Important reasons to spay or neuter your pet

More than 4 million pets are euthanized in U.S. animal shelters each year simply because they have no home. Many are puppies and kittens less than 6 months old.

Spaying your female pet (Ovariohysterectomy):

***Removal of the ovaries and uterus. Ideal age is 6-12 months for canines and 5-6 months for felines*.**

* Eliminates the risk of ovarian and uterine cancer.
* Eliminates unwanted pregnancies.
* If spayed before the first heat cycle, your pet has a less than 1% chance of developing breast cancer. If spayed after two heat cycles, the risk increases to 26%. After two years, no protective benefit exists.
* Pets with diabetes or epilepsy should be spayed to prevent hormonal changes that may interfere with medication.

Neutering your male pet (Castration):

***Removal of testicles and spermatic cord.***

* Eliminates the risk of testicular cancer, the second most common tumor in male dogs.
* Greatly reduces the risk of prostate cancer and prostatitis.
* Reduces the risk of perianal tumors.
* Reduces roaming and fighting.
* Eliminates or reduces spraying or marking in males neutered before 6 months of age or before the onset of these behaviors.

Common myths:

***Spaying or neutering your pet does not:***

* Cause laziness or hyperactivity
* Reduce its instinct to protect your family and home
* Cause immature behaviors

**Our staff members can answer your questions about spaying or neutering your pet or any other procedure your pet may undergo at our hospital. Please don’t hesitate to ask.**