

Friends of Ferals trapping neutering and releasing for 10 years now



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The Society for the Friends of Ferals has been trying to help the feral cat situation in Digby County for more than 10 years.

With a membership that has varied from four to the current eight, they have been trapping, neutering and releasing feral cats here since July 2003.

“We are proud to report since that time, we have spayed or neutered 595 cats,” said Susan Deline. “Sadly we also have euthanized 49 because of illness or injuries.”

Over the years the society has received \$3,300 in contributions from the Municipality of the District of Digby, and \$1,100 from the Town of Digby. The society receives no provincial or federal government funding.

Still between July 2003 and February 2014 they spent of a total of \$82,188 at the offices of local veterinarians and \$11,085 on cat food.

All of that money was raised through sales, often at the mall, donations and bequests.

Deline says the society appreciates the help of the municipalities, donors, supporters and volunteers these last ten years.

She says a lot of people still don't know that the Friends of Ferals exist or what they do.

“If a cat shows up on someone's doorstep, or if they're feeding a cat but they can't catch it or pick it up, we can help,” she said. “We can help with the food, we can lend a trap or catch the cat, we can pay to have them neutered. It's an alternative to just dropping them off at the shelter.”

Deline says every cat they spay or neuter is “potentially a lot of cats” that aren't being added to the feral population or ending up in shelters.

“We know we won't ever see the last feral cat in Digby County—that's like asking for world peace or for the Leafs to win—but we do what we can,” says Deline. “And considering the size of our group, I think we've done pretty well.”



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