



SPAY/NEUTER FACTS

In 2016, approximately 1.5 million healthy, adoptable pets were euthanized in shelters. The most straightforward way to prevent these deaths is to prevent pet pregnancy in the first place. We can help.

Why altering your pet is **CRUCIAL**:

TO SAVE LIVES

- Pet overpopulation is a deadly problem, but the good news is that we can fix it. In order to save lives, we need your help. Accidental litters made up the largest percentage of owner relinquishment in 2016 here at the shelter in Truckee. We offer several programs to help PREVENT these litters from happening, and they are designed for you, our community member! There is absolutely no reason accidental litters should occur anymore, we have all the tools to stop them!

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR PET

- Altering your pet eliminates or reduces the risk of certain illnesses: spaying eliminates the risk of uterine cancer and pyometra, as well as ovarian cancer, and greatly reduces the risk of mammary tumors. Neutering eliminates the risk of testicular cancer, and reduces the risk of prostate cancer. Altered animals are less likely to contract deadly, contagious diseases, such as feline AIDS and feline leukemia that are spread through bodily fluids.
- Hormone driven behaviors are decreased or eliminated - behaviors such as marking, mounting, and some aggression problems may be avoided by early neutering. In fact, intact male dogs represent 80% of the dogs presented to veterinary behaviorists for cases of dominance aggression.
- Altered pets are less likely to roam - surveys indicate that as many as 85% of dogs hit by cars are unaltered. Roaming animals are more likely to pick up diseases, get attacked by wildlife and more likely to get into fights with other roaming pets. Intact male cats living outside have been shown to live on average less than two years.
- Spaying eliminates the stress and discomfort that females endure during heat cycles, and the stress and discomfort of giving birth, not to mention possible complications of delivering several puppies or kittens.

IT'S GOOD FOR YOU

- Altered pets make better companions – in fact, intact males are involved in 75% of reported dog bite incidents.
- Surgery price-tags may seem considerable, but you ultimately save money because pet pregnancy, birthing, and raising litters is far more expensive!
- When your pets are altered, the costs associated with licensing, boarding/pet-sitting and grooming are often much lower.
- Eliminates your stress & worry that an accidental litter might occur.
- You'll enjoy the "feel good factor" about doing your part to help reduce animal overpopulation, because when you alter your pet, you ARE A LIFE-SAVER!

IT'S GOOD FOR THE COMMUNITY

- It's important to note how spay/neuter benefits our community as a whole. Each year millions of taxpayer dollars are spent coping with problems that failure to spay/neuter causes. Rounding up strays, feeding and housing abandoned animals, and euthanizing those for whom homes can't be found is costly, and simple prevention would curb spending.
- Additionally Community Cats (or feral cats) are often considered a nuisance, and can be hazardous to bird populations.
- And finally, stray animals can be carriers of zoonotic disease that could get you sick.

To apply for our community spay/neuter programs go to hstt.org/programs-services or stop by our shelter at 10961 Stevens Lane in Truckee. For questions, please call us at 530-587-5948.