

SOLUTIONS TO CAT-RELATED ISSUES

Whether you love or loathe cats, Trap, Neuter, Return (TNR) is the answer. TNR is the only method proven to effectively reduce the numbers of cats. TNR reduces most cat related nuisances, poses no threat to public health and safety, and keeps rodent control in place. Even so, cats living within our communities sometimes cause disputes between neighbors. What many people do not realize, these disputes DO have remedies.



When resolving disputes it is important to look at both sides of the issue.

Cat caregiver side: Most often did not create the problem; rather their compassion prompted them to begin feeding a hungry stray. They have bonded with the cats and value the cat's lives tremendously, even though the cats are often not approachable by humans and would not make good pets. They may not have heard of TNR, and may not realize that ***resources are out there*** to help them get the cats fixed and resolve cat related issues.

Complainant side: The cats are creating a legitimate nuisance, most often these issues are: soiling in gardens, yowling at night, male cats spray causing odors. They may not have heard of TNR, and may not realize that simply removing the cats will not work to solve the problem. They have not bonded with the cats and they value their property tremendously. They may not realize that ***resources are out there*** to help keep cats off their property.

Unfortunately, many times disputes erupt because the situation has hit a "crisis" point. In order to resolve the situation both sides often need to first ***take a step back***. Listen patiently to the other party's side. Instead of interrupting the other party when you disagree with what they say, write down what they said, take it home and formulate a written plan that addresses the other party's concerns. As much as you may value the cat's lives or your property, refrain from insults and anger. There is a way to protect both the cat's lives and the neighbor's property!

Feral cat caregivers can alleviate most nuisance behaviors simply by spaying and neutering. ***Call our hotline 1-866-PETSFIX (738-7349) or visit www.utahpets.org to learn about the No More Homeless Pets Feral Fix program.*** No more smelly male urine, no more late night howling, no more kittens!

You can deter cats permanently! These deterrents really work!

CHEAP AND EASY CAT DETERRENTS

No More Homeless Pets in Utah
324 S 400 W, Suite C, SLC 84101 phone: 801-364-0370 X 16

Cats are attracted to soft dirt, especially in gardens and sand boxes. Every situation is different, so keep trying until you find the solution that works for you!

Try any one of these ideas to make soft dirt less attractive to cats:

- 1.** Turn plastic, clear car mats upside down in your garden, so the spikes stick up. Sprinkle dirt over them so they blend in. You can also place chicken wire throughout the garden, around the plants. All you have to do is cover it with a little dirt and you've got your own, inexpensive cat deterrent! Cats may try to use your garden as their litter box but their claws catch on the chicken wire or they're deterred by the plastic spikes on the overturned mat.
- 2.** Try pushing chop sticks into the ground throughout the garden, so a cat can't get good traction on any soft ground (this works in smaller gardens very well.)
- 3.** Some plants give off smells that cats dislike. One such plant, *Coleus canina*, goes by the common name, "scaredy cat plant." As the second term in the Latin name indicates (think "canine"), it is also effective if you have trouble landscaping with dogs. Other plants often recommended for keeping cats away from yards are rue, lavender, which deer pests also dislike, and pennyroyal.
- 4.** Offensive smells can work, too. Try sprinkling "stinky" substances around the problem area: including dried-blood fertilizer, cayenne pepper flakes, ammonia or mothballs (drop them into a can or jar, cover, and make a few holes in the cover). Note that mothballs are toxic, thus the recommendation that you use them in a covered can or jar. Avoid even this usage if small children will be in the yard and could, potentially, open such a can or jar.
- 5.** Use a mulch that they won't want to walk on, like "stone mulch" or bristly pine cones!
- 6.** Use positive-reinforcement and plant a bed of catnip plants where you don't mind the cats. They'll be drawn to the catnip, instead of your flowerbed.
- 8.** Try a new product is on the market, that doesn't require batteries and is easy to use, called Jumbo! This company will help you use the Jumbo to deter cats and wildlife, too. Each box comes with six complete Jumbos. See them online at: <http://www.JumboTrainer.com>
- 8. Automatic cat deterrents WORK!** They're low-maintenance and nearly always do the trick. We offer them for sale, at the same price that we pay for them. Call 801-364-0370 X 16 to purchase (**available while supplies last.**)
 - CatStop \$33 (\$11 for the adapter to plug it in or just use 9v batteries without an adapter)
 - Scare Crow \$30 (must be plugged into the water hose.. but it works great)

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You can purchase online by searching or visiting this site: <http://www.safepetproducts.com/group.asp?grp=49>

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