



THE SUNRISE CITY  
**FORT PIERCE**  
ANIMAL CONTROL

*Florida*



**TO : The Honorable Mayor and City Commissioners**

**THROUGH : Nicholas Mimms, City Manager**

**FROM : Peggy Arraiz, Code Compliance Manager**

**SUBJECT : Discussion on TNR Program**

**DATE : February 9, 2017**

TNR stands for Trap-Neuter-Release and is a proposed approach for managing stray and feral cat populations. TNR is very controversial with highly respected individuals and organizations have taken opposing sides of this issue. A brief summary of the pros and cons is detailed below multiple articles are attached that explore and explain this issue in much further detail.

Pro TNR advocates include The ASPCA, The Humane Society of the United States and every Humane Society at the state and local levels as well as PetSmart and Alley Cat Allies.

- Claims to be the only humane approach. Balances the needs and concerns of the community by stabilizing cat populations instead of killing cats.
- Neutering stray cats leading to long term reduction of the stray population.
- Provides vaccination of rabies and other diseases.
- Decreases nuisance complaints by reducing cat fighting, mating and odor from unneutered males.
- Dismisses claims from opponents of TNR and provides a list of studies that support the use of TNR as the most logical approach to controlling the stray cat population.

Opponents to TNR include PETA, the American Veterinarian Medical Association, the Florida Rabies Advisory Committee, the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission as well as almost every wildlife and avian organization.

- Claims TNR to be inhumane. If rehoming is not possible, euthanasia is more humane than allowing strays to die due to disease, animal attacks or being hit by a car.
- Claims TNR is ineffective in reducing the stray population unless the vast majority of strays have been sterilized.
- Vaccines expire and cat that have experienced TNR and trap wary and hard to recatch to revaccinate.
- Nuisance activities not related to mating still exist – noise, interfering with owned pets, damaging personal property, etc.
- Dismiss the studies provided by TNR advocates and provides a list of studies that prove that TNR is ineffective.