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ANIMALS · PEOPLE · COMMUNITY

## Frequently Asked Questions About Spaying and Neutering Your Pet

### **Are there any health benefits my pet will receive from having the operation?**

In females, the chances of uterine cancer and infections are eliminated and chances of mammary cancer are decreased. In males, testicular cancer or infection are eliminated and painful prostate problems are decreased.

### **Will neutering my dog turn him into a “wimp”?**

A dog’s natural instinct is to protect you and his territory; neutering him will not change this.

### **Will neutering an animal make him calmer?**

Only maturity, exercise and good training can calm a very active young dog or cat.

### **Will neutering my pet cause him to become fat and lazy?**

No, all adult animals need fewer calories to maintain their proper weight.

### **What are some behavioral benefits that come from neutering a pet?**

Neutering decreases many unwanted behaviors. The urge to roam is lessened making animals less likely to get lost or be killed on the road. Urine marking and the urge to pick a fight are decreased and mounting behavior is eliminated.

### **Is the cost of surgery expensive?**

Considering the alternative, the surgery cost is very reasonable. The cost of raising a litter is much higher than the cost of the actual operation.

### **How does getting my pet spayed or neutered help my community?**

The procedure saves lives. Each puppy or kitten you allow your dog or cat to reproduce causes one more death of a puppy or kitten already born.

Every hour in the United States, more than 2,000 dogs and 3,500 cats are born compared to 415 humans. An estimated 14 million healthy, friendly dogs and cats will be put to death because there are not enough homes for them.

Ontario County is no exception. While we would like to find homes for all animals that come to the Animal Care Facility, we cannot do that. There are simply not enough homes for all pets at the shelter right now let alone those that are not born yet.