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NEPA Rescue Vet Clinic at Indraloka Helping

Dunmore Borough Spay and Neuter Feral Cats — Volunteers Needed

Dalton, PA — “Cats rule the world,” according to cartoonist Jim Davis. For the residents of Dunmore Borough, this observation hits too close to home. The feral cat population has gotten so out of control that a new ordinance enacted last month makes it illegal to feed stray and feral cats. The borough instead is encouraging people to trap, neuter, and release (TNR) to prevent the cat population from increasing. To kick off this new effort, Councilwoman Katherine Oven reached out to the [NEPA Rescue Veterinary Clinic](#) at [Indraloka Animal Sanctuary](#) for help.

On Sunday, March 10th, volunteers are needed to help catch feral cats. All cats will be spayed and neutered at Indraloka’s NEPA Rescue Veterinary Clinic on Monday, March 11th, and returned to their Dunmore “homes” on Tuesday. **For information and to volunteer, contact Councilwoman Oven at mackoven@yahoo.com.**

Leslie Interlandi, DVM, head of the NEPA Rescue Vet Clinic, will perform the spaying and neutering and provide other medical care for the cats, as necessary. The NEPA Animal Welfare Collaborative, which is a consortium of local animal welfare organizations, including Indraloka, is helping rally volunteers for the vital TNR initiative.

“We are thrilled to be able to help Dunmore by providing high-quality, low-cost spay and neuter services to help reduce overpopulation of feral cats,” Indraloka founder Indra Lahiri, PhD, says.

Dunmore residents are pitching in by helping trap the cats and providing their yards to set the traps. Trapping, neutering, and releasing is one of the most humane ways to decrease the feral cat population.



Although some animal welfare advocates argue TNR does not address stray cat problems, many municipalities that participate in TNR programs report reductions in feral cat populations.

Up to 4,948 kittens can be born from one unsprayed female cat and her offspring in seven years. And while there are many benefits feral and community cats can bring to a neighborhood — controlling invasive species and decreasing the sense of isolation that humans experience, for example — in Dunmore, the sheer breadth of the overpopulation obliterates those benefits.

Since opening in 2022, the NEPA Rescue Veterinary Clinic has partnered with member organizations of the NEPA Animal Welfare Collaborative to provide low-cost services to area rescues. The clinic recently began offering those same steeply-discounted services — vaccinations, neutering, wellness checks, blood tests and other diagnostics, and surgeries — to members of the NEPA community who might not otherwise be able to afford care for their animal companions.

Indraloka is one of the only farm animal sanctuaries in the country to have an onsite vet clinic.

For more information on Dunmore Borough’s TNR initiative, contact Dunmore Borough Councilwoman Katherine Oven at mackoven@yahoo.com.

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About Indraloka Animal Sanctuary

Indraloka, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, provides “heaven on earth” for farm animals that have nowhere else to turn. We hold year-round events that inform, inspire, and empower the community, and help people — especially children — heal from trauma. We advocate for a kind and compassionate lifestyle that protects animals, the earth and our own health. As educators, we offer a wide range of STEAM-based learning



programs, summer camps and field trips for children, K-12. The community is invited to tour the sanctuary; reservations are required. Visit us at Indraloka.org.