



Steps for Humanely Deterring Cats aka Neighbor Relations

Talk to your neighbors to determine whether the cats are pets, stray, or feral and if they have been spayed/neutered. If not, check the TNR Texas website for s/n options. LISTEN. Try to understand - explain TNR and how your work is helping. Seek solutions. Don't meet hostility with hostility.

Keep Cats out of gardens and yards

Physical Barriers:

- Car cover
- Purrfect Fence
- Cat Scat (view at gardeners.com)
- Cat proof fencing
- Stones or Lattice in the garden (lay lattice on the ground and plant in the openings or use river rocks) to discourage digging.
- Motion -activated sprinklers such as [Critter Ridder Motion-Activated Animal Repellent & Sprinkler](#) by Havahart or [PestBye Jet Spray](#). The device detects when a cat (or similar sized animal) enters an area and then shoots out a sudden burst of water. The spray rarely hits the cat, but startles him and scares him away. Before long, cats in the neighborhood learn the boundaries of the infra-red field and are trained to stay out.
- Ultrasonic Devices (also motion-activated) such as Yard Gard. When a cat is detected, the device emits a high frequency alarm that is imperceptible to people but highly startling and annoying to cats. Ultrasonic devices can be used in all types of weather. Other models include [Bird-X Yard Gard](#) - it's bird friendly! Also comes in a discount [solar powered version](#), and [PestAway Ultrasonic Animal Repeller](#) by PredatorGuard. In addition to the ultrasonic alarm, the device has a flashing strobe light and optional audible alarm.
- Ocelot Cat Containment System
- Scent Repellants

Natural (non-chemical) products include:

- [Coleus Canina](#) (*photo*) is a plant popularly known as the Scardy-Cat or Pee-off plant because it emits an odor offensive to cats but not people. Place them no more than three feet apart around the area you're trying to protect. Be aware there are many varieties of coleus plants, so be sure to order *Coleus Canina*. Available online from [Rosy Dawn Gardens](#) and other nurseries. Order early in the spring planting season before they sell out.
- [Critter Ridder](#) by [Havahart](#) is derived from hot peppers.
- The smell of many common household items sprinkled in dry form may protect gardens or flower beds. You can try orange and lemon peels (cats dislike citrus scents), the herb rue (which can also be planted live), cayenne pepper, coffee grounds, pipe tobacco and various oils, including lavender, lemon grass, citronella, peppermint, eucalyptus and mustard.

Give cats a place to go:

- Peat moss
- Sandbox
- Litterbox in a storage bin

For more info:

<https://www.neighborhoodcats.org/how-to-tnr/colony-care/keeping-cats-out-of-gardens-and-yards-2>