

Cheyenne River Animal Hospital

PO BOX 536 EDGEMONT, SD 57735

605-662-7838

HEIFER SPAYING

Thank you for choosing Cheyenne River Animal Hospital to spay your heifers, we appreciate your business.

- Spaying is done vaginally (from the back). This method is faster and easier on the heifers than flank spaying. The ovaries are removed and dropped into the abdomen.
- Heifers need to be fasted from food, but not water, for 24 hours ahead of time. This allows the rumen and intestines to “empty out” making the procedure safer.
- We prefer that the heifers be eating hay or grass (no concentrates or distiller’s byproducts) for 2 weeks prior to the procedure. Some rations decrease the heifer’s ability to clot, increasing the risk of hemorrhage (bleeding).
- Heifers need to weigh approximately 500lbs or more at the time of spaying.
- Antibiotics may be given at the time of surgery.
- A blue metal tag is put into each heifer’s ear indicating that they have been spayed.
- There is risk of death loss. The risk is 1 in 250 (but could be up to 1%), and you the producer assume the risk.

AFTER SURGERY

- Check each heifer daily for one week for sickness, lethargy, or anorexia.
- Treat any sick heifers with antibiotics.
- Call the clinic if you have any death loss, we want to know.