



### Barn Cat Buddies Protocol for Safe Relocation

Thank-you for becoming a safe haven for cats who have nowhere else to go!

Please know that feral cats are WILD animals. They are NOT PETS and have no interest in human interaction and we cannot assure you they will not bite or scratch if approached. PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH your new FERAL Barn Cats.

For successful relocation of your new barn cats, a period of 3 weeks confinement in a roomy dog **crate** (large enough for food, water and litter box\*\*) is required.

**Each Cat should be in their own individual crate. Three weeks is a long time to be in small confinement sharing the same space. We are aware of situations where cats turned on each other in close proximity. BCB can loan you crates for confinement.**

#### Alternatives to crating:

- 1) A quiet stall where all four walls are totally enclosed to the ceiling.
- 2) An office or small room/bathroom\* could also serve as a confinement area.
  - Office/bathroom **MUST NOT** have much traffic.

\*\* Cardboard liners found in grocery stores for cat or beer cans make great Disposable Litter boxes. Fill the boxes with scoopable litter. It is less messy than clay litter.

Plastic Litter pans are perfectly acceptable as are aluminum lasagna pans.

Putting Soil/Earth on top of the litter will help a feral cat identify the box as a place to excrete.

Food and Litter should be kept far a distance from litter box so litter will not be kicked into it. Wet food for the confinement period (mixed with dry) is a good idea to make cats associate your barn with a pleasant place to stay.

Hidey Boxes: Keeping a clean/empty cardboard box in the crate with the opening facing the back of the crate. This gives the scared/unsocial cat a safe place and will make it easier to change out its food and litter when the cat is safely in its box.

After Confinement Period: The day you release your barn cats, leave their food and water in the crate with door open for up to a week. This will acclimate the cat to eating in the barn in a familiar space. After a week or so, you can shut down the crate and remove/return it and continue feeding the cats on the same spot. If this is too easy for other animals to reach, place the bowls on an elevated spot like a hay bale or table.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us!

[Barn Cat Buddies - Comment Form](#)

Barn Cat Buddies, Inc. PO Box 111 Salem, Virginia 24153