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## Spay & Neuter Facts

ALL pets not intended for breeding should be surgically spayed/neutered for many important reasons. In addition to improved health and behavior resulting from this surgery, you will be doing your part to reduce the unwanted pet population. ***Millions of unwanted animals are euthanized each year because good homes are limited and many pets simply cannot be adopted out.***

**FACT:** For every person born there are 15 dogs and 45 cats born.

**FACT:** Over 4,000 healthy dogs and cats are euthanized in shelters daily because they were not adopted.

### THE BENEFITS

#### FEMALES (Spay-Ovario Hysterectomy)

- Prevents signs of estrus (heat)
- Prevents blood stains on carpet from heat cycle
- Decreases chance of breast tumors
- Eliminates chance of cystic ovaries
- Eliminates chance of uterine infections
- Prevents breast development (if done early)
- No unwanted pregnancies or offspring

#### MALES (Neuter-Castration)

- Prostate cancer incidence decreased
- Testicular disease eliminated
- Decreases desire to roam or run away
- Decreases odor of tom cat urine
- Decreases aggression
- Prevents urine spraying and marking
- Eliminates undesirable sexual behaviors

### OTHER FACTS:

Your pet will NOT get fat or lazy because of this surgery. Diet, exercise and heredity have much more influence on the weight and attitude of your pet.

Surgery is recommended when your pet is 6-8 months of age, but can be safely done for older pets.

It is much easier on your pet to be spayed before going through a heat cycle due to the smaller size of the reproductive tract.

Surgery is performed painlessly while your pet is under general anesthesia. Surgical risk is minimal and most pets can go home the following day. Post-surgical pain is minimal.