

HFC Committee

From: Laura Gyori <lavendermaui@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2020 12:08 PM
To: HFC Committee
Subject: feral animals

Aloha,

The MHS first introduced my husband and I to TNR of feral cats in 2016. They helped us neuter, vaccinate, and chip at least a dozen animals.

Some of those cats still consider our backyard their main home and source of food.

Since 2016 we have participated in the TNR of cats caught by neighbors and the relocation and adoption of kittens. We never ever miss their planned meal time and all are fed in our backyard.

In addition, many neighbor pets and older community pets have sought refuge in our yard and/or eaten here. We have one neighbor who has helped with the cost of veterinary care when a cat needed help and we have also placed a special needs cat in a sanctuary.

We ask nothing of others except to be careful and respectful of these lives. Over the years a few have been killed or died of natural causes.

We cannot control nor identify the origination of all cats that come here. Nor can we make the assumption that these cats do not have homes where they live. Not all homeowners have the same priorities about their fur family members.

In addition, there are several homes close to ours where the yards invite wildlife due to overgrowth or vacant houses. It is not reasonable to expect the animals to know they are not welcome there nor that they are not welcome to find food. I am not allowed on these properties to see what is the state of the animal population because of Hawaii trespassing laws.

It is immoral and not rational to think that animals that were originally abandoned and learned how to survive should be starved. No study nor project with that goal has proven successful. These are community issues just like homeowners who have multiple cars and clog the roads or have noisy parties.

I do not want to ignore the other category of freaks in my email. Maui should be protecting them not encouraging abusive behavior towards them. A these are not good lessons to teach our young. It is illegal to abuse an animal and starving is abusive as is trapping them for less than stellar reasons.

Do not pass any laws such as suggested by the one to outlaw feeding or attracting ferals. Feral is relative and most are the result of humans importing for sport or dumping them when the people move.

This law would further harden the hearts of people who close their eyes to problems and take no responsibility for the solution.

I have encouraged my neighborhood to not abuse our wildlife and if a cat is in question and absolutely known to not be a pet, participate in TNR through the MHS.

Mahalo for your time,

Laura Gyori
Kihei
Sent from my iPhone

HFC Committee

From: Laura Gyori <lavendermaui@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2020 12:12 PM
To: HFC Committee
Subject: Feral email

Aloha,

I just sent an email where autocorrect changed a few of my words. Apologies for not catching them. The most offensive was the word freak. I typed feral.

Please have a good day.

Laura Gyori

Sent from my iPhone