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The American Association of Feline Practitioners Position Statement Supports Health and Wellbeing of Free-Roaming Cats

Statement addresses non-lethal ways to control free-roaming cat populations

BRIDGEWATER, NJ; JUNE 08, 2023 – [The American Association of Feline Practitioners](#) (AAFP), the trusted leader in feline health and wellbeing for the veterinary community and cat caregivers, announced a new [position statement](#) that addresses the growing complexities of managing free-roaming cats.

The AAFP defines a free-roaming cat as any cat not confined to a house or other type of enclosure. The new position statement focuses on several overarching goals:

- Sustained reduction of unowned free-roaming cat populations over time
- Improved cat health and wellbeing
- Mitigating negative impacts on the environment, wildlife, public health, and neighborhoods
- Supporting free-roaming cat caregivers and their human-animal bond

"We are committed to sustaining reductions in free-roaming populations while prioritizing the health of cats and the environment," said Kira Ramdas, AAFP president. "Through humane capture, sterilization, and appropriate homing, we aim to strengthen the human-animal bond and support cat caregivers. Together, with collaboration and evidence-based practices, we can make a positive impact on the lives of free-roaming cats and our communities."

Read the full statement on the [AAFP website](#).

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About the American Association of Feline Practitioners

[The American Association of Feline Practitioners \(AAFP\)](#) supports its members in improving the health and wellbeing of cats through high standards of practice, continuing education, and evidence-based medicine. As a trusted leader in the veterinary community, the AAFP has a long-standing reputation and track record for increasing the standard of care for cats through the development of practice guidelines, feline-specific education and resources, and [feline caregiver resources](#). Home to the Cat Friendly Practice® and Cat Friendly Certificate Programs, the AAFP encourages veterinary professionals of all levels to re-evaluate preconceived notions of practice strategies and advance the quality of feline medicine.