

La Crosse Veterinary Clinic

(608)781-3466

THE FACTS OF LIFE

Important Reasons to Have Your Pet Spayed or Neutered

Spaying Your Pet – Female	Neutering Your Pet – Male
Ovariohysterectomy – removal of the ovaries and uterus	Orchiectomy – removal of the testicles and spermatic cord
Ideal Age is 4-6 months.	Ideal Age is 4-6 months.
If spayed before the first heat cycle, there is less than ½ of 1% chance of developing breast cancer.	Eliminates risk of testicular cancer, the second most commonly reported tumor in male dogs.
If spayed after one heat cycle, there is an 8% chance of developing breast cancer.	Greatly reduces risk of prostate cancer and prostatitis.
If spayed after two heat cycles, the risk increases to 26%.	Reduces risk of perianal tumors.
After 2 ½ years, there is no protective benefit.	Reduces roaming and fighting behaviors.
Pets with diabetes or epilepsy should be spayed to prevent hormonal changes that may interfere with medications.	Eliminates or reduces spraying or marking in males neutered before six months of age or before onset of these behaviors.
Eliminates the risk of ovarian and uterine cancers.	Eliminates risk and spread of sexually transmitted diseases.
Eliminates unwanted pregnancies.	Eliminates unwanted litters.

Unfortunate Reality

More than 7.5 million (7,500,000+) pets are euthanized in animal shelters in the United States each year simply because they do not have a home. Most of these animals are puppies and kittens less than six months old. Help stop this needless loss of life. Spay and neuter your pet.

Myths

Spaying or neutering your pet DOES NOT:

- Cause laziness.
- Cause hyperactivity.
- Reduce a pet's instinct to protect your family and home.
- Cause 'immature' behaviors.
- Postpone or delay normal behavioral maturity.
- Alter their personality in any manner.

If you have further questions or concerns about spaying or neutering your pet or surgery at our hospital, feel free to ask any hospital staff member.