



# Spay and Neuter: A Key Answer to the Homeless Animal Problem

*The statistics are staggering: a female dog and her puppies are theoretically capable of multiplying to over 67,000 in just six years, and a female cat and her kittens can result in over 400,000 offspring in only seven years. Spay and neuter (surgical sterilization procedures that prevent animals from reproducing) are the simple solution to overpopulation. Many people ask their regular veterinarian to spay or neuter their companion animals. If finances are a problem, there may be other alternatives.*

## FINDING SPAY/NEUTER SERVICES

- 1)** Call your local animal shelter. They may run a reduced-cost clinic or know of one in your area.
  - 2)** Call SPAY/USA. This is a national spay/neuter referral network that may be able to direct you to spay/neuter clinics in your area. You can reach them at 1-800-248-SPAY, or visit their website at [www.spayusa.org](http://www.spayusa.org)
  - 3)** Visit the Pets911 website at [www.pets911.com](http://www.pets911.com). They also have on-line information about veterinarians, clinics and other spay/neuter resources. You can also call their toll-free bilingual hotline at 1-888-PETS-911.
  - 4)** Talk with your veterinarian. Sometimes they are able to work out special financing options for you.
- No matter what, please don't skip this important part of Being a responsible animal guardian.*

## THE BENEFITS OF SPAYING & NEUTERING

- 1)** Spayed and neutered animals live longer, healthier lives. For females, the risk of uterine or ovarian cancer is eliminated, and the possibility of breast cancer is reduced. For males, the risk of testicular cancer is eliminated.
- 2)** Neutered male animals are less likely to roam and get into fights (80% of the dogs hit by cars are unneutered males), and neutered cats are less likely to spray and mark their territory. For spayed females, the heat cycle is eliminated. Animals who have been spayed or neutered are calmer, more focused and easier to train, and make more affectionate companions.
- 3)** Animal shelters are full to overflowing of unwanted puppies and kittens, and overpopulation is one of the major causes of the massive euthanasia of shelter animals in this country. Spaying and neutering assures that your animals won't add to this tragedy.

## RESOURCES AND FURTHER INFORMATION ON SPAY/NEUTER

[www.pets911.com](http://www.pets911.com) - click on "SPAY & NEUTER"

[www.hsus.org](http://www.hsus.org) - click on "PETS"

[www.aspsa.org](http://www.aspsa.org) - click on "Pet Care & Nutrition"

*Everyone can help end America's homeless animal tragedy*