

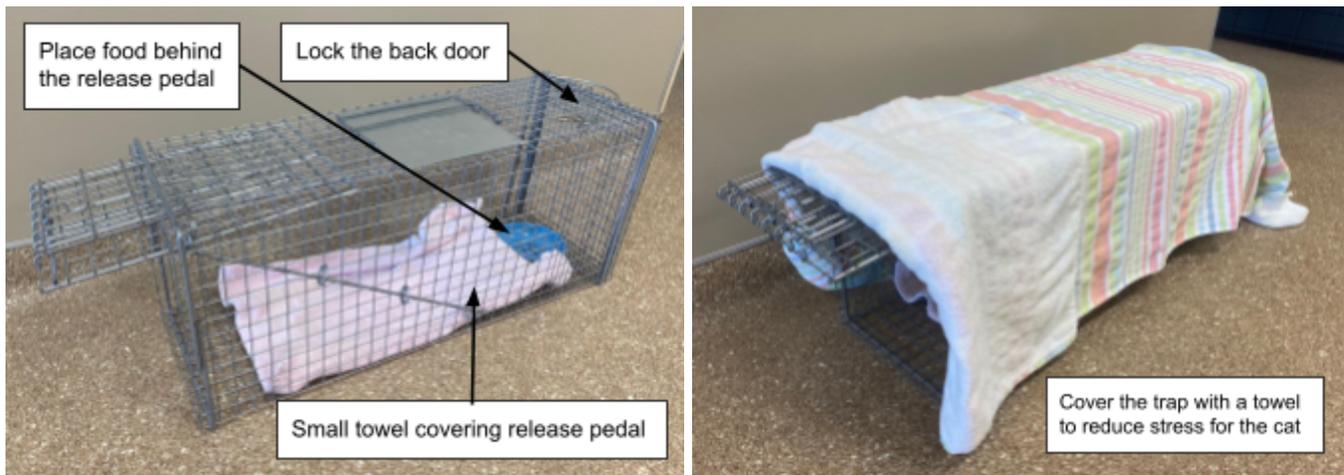
## Humane Trapping Guidelines & Information

**Call Pets Lifeline at (707) 996-4577 before you trap to ensure there is space in the spay/neuter schedule for that week.**

Trap rentals from Pets Lifeline are due back within 30 days. If you need more time, call us to extend a trap rental. Pets Lifeline reserves the right to keep the trap rental deposit if the trap is lost, damaged, or not returned in a timely manner.

### Trapping Guidelines:

1. Shelter staff will show you how to set the trap (see photos below).
2. If you have time, you can tie the trap open (not set the trap) for several days to let the cat(s) get comfortable eating out of it. This can help with sneaky or elusive cats.
3. Bait the trap with smelly cat food, and line the bottom of the trap with newspaper or a small towel.
4. Cover the trap with a towel or small blanket. This reduces stress for the cat, as cats in uncovered traps can become very scared and injure themselves.
5. Do not leave the trap unattended overnight or for long periods of time (more than 3 hours).
6. The trap should be placed in a shaded area, especially during the summer.
7. **Keep the trap covered** all the way to Pets Lifeline.



### Thing to remember when trapping:

1. **Cats only:** Pets Lifeline only admits feral/community cats that will be **returned to trappers** after being fixed. If a wild animal (raccoon, opossum) is unintentionally trapped, open the trap and release it. PLL is not equipped to handle wildlife. Contact Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue if you have a wildlife issue.
2. **Check for an owner/caretaker:** Most outdoor cats, whether they are friendly or feral, have someone that feeds them. Contact as many of your neighbors as you can (including behind your property), to check if the cat has an owner/caretaker. You must agree to pick the cat up from PLL once it has been spayed/neutered and release it back to where it was trapped, or relocate the cat responsibly.
3. **Traps keep everyone safe:** If you cannot easily pick the cat up and put it into a carrier, use a humane trap. This keeps our staff safe when transferring the cat, and reduces stress for the cat by minimizing contact.