

Humane Trapping Procedures & Information

There are two requirements for a humane trap rented from Pets Lifeline:

1. Traps are for residents of Sonoma Valley or people who are trapping cats in Sonoma Valley.
2. Traps are to be used on cats only, **NOT** wildlife.

Thing to consider when trapping:

1. Location: if you do not live in Sonoma Valley, please seek out resources located in your city.
2. Animal(s) being trapped:
 - a. Pets Lifeline only admits feral **cats** that will be **returned to trappers** after being fixed.
 - b. If a wild animal (raccoon, opossum) is unintentionally trapped, open the trap and release it. PLL is not equipped to handle wildlife. Contact Animal Control if you have a wildlife issue.
3. Friendly vs feral cats:
 - a. Friendly cats do not run away when approached, will tolerate petting, and do not hiss or swipe at people. Check with neighbors to ensure that the cat you are trapping is not simply someone's outdoor cat!
 - b. Feral cats avoid people and will run away when approached. They may hiss, growl, or swipe at people and will not tolerate petting.
 - c. Regardless of if the cat is friendly or feral, you must agree to take the cat back from PLL once it has been fixed and continue caring for it. The property owner must approve of the cat returning.

*If you want to relocate a feral cat, then contact **Forgotten Felines**.

Trapping Procedure:

1. Shelter staff will show you how to set the trap if you do not already know how to.
2. Put a towel over the trap to reduce stress for the cat once it is trapped.
3. Bait the trap with food, and line the bottom of the trap with newspaper or a towel.
4. The trap should not be left unattended overnight or for long periods of time (more than 2 hours).
5. The trap should ideally be placed in a shaded area, especially during the summer.
6. It is best to trap and bring cats to PLL on **Mondays from 8:30am to 5pm**, though trapped cats can be brought to PLL on any day between 8:30am and 5pm, and should be brought in **immediately** after being trapped.
7. Remember to bring the trap back to Pets Lifeline within a month (or call and update PLL on trapping status). Pets Lifeline reserves the right to keep the trap rental deposit if the trap is lost, damaged, or not returned in a timely manner.