



Soon after Michael and Diana moved into their new house last Spring they noticed a couple of adult cats roaming the leafy green embankment beside their house. Both cats were shy but would come near the house and Diana thought they were hungry so she fed them on her porch. The larger cat was a brown tabby who looked a bit scruffy and always seemed to have a wound on him. The other cat was a thin looking, long-haired calico. Soon the pair started showing up with 3 kittens and Diana and Michael knew they had to help them. They caught the 3 kittens and brought the little ones inside to give them safety and good food but they didn't know how to catch the feral mom and dad. PAF was called and we brought a trap. The brown tabby (they named him Bear) was caught quickly and off to the vet he went. Once Bear was under anaesthetic we discovered he had a terrible abscess on one cheek. There was a dime-sized weepy scab that just fell off and revealed a huge hole and raw crater. It was all cleaned up and he was given an injection of long-acting antibiotics as well as being neutered, vaccinated, de-wormed and defleaed. Bear was returned to Diana and Michael and released in their yard. Catching the calico they named "Tickles" was a different story. She studiously avoided the trap but we had a Plan B. PAF brought Michael and Diana a huge dog kennel and, each day, they placed her feeding dish closer and closer and finally inside the back of the kennel. Michael was fast and, one morning when Tickles was half way inside, he shoved her behind inside and slammed the door! Unspayed mothers are usually thin and she looked scruffy going to the vet. She was spayed, vaccinated, tattooed, de-wormed and defleaed and we released her back in her yard a day or so later. Michael and Diana found homes for 2 kittens and decided to keep the last kitten, a darling little orange boy they named Ginger. A month later Diana sent me a lovely photo of Bear and Tickles cuddled together on their porch. Diana and Michael made a "deal" with Bear and Tickles. Keep the rats and mice out of their yard and they will get fed on their covered porch! That's a good deal for all.



Bear's left eye was swollen shut and he had scabs and scars on his face and head.



Bear sedated at the vet clinic, with his nose (bottom left) in an oxygen mask, The open wound on his cheek was about the size of a dime.



Tickles was thin and exhausted from having continuous litters of kittens.



Only one month after TNR, the two cats look much healthier. As well, ***NO MORE KITTENS*** to populate the neighbourhood