Press Release

Subject: Yolo County Animal Services Section offers Community Cat Program to City of Woodland Residents

Contact: Mark Persons, Public Information, 530.406.5172

Date: September 12, 2013

Yolo County Animal Services is looking for your help as citizens of the city of Woodland, to help manage the Community/Feral cat population within the city limits.

The Community Cat program is the most humane and effective approach for controlling the feral cat population. Through the Community Cat program, cats are humanely trapped and spayed/neutered, and tested for FELV-FIP if they do not appear healthy. Cats are also given a rabies vaccination and eartip (clipping of one ear under anesthesia as a marking that the cat is sterilized). A Co-pay is appreciated for the service, but not required. They are then returned to their territory where caretakers provide them with regular food and shelter, or the cats are already managing on their own resources.

Feral cats are cats that people typically can’t touch. They are not socialized to people and not candidates for adoption into people’s homes. Although some feral cats can tolerate mild human interaction, most are too fearful and unsocialized to be handled. They are quiet and keep their distance from humans. Feral cats usually live outdoors in groups known as feral colonies.

As a result of a special grant received from PetSmart Charities, Yolo County Animal Services and the Yolo County SPCA is offering free spay/neuter for feral cats in Woodland for a limited time. Yolo County Animal Services and the Yolo County SPCA sought this grant so that we could help reduce the City of Woodland’s feral cat population and the burden on animal control of the large number of cats and kittens received annually.

Yolo County Animal Services always offer spay/neuter for feral cats from other communities; however, these services are not free. Prices for non-
Woodland feral cats are $15. This price includes rabies vaccine and ear-tip. If the cost is not affordable, then Yolo County SPCA is helping to support the program.

We know that many people feed and care for feral cat colonies in the city, but are reluctant to call Yolo County Animal Services for assistance because they don’t want the cats trapped and euthanized. Consequently, the cats, although cared for, continue to reproduce, thus driving up the population of homeless animals. Colonies whose populations spiral out of control are also likely to cause concern from neighbors, who may decide to contact animal control. It is best for everyone involved that the colony be stabilized as quickly as possible.

Unfortunately, if not socialized by a certain age, cats become feral and unadoptable as pets. Cats that may be strays or lost or abandoned house pets or kittens, and who we believe are friendly enough to be adopted, can be placed up for adoption in a shelter.

Cats brought into the shelter must be in a secure trap; with one cat per container. If you do not have a trap, one may be provided for you by Animal Services or the Yolo County SPCA for this program. Please note that walk-in service is not available for feral cat spay/neuter as it is for our vaccine clinics. Each cat must have an appointment.

If a citizen of the city of Woodland would like to participate in this program, please contact Angela Kinn at the Yolo County Sheriff’s Animal Services Section @ 530.662.8858 or email ycasrescue@hotmail.com to make an appointment.
Yolo County Sheriff's Office
140 Tony Diaz Drive, Woodland, CA 95776

(530) 668-5280  Fax (530) 668-5238  (916) 375-6493

E.G. Prieto
Sheriff ~ Coroner

Tom A. Lopez
Undersheriff

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