**HUMANE CAT DETERRENTS**

**Scarecrow**

The *Scarecrow* senses animals the same way security lights detect people, by movement and heat. When an animal is detected, a valve opens instantly releasing a three-second pulsating spray of water. The combination of the sudden noise, movement, and water frightens animals away. This startling, yet harmless action is a remarkably effective deterrent. The effect is both startling and immediate! Animals quickly get out of the area and avoid it in the future.

The *Scarecrow* will protect an area approximately 35 feet wide and 45 feet deep, which makes it an excellent device for keeping cats off lawns, and away from ponds and gardens. It operates off a 9V battery which might typically last up to 6 months if operated day and night (or 3000+ activations). The device needs to be connected to a good quality consumer water hose with a water pressure of around 30 to 80 P.S.I.

**Cat Stop**

A humane, environmentally friendly way to keep cats out of your garden with a motion-activated burst of ultrasonic sound. Protect your garden, plants or sandbox without chemicals or fences. When cats come within range, the *CatStop* automatic outdoor cat deterrent emits a sudden burst of ultrasonic sound (that humans can’t hear) - the sound startles cats, and teaches them to stay away. Installation is easy - just place the CatStop in the garden or outdoor area that you want to protect, and it’s ready to go.

- A powerful burst of ultrasonic sound startles the cat
- The cat equates the location with the unpleasant occurrence
- The cat avoids the location in the future
- Unlike pest deterrents that operate continuously, the CatStop unit waits for the animal to come into its range before activating, making the function unpredictable for the cat, and therefore more effective.

**Resources for all things Feral & Community Cats**

- www.catcenter.org
- www.alleycat.org
- www.contech-inc.com
A Humane Option for Community Cats

A feral or community cat is a cat that has reverted back to a wild state. It may be a domestic housecat who has been abandoned or gotten lost or the offspring of such a cat.

Feral cat populations can grow fast because an unspayed female cat can (and often will) have litters only four months apart. Within five months from their birth, her kittens can (and often will) begin to have litters of their own and so on. Within five years, a single cat can be responsible for the births of thousands of kittens. In order to prevent the cat population from increasing the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is an effective and humane method of reducing homeless cat populations. You can learn more about the TNR option by visiting our website at www.hssv.org

What happens now that you’ve trapped a cat?

- Contra Costa County Animal Services will hold cats trapped or found for the legal holding period for an owner to come forward and reclaim the cat.
- During the cat’s stay at CCAS it will be medically and behaviorally evaluated for adoption should the cat not be reclaimed by an owner.
- If the cat is found to be medically healthy, but its behavior is indicative that it is feral or unsocial, CCAS is unable to place the cat up for adoption as a companion animal and it will be euthanized unless it is able to return to the area where it was found.

How does returning the cat work?

- After being spayed or neutered, vaccinated, eartipped, and examined by a veterinarian, the cat will be returned to the location it was trapped/found and released by a Feline Express volunteer.

Did you know?

- Since altered cats are unable to reproduce, many unwanted behaviors may be reduced or eliminated such as spraying (marking), yowling, and fighting.
- Having an altered cat in the area may prevent other unaltered cats from moving in and prolifically breeding.

How can one person save hundreds of homeless cats? Easy. Just fix one.