

# **Guidelines for Colony Caretakers in the TNR Program**

#### 1. The Site

- The colony caretaker must keep the feeding station neat and clean. This is vital for the health of the cats.
- No articles of food, empty dishes, cans, etc. should be left out after feeding time other than water.
- The colony caretaker is responsible for ensuring that their cats are not damaging their neighbor's property and are cleaning up feces in the neighborhood outside of their own property when possible.

### 2. When to Feed

- It is recommended that feeding take place no later than 8AM. The cats can eat all day and there is a less chance for attracting wildlife to feeding stations at night.
- Food must be removed no later than 8PM. Clean water can remain overnight but must be changed every day.

#### 3. What to Feed

- Dry food is recommended for colony feeding because it can remain out all day and not spoil.
- If the colony caretaker decides to feed wet food, they must do so in a separate plate or bowl, rather than mixing it in with the dry food. Wet food will spoil if not eaten, attracts ants and other insects.
- The colony caretaker must provide fresh food and water for the colony every day.

## 4. New Cats and Kittens

 The colony caretaker is responsible for reporting any additional animals that are staying in their colony and/or sick cats in a timely fashion to the MCSPCA.