

WHY SHOULD YOU SPAY YOUR CAT?

- Cats start going into heat during late winter or early spring and will go in and out of heat through late summer or early fall. Females in heat will try to get outside, will cry continuously, and male cats will be trying to get inside your home.
- To prevent unwanted pregnancies. Millions of animals are euthanized each year, and by bringing new kittens into the world we are taking away homes from animals that are already here.
- Spaying may help reduce the risk of mammary cancer, which is usually fatal in cats.
- To prevent a life threatening uterine infection called pyometra. The treatment for pyometra is surgery and is much more risky than a simple spay.

WHAT IS INVOLVED IN SPAYING A CAT?

A spay is actually an ovariectomy or OHE. This means that not only is the uterus removed, but also the ovaries. The surgery is done under general anesthetic using a combination of injectable and gas anesthetic. We give them pain medication prior to the surgery, after the surgery and also send them home on pain medication. The patient is kept for the day and sometimes overnight. They will have sutures that will need to be removed in 10-14 days. Most cats recover very quickly from the surgery and will need to be kept indoors and as quiet as possible until the sutures are removed.

WHY SHOULD YOU NEUTER YOUR CAT?

- Intact male cats are prone to many unacceptable behaviors including roaming (running away from home), getting into catfights, and spraying and urinating in your house. Neutering can take away many of these urges, but once a behavior has started, it may be difficult to change.
- To prevent unwanted pregnancies. Millions of animals are euthanized each year, and by bringing new kittens into the world we are taking away homes from animals that are already here.

WHAT IS INVOLVED IN NEUTERING A CAT?

Neutering is also referred to as castration or orchietomy. The procedure involves the removal of both testicles. It is done under an injectable and gas anesthetic and they will receive pain medication before and after the surgery. The patient can go home the same day, and normally recovers very quickly from the surgery. There are no sutures in place to worry about.