



Proclamation

Board of County Commissioners
Manatee County, Florida

WHEREAS, October 16th is National Feral Cat Day, a day dedicated to educating communities about the importance of spaying and neutering feral and free-roaming cats and Trap-Neuter-Return, as a humane method of care for outdoor cats; and

WHEREAS, Trap-Neuter-Return improves the lives of cats and stabilizes cat populations. The stresses and behaviors associated with breeding, such as yowling and fighting, stop. Trap-Neuter-Return is recognized throughout the United States and other countries as the humane and responsible way to care for feral and free-roaming cats.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that October 16, 2013, shall be known, designated, and set aside as

NATIONAL FERAL CAT DAY

in Manatee County, Florida.

ADOPTED with a quorum present and voting this 8th day of October 2013.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

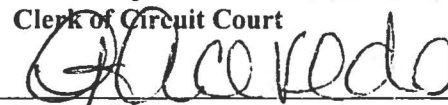
By:


Larry Bustle, Chairman

ATTEST:

R. B. "Chips" Shore
Clerk of Circuit Court

By:


Deputy Clerk



October 8, 2013 - Regular Meeting
Agenda Item #6

Subject

National Feral Cat Day

Briefings

None

Contact and/or Presenter Information

Board of County Commissioners

APPROVED in Open Session
October 8, 2013
Manatee County Board of County
Commissioners

Action Requested

Adopt Proclamation designating October 16, 2013, as "National Feral Cat Day" in Manatee County.

Enabling/Regulating Authority

Background Discussion

Karen Slumba and Caroline Resnick, Gulf Shore Animal League, will be present to accept the Proclamation.

County Attorney Review

Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

Explanation of Other

Reviewing Attorney

N/A

Instructions to Board Records

None.

Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name

Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs

Attachment: [National Feral Cat Day - 10.08.13.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Feral Cat Facts.pdf](#)



About National Feral Cat Day®

Use these facts about National Feral Cat Day®, feral cats, and Alley Cat Allies to prepare for interviews and write accurate letters and press releases. Print this flyer to hand out at your events.

National Feral Cat Day® Facts

- Alley Cat Allies launched National Feral Cat Day® on our 10th anniversary in 2001 to raise awareness about feral cats, promote Trap-Neuter-Return, and recognize the millions of compassionate Americans who care for them.
- National Feral Cat Day® is observed on October 16 every year.
- The theme for this year's National Feral Cat Day® is "Architects of Change for Cats: Building blueprints for humane communities."
- This year, Alley Cat Allies has introduced a National Feral Cat Day® Challenge: Help transform your community's animal pound or shelter. We're encouraging individuals to advocate and partner with their local shelters to make critical changes that will save cats' lives.
- More and more people celebrate National Feral Cat Day® each year. In 2012, 450 events were held nationally, with some held internationally. The year before that, in 2011, there were 351 events, which was almost twice as many as in 2010. We can't wait to see how many people National Feral Cat Day® reaches this year!

Feral Cat Facts

- Feral cats have lived alongside humans for more than 10,000 years. They are the same species as pet cats—*felis catus*. Feral cats, also called community or outdoor cats, live in colonies and can thrive in every landscape. They are just as healthy as pet cats, but they are not socialized to humans and are therefore unadoptable.
- Trap-Neuter-Return—a humane approach to managing and caring for feral cats—is the only effective method of stabilizing feral cat colonies. In the last decade, the number of local governments with official policies endorsing TNR for feral cats has increased tenfold, with hundreds of cities and towns carrying out TNR.
- In the majority of cities, feral cats are still caught and brought to animal pounds and shelters where they are killed. The shelter system is the number one cause of death for cats in the United States. About 70% of cats who enter shelters are killed there, including virtually 100% of feral cats.

Alley Cat Allies Facts

- Alley Cat Allies was founded in 1990. The organization is headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, just outside of Washington, D.C.
- Alley Cat Allies is the only national organization dedicated to the protection and humane treatment of cats. We currently have more than 500,000 supporters nationwide in the movement to protect and improve cats' lives.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

#6

Do your comments refer to an item on today's agenda? NO YES
Item #: 6 CONSENT: NO YES

The Board of County Commissioners welcomes your comments. Your presentation will be limited to two (2) minutes. If appropriate, the matter(s) you present will be placed on a future commission agenda.

It is requested that you complete this form and return it to the receptionist prior to the beginning of the Citizens' Comments portion of the agenda.

Name: Rebecca Neal
Address: 6800 Riverview Blvd
Phone: (Home) 941-744-8322 (Work) 941-713-1451

Brief description of problem or concern:
In support of National Feral Cat day.