



Why Spay?



There are many medical and behavioral benefits to having your female cat or dog spayed:

1. Better health for your pet

- Unspayed females have a greater risk of developing tumors of the ovaries, uterus, and mammary glands with every heat cycle that passes.
- PYOMETRA: This is a potentially fatal infection of the uterus that's only treatment is to spay.
- Less likely to contract diseases through mating. (ex: Feline FIV, FeLV)
- Shown to increase lifespan

2. Behavioral Improvements

- Reduces spraying and marking of territory
- Reduces desire and risk associated with roaming in search of a male mate (ex: Getting hit by a car, etc.)
- Reduces aggression against other animals
 - During heat cycles, intact females can be protective over their "nest" and belongings
- Reduces vocalization, particularly in cats, associated with being in heat in effort to attract a mate

3. Helps Decrease Overpopulation Problem

- In 3 years, and as early as 4 months of age, an unneutered male and unspayed female can produce:
 - **512** dogs
 - **382** cats

- **MYTH:** My pet's growth will be stunted if I spay her too young

- **MYTH:** It's better to have one litter first

- It's better **not** to have a litter or even a heat cycle before being spayed. With every heat cycle, the chances of mammary cancer grow.