

Important Reasons to Spay or Neuter

More than 4 million pets are euthanized in U.S. animal shelters each year simply because they have no home.

Many are puppies and kittens less than 6 months old. Help stop this needless loss of life. Spay or neuter your pet.

SPAYING YOUR FEMALE PET:

Ovariohysterectomy - removal of the ovaries and uterus

- Eliminates the risk of ovarian and uterine cancer.
- Eliminates unwanted pregnancies.
- If spayed before the first heat cycle, your pet has a less than 1% chance of developing breast cancer. If spayed after one heat cycle, your pet has an 8% chance of developing breast cancer. If spayed after two heat cycles, the risk increases to 26%. After two years of age, no protective benefit exists.
- Pets with diabetes or epilepsy should be spayed to prevent hormonal changes that may interfere with medication.

NEUTERING YOUR MALE PET:

Castration - removal of the testicals and spermatic cord

- Eliminates the risk of testicular cancer, the second most common tumor in male dogs.
- Greatly reduces the risk of prostate cancer and prostatitis.
- Reduces the risk of perianal tumors.
- Reduces roaming and fighting.
- Eliminates or reduces marking in males neutered before 6 months of age or before the onset of these behaviors.
- Eliminates the risk and spread of sexually transmitted diseases.
- Eliminates unwanted litters.

Common Myths

- Spaying or neutering your pet does not:
- Cause laziness or hyperactivity
- Reduce the instinct to protect your family and home
- Cause immature behaviors
- Postpone or delay normal behavioral maturity