

## **Providing and Constructing Shelter**

Community cats will seek shelter where they can stay dry and warm. If shelter is not provided to them, often they will seek shelter in areas where they are not welcome, for example in a car motor or under a neighbor's deck.

- To reduce the likelihood that a community cat will seek shelter in an inappropriate place, you can provide them with easy-to-construct and relatively inexpensive shelters. (See instructions on page 2)
- Cat shelters should be placed in inconspicuous areas, away from traffic and people. Shelters should be neutral in color, or arranged so that they blend in with the surroundings.
- Feeding stations and shelters should be placed so that cats do not have to cross traffic or travel
  onto other's property to move from one to the other.
- Provide enough shelters for all the cats in the colony.
- Even though outdoor cats will develop a heavier coat, they are still susceptible to frostbite and hypothermia, particularly in the rain and snow.
- SnuggleSafe disks are disks that can be warmed up in a microwave and tucked into a community cat's house. Cats love them! SnuggleSafe disks are available at Amazon.com, or locally at Pet Supplies Plus stores.
- For more information about community cat shelters, heated items, houses for sale, and other plans for how to build community cat shelters, visit the following links:

http://facespayneuter.org/indyferal/cat-care-resources/outdoor-cat-shelters-feeding-stations/

http://feralvilla.com/

http://cozywinters.com/pets/

http://www.urbancatleague.org/Shelters.html

Thank you for caring for the Community Cats in Forsyth County and the surrounding areas!



## SIMPLE OUTDOOR CAT SHELTER

## Two-Cat Shelter:

- 1. Use a 30 gallon rubber/plastic tote box with lid. Cut a 5 1/2" diameter hole in one end of the tote.
- 2. Insert a Styrofoam cooler in the tote box and cut a hole to match the tote hole.
- 3. Add dry, clean straw. (Do not use towels or cloth bedding as they will retain more moisture.)
- 4. Add Styrofoam lid.
- 5. Add Tote lid. Now you have a waterproof and easy shelter.

Once the cats are accustomed to the shelter, you can add a door flap made of heavy plastic or vinyl.

If you need to house more cats, purchase a larger tote, or make multiple cat shelters.

## SIMPLE OUTDOOR FEEDING STATION

Use a plastic storage bin - 30 or more gallons.

Cut a rectangular entrance hole in the long side of the bin.

Place food and water bowls inside, at the ends of the bin so cats do not have to step over them.

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