



# Spay or Neuter...

*It's simply the right thing to do!*

## Consider the Facts

- In six short years, one female dog and its offspring can be the source of 67,000 puppies.
- In just seven years, one female cat and its young can produce 420,000 cats.
- Every day in the United States, more than 70,000 puppies and kittens are born. Compared to the 10,000 human births each day, it's clear that there can never be enough homes for all of these pets.
- Spay and Neuter surgery is a relatively small, one-time cost when compared to the benefits. It is a small price to pay for your pet's health and the prevention of more unwanted animals.
- Sterilization procedures are safe operations performed while the animal is under anesthesia.
- Your veterinarian can fully explain spay and neuter procedures and discuss the best age at which to sterilize your pet.

## It's Good For Your Pet

- Spayed and Neutered pets live longer, healthier lives.
- Spaying female dogs and cats eliminates the possibility of uterine or ovarian cancer and greatly reduces the incidence of breast cancer, especially when your pet is spayed before the first estrous cycle.
- Neutering male dogs and cats reduces the incidence of prostate cancer and prostate disorder.

## It's Good For You

- Spayed and neutered pets are better, more affectionate companions.
- Neutered cats are less likely to spray and mark.
- Spaying a female dog or cat eliminates its heat cycle: often twice a year in dogs and over three or more times a year in cats. Females in heat can cry incessantly, show nervous behavior and attract unwanted male animals.
- Spayed and neutered pets are less likely to bite. Unaltered animals often exhibit more aggressive behavior and temperament problems than do those that have been spayed or neutered.

- Neutered males are less likely to roam the neighborhood, run away, or get into fights.

## Spay and Neuter – Excuses, Myths and Facts

- “My pet will get fat and lazy.” – The truth is that most pets get fat and lazy because their owners feed them too much and don't give them enough exercise.
- “It's better to have one litter first.” – Medical evidence indicates just the opposite. Females spayed before their first heat cycle are typically healthier. Check with your veterinarian about the appropriate time for these procedures.
- “But my pet is a purebred.” – So is at least one out of every four animals brought to animal shelters around the country.
- “I want my dog to be protective.” – Spaying and neutering does not affect a dog's natural instincts to protect its home and family. A dog's personality is formed more by genetics and its environment than by its sex hormones.
- “I don't want my male dog or cat to feel less male.” – Pets don't have any concept of sexual identity or ego. A male dog or cat doesn't suffer any kind of emotional reaction or identity crisis when neutered.
- “It's too expensive to have my pet spayed or neutered.” – The cost of spaying or neutering depends on the sex, size, and age of the animal, your veterinarian's fees and a number of other variables. But whatever the actual price, it's a bargain compared to the cost of having to ensure the health of the mother and her babies.
- “I'll find a good home for all the puppies and kittens.” – Maybe you will, but in less than one year's time, each and every one of your pet's litter may have produced its own litter, adding more and more animals to the population.

**For more information, contact:**

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(760) 246-2301  
[www.ci.adelanto.ca.us](http://www.ci.adelanto.ca.us)

