



Very Important Discharge Information for Caregivers

By bringing your cats in for spay/neuter and vaccination, you have helped lessen the burden of cat overpopulation. **Please read this brochure carefully to ensure the best outcome for the cats!** Full recovery from anesthesia may take up to 24 hours so you will need to monitor the cats to provide the best care possible.

Typically cats are picked up the same day of surgery, do not remove trapped cats from their traps until fully recovered the day following surgery! Cats in carriers must remain in them until they are fully awake and standing on their own.

Keep cats in a warm, sheltered area. Cats recovering from anesthesia are particularly prone to chilling which will prolong recovery and can be dangerous.

Place newspapers or plastic on the floor to catch urine, stool and food that may fall to the floor. Elevating the trap with bricks or rolled towels will ensure cats are not sitting in their waste. Cover traps loosely with a large towel or blanket. This provides security and protection, essential for their safety, including for nursing cats and kittens.

Many cats will be groggy and need to sleep overnight the day of surgery. Do not disturb them and reach into the trap or carrier as they may bite in their state of confusion.

Normal Post Operative Conditions

Normal behavior during recovery may include deep sleep, head bobbing, dilated pupils, wobbly movements, fast breathing and shivering.

No cat should be released the day after surgery if showing any of these symptoms!

There should be no bleeding from the surgical site during recovery. There may be some bleeding from the ear tip up to the next day.

In female cats, the uterus and ovaries are removed through a small incision in the abdominal wall. All sutures are absorbable on the inside and the very outer layer of skin is held together with surgical glue.

In male cats, the scrotum is not removed, only the testicles, through two incisions, one in each side of the scrotum. Male cats may appear as if they still have testicles. This is normal - the swelling should subside gradually through the recovery period.

Please call us if you have questions. If you feel there is an emergency and no one is available at CGCR, please call your local pet emergency clinic. The fees for care at a veterinary clinic are the responsibility of the caregiver, not CGCR.

We recommend that you keep non-feral cats indoors for 10 days post surgery.

Food & Water Post Op

Only feed cats after they are fully alert and able to stand without being wobbly. Some cats may be able to eat and drink a small amount the evening after surgery. About ¼ to ½ cup of wet food is usually well tolerated with ½ “ of water added don't leave free standing water with them - only added to food.

It is important not to feed them too much as they can vomit if they eat too much after anesthesia.

Most cats will not be fully awake to eat and drink until the day after surgery. The following day, feed them a large meal and some water, again not completely filling the bowl. To feed and water feral cats in traps, very carefully slide dishes under the sliding trap door. Use extreme caution to not let your fingers get within biting or scratching distance

Releasing Trapped Cats

To release, point the back of the trap away from danger, such as a busy street. Take off the cover towel, unlatch the sliding door and lift open. Stand back and patiently allow the cat to leave at its own pace. Usually it will run away immediately.

If you need to relocate cats, please contact us for instructions on how to introduce barn cats.

If you have borrowed traps and carriers from Columbia Gorge Cat Rescue, please clean before returning as arranged.

This service is made possible thanks to donations to **Columbia Gorge Cat Rescue**.

Please consider donating to support this program. Donations may be sent to

COLUMBIA GORGE CAT RESCUE (CGCR)

PO Box 231, Hood River, Oregon 97031

Or donate online at our web site: <http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/or212.html>

All contributions are greatly appreciated and tax-deductible as allowed by law. We are an all-volunteer organization so all donations go directly to the cats.

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