

BURLINGTON COUNTY FERAL CAT INITIATIVE (BCCI)

ADULT VOLUNTEER

APPLICATION AND AGREEMENT

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS AND PRINT/WRITE LEGIBLY.

Name of Applicant					
Street Address					
City, State, Zip Code					
Telephone Numbers	Home	Work	Cell		
Email Address					
Sex	Male	Female	Are you 18 years of age or older?	Yes	No
Do you have any pets?	Yes	No	Have they been spayed/ neutered?	Yes	No
Please circle type(s) of animals you own: dog cat other:					
Name & Address of Veterinarian:					
Do you have any experience with feral (wild) cats?				Yes	No
If yes, please briefly explain:					
Have you worked with any other TNR (trap, neuter, return) organizations?				Yes	No
If yes, please provide the name of the organization:					
Are you TNR Certified?				Yes	No
Please describe your experience with animals:					
Emergency Contacts:					
Name	Telephone Number		Relationship		

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Are you a member of any animal rescue or animal welfare group?

Yes

No

If yes, which groups:

Are you computer proficient:

Yes

No

Please circle all that apply

Word Excel Word Perfect Other:

Availability:
Please circle all that apply

Monday to Friday

Weekends

Mornings

Afternoons

Evenings

Mornings

Afternoons

Evenings

Do you have experience as a volunteer?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Do you have experience in dealing with the public?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Why do you want to volunteer for BCCI?

How can we make your volunteer experience with BCCI rewarding?

Tell us about your special interests, talents or skills:

Please provide the following information on two (2) personal references:

Name

Telephone Number

Relationship

Certification by Applicant: I hereby certify that all of the information provided in this Application is true.

Signature:

Date:

Signature of Witness:

Date:

Witness: (please print name)

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Certifications, Acknowledgements, Covenants and Agreements:

1. I certify that to the best of my knowledge and information I am physically able to perform volunteer services for the Burlington County Feral Cat Initiative, hereinafter referred to as BCCI.

2. I understand that I will not be considered to be an employee of the BCCI. It is my intention to devote my time and services to BCCI without expectation of compensation in any form.

3. I understand that BCCI will not provide me with any health or accident insurance and will not be responsible for the cost of any medical care.

4. I agree to not make any claim or demand or to institute, press or in any way aid any claim, demand, action or causes of action or legal proceeding of any kind against BCCI on account of or in any way growing out of any and all injury I may suffer while providing volunteer services to BCCI or that result from my work as a volunteer for BCCI.

5. I agree to save and indemnify and keep harmless BCCI and their servants, officers, agents and employees against all liability, claims and judgments or demands for damages arising from losses or injuries (including death) of persons or property caused by my acts, and I agree to defend any and all suits that may be brought against BCCI or any of its officers, agents or employees on account of any injury caused by my acts, and will make good to, and reimburse each of them for any expenditures that BCCI may make by reason of said injury.

6. I have been advised of the following information: Zoonotic diseases are transmissible from animals to humans. Zoonotic diseases sometimes found in feral cats are Bartonellosis (Cat-Scratch Fever), Brucellosis (Malta Fever), Bubonic Plague, Ringworm, Campylobacteriosis, Cryptosporidiosis, External Parasitic Infections (caused by lice, mites & fleas) Giardiasis (Beaver Fever), Leptospirosis (Weil's Disease), Lyme Disease, Nematode (worm) Infections, Pasteurellosis, Rabies, Salmonellosis (Salmonella) and Toxoplasmosis. In addition, I have read the attached sheet entitled "What you should know about rabies." **I AM AWARE AND I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT FERAL CATS ARE UNPREDICTABLE, WILD ANIMALS THAT ARE CAPABLE OF INFLECTING SERIOUS BODILY INJURY OR EVEN DEATH. I HEREBY FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY AGREE TO ASSUME AND ACCEPT ANY AND ALL RISKS OF INJURY IN CONNECTION WITH MY VOLUNTEER DUTIES.** I understand that my service as a Volunteer should not involve the touching of feral cats, as I am prohibited from touching and attempting to touch any of the cats.

I understand that the most effective means of preventing zoonosis is to: (a) Stay current on appropriate vaccinations, such as tetanus and rabies; (b) Wash hands frequently with antibacterial soap, especially after handling any animal and prior to eating or smoking; (c) Wear long pants and sturdy closed-toe shoes or boots; (d) Use gloves when changing litter pans, washing food and water dishes, or cleaning up feces, urine or vomit; (e) Disinfect scratches and bite wounds thoroughly; (f) Tell my physician that I work closely with animals, and visit him/her regularly and (g) Report any bites or injuries to the BCCI immediately.

I understand that BCCI strongly encourages all volunteers to make sure that their own animals have all of their vaccinations up-to-date. As an added measure, we suggest that you always change clothes before socializing with your animals at home.

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Volunteer's Agreement

I agree to comply with the rules, regulations and policies of BCCI while I am a volunteer.

I recognize that in the performance of my volunteer services there is a risk that I might be injured. I accept this risk and take responsibility for myself. My assumption of responsibility includes obtaining, at my cost, a tetanus vaccination and adequate health insurance or resources to pay medical expenses that I might incur if I suffer an injury while volunteering for BCCI. In particular, I assume the risks of being bitten, scratched, injured or frightened by feral cats in connection with my volunteer work for BCCI.

I understand that BCCI may suspend or terminate my service as a volunteer for any reason at any time.

I have accurately and truthfully completed this form and agreement. By my signature on this form I authorize BCCI to investigate the accuracy of the information I have provided and to contact references and my veterinarian.

For more information on BCCI visit our website at www.njferals.org.

Applications should be mailed to:

Burlington County Feral Cat Initiative
P.O. Box 2504
Vincentown, NJ 08088-2504

Signature:	Date:
Signature of Witness:	Date:

Witness: (please print name)



<i>For BCCI Use:</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Disapproved</i>

Reason(s):

Please retain this informational sheet for yourself.

What you should know about rabies



HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM RABIES

Have Your Pet Vaccinated Against Rabies. Pets can become infected with rabies through contact with rabid wild animals. Because of this, it is important that your dog or cat have up-to-date rabies vaccinations. Because a current trend in the United States indicates that there has been a higher incidence of rabies in cats than in dogs in recent years, rabies vaccination is especially important for cats. Cats left outdoors to roam have a greater chance of exposure to rabid animals, but even indoor cats should be vaccinated, as occasionally they may get out and/or wild animals, such as bats or raccoons, may get into houses through open doors, windows, or uncapped chimneys. You should get your pet vaccinated at a private veterinarian's office or at a free state/municipal-sponsored rabies clinic.

What to Do If You Are Bitten

Immediately cleanse the wound thoroughly with soap and water.

Get prompt medical attention from a physician or hospital emergency room:

Report all animal bites to the local health department having jurisdiction where the bite occurred.

If you are bitten by a wild animal:

Try to confine and isolate, or kill the animal while taking care to prevent additional bites and exposures. If captured, wild animals must be tested at the state rabies laboratory. Human treatment to prevent rabies may be started immediately or delayed until the testing results are known. In cases in which the animal is unavailable for testing, a decision to start human preventive treatment is made by the bite victim and his/her physician based on recommendations from the local health department.

If you are bitten by a dog or cat or other domestic animal:

Obtain as much information about the animal as possible, including owner name, address, and telephone number, a description of the animal, and the animal's vaccination status. Biting dogs and cats should be kept under observation for 10 days from the time of the bite to ensure that they are free of rabies; if already showing signs of rabies at the time of the bite, they should be sacrificed immediately and tested for rabies. Dogs or cats which die or are euthanized within 10 days after biting a person must be submitted for rabies testing. Bites from other domestic animals (such as horses, cows, goats, and sheep) will be evaluated by your local health department; these animals can usually be observed for a period of 14 days to rule out the possibility of rabies.

Do Not Feed or Handle Wild Animals. Especially avoid contact with all bats, raccoons, skunks, groundhogs, and foxes. It is illegal in New Jersey to keep these wild animals as pets. Take measures to prevent raccoons or bats from entering homes, barns, garages, and other buildings. Store all trash or pet food kept outdoors in animal-resistant containers.

Avoid Contact With Strays or Pets Other Than Your Own. These animals may bite or scratch you and may not be vaccinated for rabies. Report stray animals to your local health department so that the animal control officer can take them to a shelter. Stray animals which are captured and impounded are held for at least seven days so they can be reclaimed by their owner.

Rabies is caused by a virus which can infect all warm-blooded mammals, including man. The rabies virus is found in the saliva of a rabid animal and is transmitted by a bite, or possibly by contamination of an open cut. Bats, raccoons, skunks, groundhogs, foxes, cats, and dogs represent about 95% of animals diagnosed with rabies in the United States. Domestic farm animals and other wild animals may also become infected. Rodents such as rats, mice, chipmunks, and squirrels are rarely infected. Rabid animals are usually either very vicious or aggressive ("furious" rabies) or act stuporously and are partially or totally paralyzed ("dumb" rabies). They often have trouble walking and may appear to be "drunk." People should stay away from all wild and stray animals which are aggressive or appear to be sick. Some wild animals, such as raccoons, skunks, and groundhogs, may be infectious even though they appear to be normal, and these animals should be avoided at all times.

Please keep this informational sheet for your records. Thank you.