

## Identifying Outdoor Community Cats

### What is an ear tip?

- Ear-tipping is the removal of 1 centimeter (~3/8 inch) of the tip of the left ear of an outdoor community cat and performed while a cat is already anesthetized for spay/neuter.



### Why eartip an outdoor cat?

- Ear-tipping shows that a community cat has been spayed/neutered.
- Without an eartip, cats could be mistaken for being unfixed and could undergo surgery only to find out they have already been fixed.

### What do I do if I see cats with eartips?

- Cats with eartips have already been spayed/neutered, so they will not be able to reproduce.
- You can feed and provide shelter for these cats.
- Watch for new cats that do not have eartips, meaning they need to be fixed. If you see cats without an eartip, contact Humane Ohio at 419-266-5607 to rent a humane live trap(s) so you can get them spayed/neutered for \$30.

## Identifying Fixed Pets

### Tattoos on spayed/neutered dogs and cats

- All cats and dogs fixed at Humane Ohio receive a small green tattoo near their umbilicus (belly button) while under anesthesia (outdoor community cats receive an eartip in addition to a tattoo).



### Why do dogs and cats receive a tattoo?

- A tattoo near the surgical incision makes it easy to identify that a dog or cat has already been spayed/neutered.
- If someone would find your pet and take them to a veterinarian to be fixed, all they have to do is shave the area to see if there is a tattoo and prevent your pet unnecessarily undergoing anesthesia/surgery.