



SPAYING OR NEUTERING YOUR CAT

Spaying a female cat eliminates the heat cycle. Cats can be in heat from 3 to 15 days three or more times a year. Spaying your female cat stops unwelcome visitors and unexpected litters of kittens. Male cats can be drawn from quite a distance by the scent of a female in heat, even when she is kept indoors.

Spaying is a surgical procedure to remove both ovaries and the entire uterus. It eliminates the site of common and serious diseases, such as pyometra and cancer. Cats have fewer breast tumors than dogs, but when they do, they are nearly always malignant. Spaying greatly reduces this risk.

Neutering a male cat reduces the urge to roam in search of a mate which in turn reduces the risk of fights, injury, poisoning, or traffic accidents. It usually prevents or stops spraying—a cat's way of marking their territory with foul smelling urine. If this habit is established, it may not be completely eliminated by neutering.

Neutering reduces the risk of injuries and abscesses due to fighting. It stops the mating drive by removing the organs (testicles) that produce sex hormones. It may take a month for hormones already in the bloodstream to disappear.

A BIGGER REASON TO SPAY OR NEUTER YOUR PET

Every hour, 2,000 – 3,500 kittens and puppies are born in the U.S. That amounts to more than 30 million a year. Only one in ten of these animals find a permanent home. Only 20 to 25% of animals brought to public pounds and privateshelters are adopted. While there is an increasing number of no-kill shelters, thousands of animals are still routinely destroyed.

KITTY MATH

If a cat has four offspring every year (a conservative number) and two are female, and each of these also has four offspring every year, two of which are female, by the seventh year, the original mother will have 4,732 descendants!

We encourage you to give your pet a happier, healthier, and longer life through spaying or neutering.