

Identifying Stray Cats

What is an eartip?

Eartipping is the removal of 3/8 inch of the tip of the left ear of a stray cat and performed while the cat is already anesthetized for spay/neuter.

Why eartip an outdoor cat?

1. Eartipping shows that a stray cat has been spayed/neutered.
2. Without an eartip, cats could be mistaken for unfixed cats and they could undergo surgery only to find out they have already been fixed.

What do I do if I'm seeing cats with eartips?

1. Cats with eartips have already been spayed/neutered, so they will not be able to have kittens.
2. You can feed and provide shelter for these cats.
3. Watch for new cats that do not have eartips, meaning they need to be fixed. If you see cats without eartips, call Humane Ohio at 419-266-5607 to rent humane live traps so you can get them spayed/neutered for \$25.



Identifying Fixed Pets

Tattoos on spayed/neutered cats and dogs

All cats and dogs fixed at Humane Ohio received a small black or green tattoo near their surgical incision while under anesthesia (outdoor cats get an eartip in addition to the tattoo).

Why do cats and dogs receive a tattoo?

A tattoo near the surgical incision means that a cat or dog has already been spayed/neutered.

If someone would find your pet and take him or her to a veterinarian to be fixed, all they have to do is shave the area to see if there is a tattoo and prevent opening your pet for surgery unnecessarily.

