



**An animal prayer...**

**The privilege of not being born.**


*I ask for the privilege of not being born until you can assure me of a home and a master to protect me, of the right to live as long as I am physically able to enjoy life, and not to be born until my body is precious and people have ceased to exploit it because it is cheap and plentiful.*

Author unknown

### **NEUTER AND SPAY FUND**

The Clarenville Area SPCA uses donations made to the Neuter and Spay Fund to spay or neuter selected shelter animals with the hope of giving them a better chance to find a loving home.



 **Who else they gonna lean on?**  
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**CLARENVILLE AREA SPCA**

**NEUTER AND  
SPAY,  
IT'S THE  
KINDEST WAY**

**Common concerns  
about neutering  
and spaying  
pets.**

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# Common concerns about neutering and spaying:

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## What is neutering and spaying?

To neuter means to remove the testes of a male cat or dog. To spay means to remove the reproductive tract of a female. A spayed female cannot reproduce so her hormones and glands no longer cause her to go "in heat".

## What are the advantages of spaying or neutering?

### The advantages of spaying are:

- \* Eliminates the heat cycle and associated symptoms such as crying, nervous pacing, the desire to roam and the excretion of blood.
- \* Stops unwelcomed visits by male suitors.
- \* It may reduce the risk of breast cancer and can help in the prevention of diseases of the uterus and ovaries.

### The advantages of neutering are:

- \* Reduces or eliminates the tendency to mark territory with strong-smelling urine.
- \* May prevent prostate disease and certain cancers.
- \* Your pet is less likely to stray from home and show aggressive behavior or tendencies.

## How old should my pet be before the procedure is done?

It can depend on the species or breed of your pet. Six months is generally the norm. It is best to consult with a veterinarian.

## What happens during the surgery?

A qualified veterinarian must perform the surgery. Both procedures (neutering and spaying) are performed under full anesthesia and sterile conditions.

## How do I care for my pet directly following the procedure?

Pets are generally back to themselves within 3 to 4 days and totally healed within 10 to 14 days. During this time, treat your pet extra gently and keep small children away. Your pet's veterinarian can provide more information.

## Shouldn't pets have at least one litter before spaying?

Unlike humans, our pets do not reach a time in life where they may feel the need to have a family.

Pregnancies and nursing of young can deteriorate the health of pets. Complicated births are common and small females can die during birthing.

## How will neutering or spaying affect my pet emotionally and physically?

Neutered and spayed cats and dogs generally become more relaxed and affectionate, less aggressive, and healthier.

Males are no longer driven to seek females and fight for their attention. Females no longer go through a heat cycle which usually results in pregnancy, then nursing, and weaning. Usually, pets are more content to stay near home. Some male cats, once neutered, will not spray urine.

Spaying and neutering does not cause obesity in your pet. Exercise and proper diet will keep your pet healthy and active.

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## Another reason to neuter and spay....

*The number of unwanted cats and dogs in the province is overwhelming. It is deplorable the number of half-starved, unwanted, flea infested animals the Clarendville Area SPCA rescues each year.*

*Shelters in the province continue to do their part to care for these animals but pet owners can also help.*

*Neutering and spaying your pet helps control the pet population. **Please do your part to control the animal population.***

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