

## Management Methods for UHM Cat Colonies

Cat caregivers and their assistants registered through UHM's Facilities Management Office are authorized through this program to feed and care for homeless and feral cats on the Mānoa campus in accordance with the rules established. This program relies on the cooperation and dedication of UHM's authorized cat caregivers and their assistants. Authorized cat caregivers and their assistants work with the UHM Facilities Management Office to improve the management of UHM's homeless and feral cats and the conditions in which the cats live on the university campus. Following specified methods for managing campus cats will ensure that all cats are receiving the same quality of care.

### PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa has established requirements for managing feral and homeless cats on the University campus (Service Bulletin 20081215 – Homeless and Feral Cats). These requirements are in accordance with humane animal care practices as established by UHM's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) protocols for managing feral and homeless cats. The requirements include:

- **Sterilization (spayed or neutered)** – all cats in colonies need to be sterilized. Discounted sterilization is available.
- **Individual cat identification** – preferably a microchip (included with discounted sterilization) and ear notch to indicating sterilization.
- **Regular feeding and monitoring** by authorized caregivers and their assistants.
- Maintain **accurate and up-to-date census** of cats and colonies in their care (census should be submitted every January, April, July, and October).
- **Feeding done at designated feeding stations** (away from roads, walkways, parking lots, and eating areas) and need to be kept clean.
- **Removal of all cat waste on pedestrian walkways** within 100 feet of feeding stations.

### BEST PRACTICES

Along with the program requirements, there are best practice recommendations for managing cat colonies:

- **Set a schedule for feeding** – this will facilitate the census and help you to socialize your cats in case they require emergency veterinary care.
- **Do not leave food** – leaving food throughout the day will make taking a census difficult and does not allow for socialization. It also feeds the pigeons, mongoose, and rats on campus.
- **Avoid giving cats moist food** – a diet of primarily dry food keep teeth healthy.
- **Manage for fleas** – rake and remove leaves from areas that cats occupy frequently, and spread Diatomaceous Earth. Diatomaceous Earth is safe for cats and humans, as long as it does not get directly inhaled or into eyes. It can be purchased at Ko'olau Farmers.

