

## Spay and Neuter Facts

### All Pets should be spayed or neutered for many of the following reasons:

#### Females (Spaying—or Ovariohysterectomy)

- a. Prevents blood stains on the carpet, etc. from the estrus cycle.
- b. Decreases surplus of puppies and kittens.
- c. Decreases the chance of mammary tumors later in life.
- d. Decreases the chance cystic ovaries and uterine infections later in life.
- e. Prevents breast development, if done before ever being bred.
- f. Anesthesia is much safer if administered at a younger age.
- g. Females that are used for breeding should be spayed when no longer being bred, to prevent uterine infections and Breast tumors later in life.
- h. Prevents signs of estrus (“heat”).

#### Males (Neutering—Castration)

- a. Decreases the desire to roam the neighborhood.
- b. Decreases aggression, he will be a much more affectionate pet!
- c. Decreases chance of prostate cancer later in life.
- d. Prevents odor from urine (especially in cats).
- e. Prevents spraying and marking of furniture and walls. (And possible lifting his leg!)

#### Other facts about spaying and neutering:

- a. Spaying and neutering does not cause a pet to get fat and lazy. This is actually caused by overfeeding and lack of exercise.
- b. Altering a pet does not cause aggression, in fact the opposite. Personalities will only improve; usually the pet will become calmer. Their personalities do not fully develop until they are about two years of age. Aggression and/or viciousness are not the result of ANY surgery.
- c. It is much easier for a female to be spayed before she goes through her first estrus cycle, due to the smaller size of the reproductive tract.
- d. The best age to spay or neuter is between six and nine months.
- e. Surgery is performed painlessly while your pet is under general anesthesia. Post-surgical pain is very minimal and most pets go home the same day.
- f. Your life as a pet owner will be a lot less stressful!