



COLONY GUARDIAN GUIDE

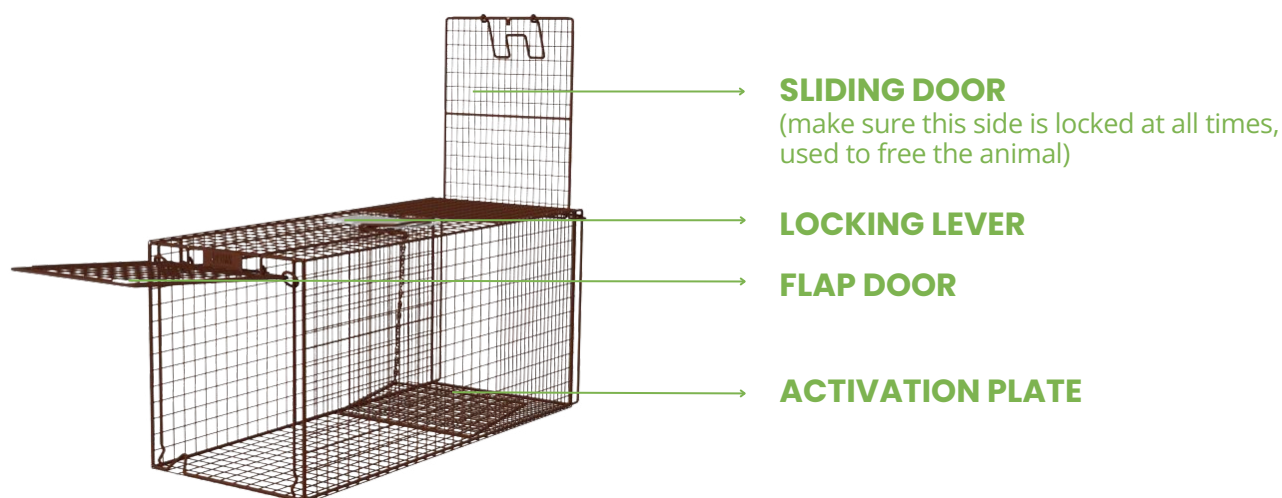
SPCA ROUSSILLON CSRM PROGRAM

BECOMING A COLONY GUARDIAN : INSCRIPTION PROCESS

1. Complete the application form online
2. Be contacted by a member of the SPCA Roussillon team (by telephone)

THE TRAP CAGE

Only the trap cages rented from or approved by the SPCA Roussillon can be used for capturing feral cats. All other types of cages will be refused with the intention of protecting the cats, our staff and our colony guardians. To rent a trap cage from the SPCA Roussillon, take an appointment by telephone. You will be asked for a security deposit of \$100 (credit or debit card). The cage will be rented to you for 1 week.



CAGE INSTALLATION

- Install the cage sheltered from the sun
- Never leave the cage without surveillance
- Put away the cage during the night

IMPORTANT: Your trap cage **should only be installed during the designated hours**. Remember to take into account the time to come to the shelter once the animal is in the cage.

When to bring cats to the shelter

- Monday to Thursday : 8am to 8pm
- Friday : 8am to noon
- Saturday and Sunday : **No cats accepted**
- Holidays : **No cats accepted** *The day before, not after noon

CSRM : STEP BY STEP

BEFORE STARTING

- Establish a routine with the cats. Feed them at a fixed time every day for 10 days.
- Prepare the necessary material for the capture (bait, newspaper, gloves, blankets or towels). Choose bait with a strong odor and that is appealing, like canned fish. No food with bones as they can be very dangerous for cats.
- Reserve and pick up your trap cage from the SPCA Roussillon.

1 THE CAPTURE

- Stop feeding the cats 24-48 hours before the capture.
- Prepare your vehicle for the transport (newspaper to place the trap cage on).
- Prepare the bait in a small plastic bowl or a small reusable container.
- Place the bait in the trap cage, behind the activation plate.
- Install the trap cage on stable ground, in a location that you can easily observe.
- Set the trap cage.

2 TRANSPORT THE CAT FOR STERILIZATION

**The cat may be scared and very agitated. Be vigilant (protect your fingers!) when you manipulate the cage. Cover the cage with a blanket once the cat has been captured.*

- Go to the SPCA Roussillon with the cat in the trap cage (without appointment, during the designated hours) and follow the instructions given by the staff onsite.
- Remain available for the following 24 hours to pick up the cat from the SPCA Roussillon.

3 RELEASE THE CAT ON ITS TERRITORY

- You will be contacted by the SPCA Roussillon team to indicate what time to pick up the cat.
- Once you come back home, place the trap cage in the area where the animal was captured.
- Open the sliding door and let the cat run free.
- Return the trap cage to the SPCA Roussillon, unless you have other cats to sterilize.

**Frequently colony guardians do not see the cat for a few days following the surgery.*

4 MAINTAIN THE COLONY

- Restart feeding the cats on a regular basis (take away the food bowls between each meal)
- Provide the cats with fresh water



TIP : TO AVOID ANOTHER ROUND TRIP

If you only have one cat to sterilize : When you bring the cat in the trap cage to the shelter also bring an empty transporter. Our medical team will install the cat in the transporter for the release, this saves you from having to bring the trap cage home.

REMINDER : PROGRAM MODALITIES



CATS THAT QUALIFY

- Feral cats that cannot be manipulated or approached
- Cats that live exclusively outside



CATS THAT DO NOT QUALIFY

- Socialized cats that can be manipulated
- Declawed cats
- Kittens under 12 weeks of age
- Cats with serious health issues

NOTE: it is the responsibility of the SPCA Roussillon to assess the behavior of all captured cats and to possibly exclude them from the CSR program to be placed for adoption.

CONDITIONS REQUIRED TO BECOME A COLONY GUARDIAN

- ✓ Be 18 years and older
- ✓ Be the owner and occupant of the property and live on the ground floor (caregivers are not subject to this rule)
- ✓ In the case of a condo building, a resolution authorizing the activities of the applicant (guardian and caregiver) is required by the condominium association
- ✓ Be registered on the colony guardian list with the SPCA Roussillon
- ✓ Be able to understand texts, rules and other information transmitted by the SPCA Roussillon
- ✓ To have not received any objections from your immediate neighbors
- ✓ Go to the SPCA Roussillon to rent the trap cage (deposit of \$100 on a credit or debit card, rental for 1 week)
- ✓ Have the physical ability to manipulate a trap cage (15kg)

SHELTER SUGGESTIONS

A shed in which you install a cat door, a recycled dog kennel, a shed with the door left open or the underneath of a furnished balcony can be used as shelters.

If not, with materials found at stores, it is possible to build discreet and strong shelters that are practical for the colony cats in which you are responsible for.

You can find a lot of interesting ideas on the internet made out of recycled materials like Styrofoam coolers, plastic storage bins, or even how to build wooden shelters with detailed building plans.



REMINDER : PROGRAM MODALITIES (MORAL CONTRACT)

YOUR RIGHTS

The municipal regulation allows you to feed your colony cats. This right has restrictions and cannot be extended to other animals.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Install and monitor the trap cage used to capture cats.
- Ensure that the captured cat is transported to the SPCA Roussillon for surgery.
- See to the well-being of the cats in your colony with a regular supply of food and water.
- Never leave the food outside at the risk of attracting wild animals. The cats should be fed at specific hours and the bowls stored away between meals.
- The cats should never be, in any way, a nuisance to the neighborhood.
- It is recommended to add a litter box (sandbox) in your yard so that the cats in your colony can do their business there and minimize disturbances for your neighborhood.
- Notify the SPCA Roussillon if a cat in your colony is sick, injured or deceased.
- Declare to the SPCA Roussillon if a new cat in the colony needs to be sterilized and proceed with the proper steps to have it sterilized.
- Provide shelters to protect colony cats from inclement weather. Make sure that these shelters remain discreet and that their access is free of snow or any other object.
- Your interventions are limited to your property or the boundary of your land. It is forbidden to leave food intended for the colony's cats in public places.
- Maintain good relations with your neighborhood by explaining what motivates your approach and the reasons why these cats are sterilized.
- In the event that you or any other person living at the address of the colony guardian commits acts of cruelty to animals, all your privileges as colony guardian will be withdrawn from you and your file will be reported to the competent authorities.

SAFETY AND WELFARE OF ANIMALS

You notice that an animal is in an unacceptable situation or that it receives inadequate care that requires intervention?

Whether for a pet or a farm animal, you can file a complaint with the ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec (MAPAQ) : 1 844 ANIMAUX (264-6289) / www.mapaq.gouv.qc.ca



*Thank you for getting involved to counter the overpopulation of stray cats
and ensuring their well-being. This program would not be possible
without the generosity of our colony guardians.*

- The SPCA Roussillon team