



Clinic: 907-562-2999
Adoption Center: 907-344-3033
Website: www.alaskasPCA.org
3710 Woodland Dr., Suite 1200, Anchorage, AK 99517

WHY YOU SHOULD SPAY OR NEUTER YOUR PET

Here at the Alaska SPCA we hear clients give us many reasons for not spaying or neutering pets.

"I don't want to deprive my boy of the experience."

"I want my girl to have just one litter so I can have another part of her."

"My dog is AKC registered so I want to breed him/her and sell the puppies."

"I just want to wait until he/she is older."

Unless you are a professional breeder and committed to practices that improve the breed, having a litter of puppies or kittens is not recommended. There are so many homeless or unwanted pets in Alaska, adding more potentially condemns older animals to suffering or even death. Also, puppies and kittens don't come out house trained; dealing with the huge quantities of feces and urine created by the youngsters is not for the faint of heart.

There are very sound health and behavioral reasons to spay or neuter our beloved pets including:

1. Early spay of females significantly reduces the risk of mammary (breast) cancer and ovarian cancer, as well as eliminating pyometra (a life-threatening womb infection).
2. Early neuter of males significantly reduces the risk of testicular cancer and future prostate diseases including cancer.
3. For female dogs, avoiding the inconvenience and mess that accompanies a female dog in heat, and the hassle of locking in heat females away. Not to mention the stray males that will show up at your door. It only takes a moment of distraction for them to couple and "gift" you with a new litter.
4. Female cats in heat every 3 weeks. can also be inconvenient to some people. That means she can have several litters over the course of one summer. Male cats will be serenading you and your kitty girl if they can smell that she's in heat and she will be determined to get outside to find romance. Male cats are awful when it comes to kitty child support.
5. For males, early neutering reduces aggression and the incidence of straying (and spraying - cats) is greatly reduced. There's nothing quite like the odor of a male cat that has sprayed. Good luck getting that out of your favorite chair or garment.
6. Eliminating unwanted litters and the difficulties of finding homes for the offspring.

These valid reasons are so important that we offer routine spay/neuter surgery at greatly reduced prices to help our community with responsible pet ownership. Call us even if you just want reassurance on the wisdom of the decision. We'll explain everything and help you decide. Please phone us at 907-562-2999 to book an appointment at a time that suits you.