

ARTICLE 6.12 FERAL CATS

Sec. 6.12.001 Feral Cat colony permit.

(a) A feral cat colony manager shall obtain a permit from animal services department to become a feral cat colony manager. It shall be unlawful to manage operate, own, or control a feral cat colony without a feral cat colony manager permit. A feral cat colony manager may manage any number of feral cat colonies. Each feral cat colony must be registered with the city. Registration of feral cat colonies shall be free of charge.. All feral cat colony managers feeding colonies prior to the effective date of this ordinance shall register each colony within ten (10) business days from the effective date of this ordinance.

(b) To apply for a permit to become a feral cat colony manger, a person must present evidence to animal services department of satisfactory completion of a trap, neuter, and release educational course.

(c) It shall be a violation of this chapter to feed a cat running-at-large outside of the property owned by the person feeding the cat, without first obtaining a feral cat colony manager permit and maintaining proper management and sterilization as required by section 6.12.003.

(d) A feral cat colony manager shall implement proper management and sterilization practices as required by the animal services department to maintain a valid permit.

(e) Any feral cat colony manager determined to be in violation of proper management and sterilization practices required by the animal services department shall be issued a written warning and allowed a period of time, which shall not exceed ninety (90) days, to come into compliance. Failure to comply within the given time period is a violation of this chapter.

(f) The animal control officer may immediately seize and remove all, or parts of any colony for the following reasons:

- (1) Public health or safety concerns including, but not limited to rabies or other epizootic and certain zoonoses identified by the department of health;
- (2) Animals creating a public nuisance by interfering with passing vehicles, trespassing on school grounds, or crying or whining in an excessive, continuous or untimely fashion.

Sec. 6.12.002 Duration of permit; permit fees

Permits issued under this article shall be valid for one year from date of issuance. The fees for permits under this article shall be set by the city council, and are as shown in the animal registration fee schedule maintained by the city secretary and as set forth in section A6.12.002 of the fee schedule in Appendix A to this code.

Sec. 6.12.003 Proper management and sterilization.

(a) A feral cat colony manager must provide the animal services department with a reasonable estimation of the number of cats in each feral cat colony on an annual basis or as required by the animal control officer.

(b) A feral cat colony manager must sterilize at least fifty percent (50%) of the unsterilized cats of each permitted feral cat colony annually and show proof to the animal services department of the number sterilized.

(c) A feral cat colony manager must provide, on a daily basis, adequate fresh food and water to the cats in the feral cat colonies that the feral cat colony manager has obtained a permit for.

(d) A feral cat colony manager must make all reasonable efforts to catch a sick or injured cat within the feral cat colony that the feral cat colony manager has obtained a permit for and take the cat to a veterinarian.

(e) A feral cat colony manager shall ensure that all cats which the feral cat colony manager has caused to be sterilized will be vaccinated for rabies and obtain an ear tip amputation performed by a veterinarian.

(f) A feral cat colony manager shall submit annual reports to the animal services department as to the estimated number of cats per colony that the feral cat colony manager has obtained a permit for, the number of cats vaccinated for rabies and sterilized, and the location of the veterinary clinic used.

(g) A feral cat colony manager must obtain written permission of the landowner or the landowner's agent where the feral cats congregate or are fed to obtain a permit for the feral cat colony and provide a copy of the written permission to animal control.

(h) A feral cat colony manager may apply for a waiver of any provision of this section. The ruling of the animal services department on the application is final and non-appealable.

Sec. 6.12.004 Revocation of permit

(a) A permit issued under this chapter may be revoked by the animal services director or authorized representative, for any violation of the provisions of this chapter by the holder thereof.

(b) The animal services department shall provide written notice of the revocation to the holder by sending the notice certified mail or by personally delivering the written notice to the holder of the permit.

Sec. A6.12.002 Duration of permit; permit fees

Feral Cat Colony Manager Permit: \$0.00