

## *Open your heart to our community's homeless cats*

A 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. We are dedicated to the care of feral cats, and members of our group work on a volunteer basis to feed, water, and provide medical care for hundreds of feral cats in Knoxville and surrounding areas. We participate in a trap/neuter/return program in an effort to control the feral cat population. The TNR program is where feral cats are humanely trapped by volunteers, taken to a clinic to be spayed or neutered and vaccinated, and returned to their colony where they are most comfortable. We are not an adoption agency nor do we take in unwanted pets. *Our organization only holds* adoption fairs in order to find homes for socialized kittens born into feral colonies and to re-home stray pets that are *abandoned in our colonies!* We are funded solely from donations and fundraisers with 100% of money raised going directly to controlling and maintaining the feral cat population.

**What we can do:** mentor you with your TNR (trap-neuter-release) project by teaching you how to use the traps (including care of the cats while in the traps) and loaning you traps to get the cats to the vet or a low cost spay/neuter clinic.

**What we cannot do:** remove feral cats from your neighborhood, place of business, etc., trap and transport the cats for you; loan traps for you to take cats to any animal service for euthanasia.

### Monthly Meetings

🐾 Feral Feline Friends meets the second Tuesday of every month 7:00 pm at Mr. Gatti's at 6913 Kingston Pike (just west of Papermill Road.) Please come so you can learn about how you can help the feral cats of our community.



# Adoption Center at Petsmart Turkey Creek

## APRIL ADOPTIONS :

Adopted:

Thursday, Saturday, Lincoln, Lucinda, Friday, Tuesday, Sunday, Wednesday, Monday, Shadow, Wundtee, Siam, Edward

**We are getting so many calls about pregnant mommas, nursing mommas, kittens. Please let us know if you can help with fostering.**

A big **THANKS** to the dedicated fosters and Petsmart volunteers who take such good care of our cats!

Please contact Deb at (865) 300-6873 or [debmarsh@comcast.net](mailto:debmarsh@comcast.net) if you would like to help in our adoption center.

Special thanks to Deb who keeps the adoption center staffed and so organized!!!

## Feral Feline Friends T Shirts

We still have t-shirts and will be placing another order soon. If you have a specific color and size you want, please visit our website and place your order:

<http://www.feralfelinefriends.org/teeshirts.htm>



Special Thanks to Rich and Borderland Tees!!

## Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's was a great success!!

Thank you to everyone who helped with this fundraiser. It was a **GREAT** success. We raised a little over \$1000 with this fundraiser!!!

Did you see the article in the Shopper News? Please take a look  
[http://issuu.com/shoppernews/docs/bearden\\_shopper-news\\_042913?mode=window&backgroundColor=%23222222](http://issuu.com/shoppernews/docs/bearden_shopper-news_042913?mode=window&backgroundColor=%23222222)



## Three Rivers Market: Nourishing Change

Three Rivers Market, 1100 North Central in Knoxville is hosting a fundraising event during the entire month of May to help Feral Feline Friends. They also have our t-shirts for sale. Please visit them and help support Feral Feline Friends and Thank them for helping us make a difference.



### Three Rivers Market

4 hours ago

In less than two weeks, you have donated more than \$950 to the **Feral Feline Friends of East Tennessee**, our May Nourishing Change recipient. Feral Feline Friends provides hundreds of feral cats with food, water, and medical care. They also facilitate TNR programs – the most humane and effective method of population control. Visit their website at [feralfelinefriends.org](http://feralfelinefriends.org) for more information and volunteer opportunities.

-Kiley Compton, Communications & Outreach Dept. Manager

## Happy Tails Adoption Story : Ms. Junie/aka Junebug

Just wanted to give you a little update on Ms. June Bug and her first few days in our home - she is doing great! The first 48 hours or so were a little rough as Whiskey got used to the idea of having another cat in the apartment, but Junie seemed to settle in very well (despite Whiskey's best efforts to scare her off, haha). She was very patient with him, and really held her ground. And, my goodness, she is a little love bug - she was cuddling me and Eric right from the get-go!

Anyway, after about 2 days of hissing, growling, and pouting from jealousy, Whiskey seemed to accept June Bug, and for the past 2 days, he's been desperately trying to play with her and love on her! Junie's been a little aloof with him (he seems to only want to play when she wants to sleep), but today I caught her letting Whiskey lick her tail! I think they may be best friends before long...



Thank you again for all of your help with June Bug. I'll definitely keep you updated and send you more pictures!  
Thanks, Laura

## Alley Cat Allies – Summer Care Tips

Warmer weather means special considerations for feral cat colony care. Here are some tips to keep your feline friends cool and eating right.

### Food Tips

When feeding feral cats in the summer, bugs can certainly pose a problem. Make sure you continue to follow the 30-minute “rule” for removing uneaten food. (Some cats may be slow to arrive at their meal so you may want to wait 45 or 60 minutes.) Also, maintain clean and neat feeding locations, and keep the food dishes in one place to facilitate cleanup by using a feeding station. [Read Alley Cat Allies' plans for building one.](#)

In addition to raising the food off the ground, other ways to deter insects from the cats' food include:

Surrounding the food bowl with a ring of baking soda.

Placing a tray or flowerpot tray with about half an inch to an inch of water in it on the feeding station platform and then placing the food bowl on the tray.

Cutting back, or completely cutting out, the amount of wet food that you feed, because dry food tends to attract fewer bugs. Be sure to add more dry food to compensate.

Elevating feeding stations slightly off the ground and surrounding them with a line of [food-grade diatomaceous earth](#) without chemical additives (available from some natural food stores and environmentally conscious pet-care supply companies). The diatom dust should be reapplied after rainstorms. Note that diatomaceous earth sold for swimming pool filters is not safe to use for this purpose.

Purchasing [Alley Cat Allies' recommended ant-proof bowls, available online.](#)

Even if you're not having bug problems with wet food, you could be having another issue—wet food can dry out fast in the heat. To counteract this, add water. It has the added benefit of providing extra hydration for the cats.

### Water

This is a time of year to take the cats' water needs seriously. Consider putting out extra sources of water during the summer months, and placing them in areas that will remain cool throughout the day. Water evaporates quickly in the summer heat, so keep bowls out of the sun. A feeding station (see above) can help provide shade. A bowl with less surface area will reduce the evaporation rate as well, so use a bowl that is narrow, but deep.

### Trapping Conditions

If you are performing Trap-Neuter-Return during the summer months, make sure to take into account the extreme heat and how it affects the cats' safety. It is possible for a cat to die from heat stroke when confined in a trap for too long. A simple guideline: if it is too hot outside for you, it is too hot for the cats. Make sure the cats don't remain in their traps for long by making your neuter appointments for directly after your trapping.

Also, don't place traps on surfaces that can get extremely warm from the sun, such as asphalt. The metal trap can absorb the asphalt's heat and burn the cats' paws.

## Cat Catio – built by Rich

Attached are the before and after pictures of Linda's excellent idea for turning her shed into a kitty haven for the 2 leukemia positive kittens that had been kept in a cage since the first Feral Fixin this year.

### Before



### After



## Colony Corner: Jaws

The Feral Fixin on April 6 was like none other. Cynthia and I had trapped 7 cats from her hometown of Gatlinburg, a new colony for us. We checked in our load of cats that Saturday morning, and cleaned some traps. Then I had to leave to pick up some horse feed. I had barely gotten on the interstate when I got the dread call from Deb Marsh - "One of your cats has a broken jaw!!" I just knew it was curtains for the poor cat, and I was really freaking out. I hated to think about having to tell the caretaker that one of his cats did not make it. I broke the news to Cynthia. We both rushed back, to hear that one of the vets, Dr. Greg Helton, had fixed his jaw! He expected he would make a full recovery. What wonderful news! The break was at his chin, between the canines. The repair was fairly easy for an experienced vet like Dr. Helton, and he wired the jaw back together. That is undoubtedly a more simplified explanation than it really was!

Our part of the recovery was to keep "Jaws" confined and feed him soft food for 2-3 weeks. Sounded easy enough, so I took him home. I set him up in a big cage, and covered it with a sheet to keep him calm. This boy was as feral as they come, and I was afraid the stress of confinement would inhibit his healing. He ended up less stressed than me, because that tom cat STANK! I had forgotten how STRONG those boys can be. Wow. Neutering is really good, for so many reasons!

After 3 weeks, Jaws went back to see Dr. Helton. After sedating him, he verified the jaw was healed and was able to remove the wire. Jaws was about to be a free cat!

Attaching two pictures of Jaws. One is him "relaxing" in his rehab facility, prison. The second one is Jaws in the waiting room with my cat Jewels. Dr. Helton was nice enough to randomly chose my regular vet, Tazewell Pike Animal Clinic, to meet us! So I was able to make the trip serve double duty.

Jaws endured his confinement very well. He tolerated me, but in the end, showed no tendencies to being tame. I am sure he will not miss us at all. Regardless, I am so pleased that we were able to make his life more comfortable.



*Special Thanks for Donations to help care for the unwanted*

Ian Blackburn

Lacey Stewart

Albina Borisevich - as a thank you for Bonnie cat-sitting Shay & Storm

*Support Feral Feline Friends of East Tennessee*

*In Honor/Memory of \_\_\_\_\_*

*Enclosed is my donation of: \_\_\$10 \_\_\$25 \_\_\$50 \_\_\$100 \_\_Other*

*Your donation will solely be used for the care of Knoxville's feral colonies, to include spaying/neutering, food, or other necessary care. Your donations are tax deductible under section 501c3 of the IRS code. Please let us know if your employer will match your gift.*

*Name \_\_\_\_\_*

*Address \_\_\_\_\_*

*Phone \_\_\_\_\_*

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