terminology. Remember that we are all working for animal welfare. When you look across the room, the people you may feel you oppose are not the folks who abandoned cats.

Let us respect one another, understand the hard work and long hours we all put in to promote animal welfare and let us all come together to plan. Failure to plan is planning to fail. With fewer feral cats, there is positive impact on wildlife, the community, our community and those who work in it, and certainly an enormous benefit to the feral cats, whose lives are brutal and short.

I look forward to working with all of you, learning from you in an environment of sharing, respect and professionalism.

**NEW FEATURES**

# www.awfnj.org

Animal Welfare Federation of New Jersey  
Progress Through Unity

Home  
Mission Statement  
Membership Info  
Resource Center  
Events  
Newsletters  
Press  
Donating  
Contact Us

NEW - Animal Welfare Services Directory

Other AWFNJ Resources:  
[New Jersey Shelter Regulations](#)  
[Legislative Alerts](#)  
[Calendar of Events](#)

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Email Alerts

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Website designed by NSIP.com

**We've updated our website's features to make it more valuable to you and the public.**

**Animal Welfare Services Directory:**  
Searchable by town, county or organization  
Printer friendly so you can keep a copy at your shelter or in your home.

**Coming soon!**  
We'll be providing links to members' homepages.

**Visit [www.awfnj.org](http://www.awfnj.org) TODAY!**

**Send us your events to post!**

**JOIN THE AGENCIES THAT ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR NEW JERSEY ANIMALS  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL - CD ORDER FORM**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Organization or Individual

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone (Day) (Evening)

I agree to support the principles and beliefs of the Animal Welfare Federation of New Jersey (available online at [www.awfnj.org](http://www.awfnj.org))

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Membership Type:**  **Voting Organization (\$40)\***  **Individual or Nonvoting organization (\$15)**

\*Organization fee is based on budget. For schedule, please call or download the membership application at [www.awfnj.org/membership\\_info.php](http://www.awfnj.org/membership_info.php)

**If you are an organization, please check:**  **Private/Non-Profit**  **Governmental**

**Please send me the New Jersey Animal Laws CD.** (Check off the appropriate box and send with your check payable to the AWFNJ.)

**Current Member \$5**  **Non-Member - \$15**  **New Member - Free with membership fee**

\*Voting members must be 501(c)(3) non-profits OR local, state or governmental agencies.

Shelters applying for voting membership must submit their most recent health department inspection report.  
Adoption agencies must have written pre-screening and spay/neuter plans and submit copies of these policies.

The AWFNJ is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Your contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent made possible by the law.

Please sign this application, enclose your check and mail to:

**Animal Welfare Federation of New Jersey  
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