



An ever-growing population is not sustainable for cats, or for us humans. Spaying and neutering community cats is the most humane way to ensure their health and control their population. For more information, please refer to the Living with Community Cats sheet.

## The Process

1. To schedule a surgery for a community cat in Buncombe County, call the Buncombe County Animal Shelter at (828) 250-6430 or visit us in person at 16 Forever Friend Ln.
2. Community cat spays and neuters can be scheduled during the week. Drop-off time is 10 a.m. and pick-up time is 4 p.m. the same day.
3. Consent for care form must be signed prior to drop-off.
4. Cat must be brought in either a cat carrier, crate or trap.

## What is Included

All community cats that come through our spay and neuter program receive either a spay or neuter surgery, a rabies vaccine, a FVRCP vaccine, and an ear tip. If requested, a microchip can be implanted instead of an ear tip for a \$10 fee.

## After Care

Following their surgery, your community cat will need to be kept in a confined, secure, temperature-controlled space (mud room, laundry room, garage) for 24 hours to monitor for any complications or concerns. They must be provided with food and water during this time.

## Cost

Generally, the cost of the spay neuter is covered for Buncombe County residents for cats found in Buncombe County. There may be minimal charges for additional services. Please ask a staff member for details on current pricing. There is a \$5 fee for flea treatment if deemed necessary at the time of surgery.

## Exceptions

Your community cat may not be eligible if:

- Cat is found to have a microchip not registered to you at time of surgery.
- Cat is younger than 2 months or weighs less than 3 lbs.
- Cat has a health concern or condition that interferes with their ability to receive surgery (ex. severe skin condition, extremely thin, etc).
- Cat is found outside of Buncombe County.

