



The many benefits of spaying and neutering your pets

Yes, the pet overpopulation problem in our country alone is horrific. But did you know that there are many other reasons to spay or neuter your dogs and cats?

- The cost of spaying and neutering a pet is less than the cost of raising a litter for 8 weeks.
- Spaying and neutering your pets lead to longer and healthier lives. In addition, the majority of animals will be more relaxed and less prone to undesirable behavior.
- Spaying female dogs and cats greatly reduces the incidence of mammary cancer, eliminates uterine and ovarian cancer risk and prevents pyometra, an expensive potentially life-threatening infection of the uterus. Less common conditions such as uterine and ovarian cancer are 100 percent prevented by spaying.
- Neutering male animals protects them from testicular cancer, certain types of hernias and perianal tumors. The major health benefits involved in neutering a dog involves the prostate gland. As dogs age, the prostate will gradually enlarge. This is known as benign prostate hyperplasia or BPH (think Flomax commercials). The prostate, under the influence of testosterone, is also predisposed to infection. This is an extremely painful and sometimes life-threatening condition which is not likely to resolve without neutering and often invasive, expensive surgery.
- Neutering male dogs and cats before problems develop can reduce urine marking in your house and territorial aggression. It is important to realize that if these behaviors have become a habit, they may continue even after neutering without training.