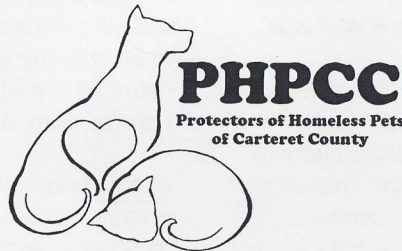


About PHPCC

Protectors of Homeless Pets of Carteret County (PHPCC) was organized in July 2012 to provide for medicines that weren't state required for the animals of The Carteret County Humane Society shelter, such as flea and heartworm protection and bordetella for kennel cough. Our hopes were that if the animals were healthy then they be more adoptable. This led to our sponsoring the spay/neuter of the dogs and cats so they do not add to the already pet overpopulation. Continuing in this goal, PHPCC was a successful recipient of two grants this summer from Beaufort Wine & Food, North Carolina and Carteret Community Foundation. These grant funds will be used in a collaborative effort with Austin Veterinary Outreach and Rescue to provide low-cost clinics for vaccines, spay/neuter and testing of fatal, preventable illnesses and the education on the health care of their pets. Our goal is to reduce the number of intakes at the shelter and the reduction of animals being euthanized.

To-date PHPCC has expended \$33,991 in Medicines and \$62,982 in Veterinary Care for spay/neuters for 873 dogs and cats, surgeries and heartworm treatment. We have one major fundraiser, Bark for Art, which is held in the spring.



DONATIONS

Donations are always welcomed.

Monies can be mailed to:
PHPCC
 7209 Archers Creek Drive
 Emerald Isle, NC 28594

or via PayPal at
phpcc0712@gmail.com

What
 you
 need
 to
KNOW

Why you should Spay/Neuter Your Pet



Why You Should Spay/Neuter Your Pet...

The decision to spay or neuter your pet is an important one for pet owners. It can be the single BEST decision you make for his long-term welfare. Getting your pet spayed or neutered can:



Pets are homeless everywhere

In every community, in every state, there are homeless animals. In the U.S., there are an estimated 6-8 million homeless animals entering animal shelters every year. Barely half of these animals are adopted. Tragically, the rest are euthanized. These are healthy, sweet pets who would have made great companions.

The number of homeless animals varies by state—in some states there are as many as 300,000 homeless animals euthanized in animal shelters every year. These are not the offspring of homeless "street" animals—these are the puppies and kittens of cherished family pets and even purebreds. Many people are surprised to learn that nationwide, more than 2.7 million healthy, adoptable cats and dogs are euthanized in shelters annually. Spay/neuter is the only permanent, 100 percent effective method of birth control for dogs and cats.



Your pet's health

A USA Today (May 7, 2013) article cites that pets who live in the states with the highest rates of spaying/neutering also live the longest. According to the report, neutered male dogs live 18% longer than un-neutered male dogs and spayed female dogs live 23% longer than unsplayed female dogs. Part of the reduced lifespan of unaltered pets can be attributed to their increased urge to roam, exposing them to fights with other animals, getting struck by cars, and other mishaps.

Another contributor to the increased longevity of altered pets involves the reduced risk of certain types of cancers. Unspayed female cats and dogs have a far greater chance of developing pyometra (a fatal uterine infection), uterine cancer, and other cancers of the reproductive system.

Medical evidence indicates that females spayed before their first heat are typically healthier. (Many veterinarians now sterilize dogs and cats as young as eight weeks of age.)

Male pets who are neutered eliminate their chances of getting testicular cancer, and it is thought they have lowered rates of prostate cancer, as well.



Curbing bad behavior

Unneutered dogs are much more assertive and prone to urine-marking (lifting his leg) than neutered dogs. Although it is most often associated with male dogs, females may do it, too. Spaying or neutering your dog should reduce urine-marking and may stop it altogether.

For cats, the urge to spray is extremely strong in an intact cat, and the simplest solution is to get yours neutered or spayed by 4 months of age before there's even a problem. Neutering solves 90 percent of all marking issues, even in cats that have been doing it for a while. It can also minimize howling, the urge to roam, and fighting with other males.

In both cats and dogs, the longer you wait, the greater the risk you run of the surgery not doing the trick because the behavior is so ingrained. Other behavioral problems that can be ameliorated by spay/neuter include:

- Roaming — especially when females are "in heat."
- Aggression — Studies also show that most dogs bites involve dogs who are unaltered.
- Excessive barking, mounting, and other dominance-related behaviors.

While getting your pets spayed/neutered can help curb undesirable behaviors, it will not change their fundamental personality, like their protective instinct.



Cost cutting

When you factor in the long-term costs potentially incurred by a non-altered pet, the savings afforded by spay/neuter are clear. Caring for a pet with reproductive system cancer or pyometra (infection in the uterus) can easily run into the thousands of dollars—five to ten times as much as a routine spay surgery. Additionally, unaltered pets can be more destructive or high-strung around other dogs. Serious fighting is more common between unaltered pets of the same gender and can incur high veterinary costs.

Getting your pets spayed/neutered will not change their fundamental personality, like their protective instinct.