

The Big Fix Homeless Cat Project **HOLIDAY & WINTER 2015**

(830) 896-6053 www.bigfixcats.com

We are a 501c3 and our work is primarily sustained from **tax deductible donations**. Call us at (830) 896-6053 for more information or to become a volunteer. Your help is vitally important to our success and we heartily thank you for your support during this busy holiday season!



First, let us apologize if you received this newsletter and have previously let us know you have changed your address. Through an unexpected computer problem our updated mailing list was lost to us. We were able to use an old list and we hope you will bear with us while we process changes as we receive them.

Do You Know the Benefits of TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return)?

Who is the big winner when a community practices TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return) for feral cat colonies? The cats of course! Let's take a look at the advantages for both the cats and the community. First of all the cats are no longer having kittens outdoors, which is dangerous for them, and if a consistent food source is a problem for the mother she may become too thin and weak to produce milk. There is a lot less violence among both sexes of the cats – the males fighting over the females and territory, and the females being injured or killed by a much larger tomcat in the mating process. It's a proven fact that neutered feral cats live much healthier lives.

How does the community benefit from TNR? The noise from fighting and mating cats no longer being a problem is obviously the first choice. There is also the 'Tomcat Smell' that lingers from male cats spraying their territory. With these welcome changes, most neighborhoods are accepting of a colony living nearby.

When a TNR program is consistently carried out, a feral cat colony will decrease in size. A female cat can have up to 100 kittens in her lifetime. Can you imagine how quickly a feral cat community grows without TNR?

When we at The BigFix trap cats, we also vaccinate them against rabies. This also contributes greatly to the health of the cat colonies and makes them more welcoming to nearby neighborhoods.

The number one reason for death in feral cats is being killed in shelters. Feral cats are not house pets that are simply living outdoors. Feral cats are untamed and unadoptable. If they wind up in animal shelters they are the most likely to be killed. Killing feral cats does not decrease the population, TNR does. Continuing an approach that is clearly not working is a waste of taxpayer dollars.

Tinsel, bows, ornament hooks and curling ribbons are dangerous to your cat if swallowed.



Have you been to our website lately? BigFixCats.com has a new look – check it out! On our website you can learn more about what we do, see pictures of happy, adorable cats, as well as cats we've trapped, and you can make a donation through Paypal.

You can also donate through AmazonSmile without spending any extra dollars. When first visiting AmazonSmile, customers are

prompted to select a charitable organization from almost one million eligible organizations (please help the cats in our own community by choosing The Big Fix). For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization at NO EXTRA COST TO YOU!! Simply choose to shop on AmazonSmile rather than the regular Amazon website - use: <http://smile.amazon.com> – Simple 😊

Please be aware that plants such as mistletoe, poinsettias & holly berries are poisonous to cats & dogs.

We would like to give our sincere thanks to Freeman-Fritz Animal Clinic & Shelter. Without their help and support, we would not have a program for spaying and neutering, and they also help us with veterinary treatment and vaccines for our local feral cat communities.

We hope you shop for your beloved pets at **Pets Supplies Plus**, and hope you will consider buying an extra bag of cat food and drop it in our bin near the cash registers. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

The Purrfect Gift...For the person who has everything! A gift to *The Big Fix* is a wonderful way to celebrate your shared love of cats and to make the world a better place for them. We will send a card notifying your honoree of your thoughtful gift in their name. Your tax deductible gift of as little as \$10 will allow us to continue our mission. Your donation goes directly to humane trapping, neutering, and Veterinary care. Simply fill out the form below and enclose it with your donation.

Checks should be made out to: *The Big Fix* and mailed to:

Homeless Cat Project of the Texas Hill Country
P.O. Box 294003, Kerrville TX 78029

Name of Honoree:

Occasion (Christmas, birthday, etc.):

Send my gift card to (Recipient's Name):

(Recipient's mailing address):

Donor's Name & Phone #:

