

The Benefits of Spay/Neuter

The most obvious reason for spaying and neutering is to prevent adding to the pet overpopulation problem. In Maricopa County, nearly 50,000 dogs and cats die every year because there are too many animals and not enough homes. In addition, there are health and behavioral benefits of spaying/neutering.

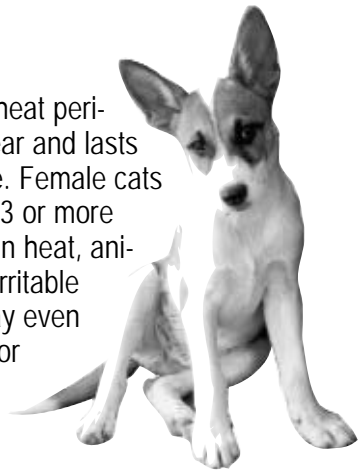
Neutering, or castration, is the surgical removal of the animal's testicles. Neutering male pets reduces or eliminates:

- Territorial aggression and urine marking
- Roaming, escaping and automobile injuries
- Inappropriate mounting, climbing and jumping
- Prostate enlargement, tumors and infections
- Tumors of the testicles, penis and anal area
- Perineal hernias

Spaying, or ovariectomy, is the surgical removal of the animal's ovaries and uterus. Spaying female pets reduces or eliminates:

- Attendant males in abundance during heat
- Spotting during the heat period
- Pregnancies and complications from pregnancy
- Tumors of the mammarys, ovaries or uterus
- False pregnancies
- Uterine infections

In female dogs, the heat period occurs twice a year and lasts 1-3 weeks each time. Female cats may come into heat 3 or more times a year. When in heat, animals become more irritable and nervous and may even become aggressive or destructive. Female cats will yowl and rub excessively.



Spay/Neuter Facts

Many people are under the false impression that spaying/neutering can only be done after a pet has reached the age of 6 months or has gone through at least one heat. Early-age spay/neuter (6-14 weeks) has been safely practiced for more than 25 years, due to technological advances in veterinary medicine and anesthesia techniques. Veterinarians practicing early-age spay/neuter report that the surgery is significantly quicker and easier to perform and that there are fewer post-surgical problems.

Depending on your pet's age, size, and health, he or she will stay at your veterinarian's office for a day or overnight. Depending upon the procedure, your pet may need stitches removed after a few days.

Spay/neuter surgery carries a one-time cost that is relatively small when one considers its benefits. It's a small price to pay for the health of your pet and the prevention of more unwanted animals.

Call each clinic or organization listed for current rates, requirements, restrictions and appointments.

About the Spay/Neuter Hotline of Maricopa County

The Spay/Neuter Hotline started in 1991 to provide a clearinghouse for spay/neuter programs throughout the valley.

The program is staffed completely by volunteers and provides assistance to residents in finding low-cost spay/neuter programs.

Please help by making a generous donation or volunteering.

Spay/Neuter Hotline of Maricopa County

Animal Defense League of Arizona
P.O. Box 33093
Phoenix, AZ 85033

Website:

www.SpayNeuterHotline.com

Phone:

602-265-SPAY (7729)

Spay/Neuter Hotline of Maricopa County

Assistance Programs Resource Guide



This guide courtesy of the **Spay/Neuter Hotline of Maricopa County**, a program of the Animal Defense League of Arizona

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For Residents on Public Assistance

Maddie's Fund Spay/Neuter Project
Veterinarians offer spays and neuters for \$10/cat and \$20/dog to AHCCCS clients in Maricopa County. For more information about this program and to find a participating veterinarian, visit our website or call the Spay/Neuter Hotline:

Website: www.SpayNeuterHotline.com
Phone: 602-265-SPAY (7729)
English or Spanish

Maricopa County Animal Care & Control "Big Fix" Spay/Neuter Voucher Program
MCACC provides low-income residents of Maricopa County with subsidized low-cost spay/neuter opportunities at participating veterinarians. Caregivers must be on some type of public assistance. A co-pay of \$27/dog and \$15/cat is required. For more information, contact:

Website: www.maricopa.gov/pets
Phone: 602-506-PETS (7287)

Based on Financial Need

Spay/Neuter Hotline of Maricopa County Certificate Program
The Spay/Neuter Hotline offers financial assistance for spay and neuter to those in need. Cost is based on the caregiver's ability to pay. This program is intended for those who cannot afford low-cost prices or do not qualify for other assistance programs. Certificates valid at participating vet clinics only. Application available at:

Website: www.SpayNeuterHotline.com
Phone: 602-265-SPAY (7729)
English or Spanish

Spay/Neuter for Pitbulls

Maddie's Fund Spay/Neuter for Pitbulls
Maddie's Fund offers a special incentive for Maricopa County residents who own pitbulls and pitbull mixes. Surgeries are provided at no cost, and a \$20 check will be mailed to the dog's caregiver following the surgery. To locate a participating vet clinic, contact:

Website: www.spayneuterhotline.com
Phone: 602-265-SPAY (7729)

Spay/Neuter for Cats

Cat Nip & Tuck Certificate Program
Cat Nip & Tuck provides low-cost pre-paid certificates for cats. The cost is \$25/females, \$18/males. For a pre-paid certificate valid at participating vet clinics, contact:

Website: www.catnipandtuck.org
Phone: 480-949-SPAY (7729)

Feral Cat TNR Programs

Arizona Cat Assistance Team (AzCATs)
Free-roaming, primarily feral cats only.
If you are feeding "stray" or homeless street cats that you would like to sterilize but cannot catch, AzCATs' TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) program can help. Cats are humanely trapped, sterilized and returned. Caregivers must agree to continue to provide food and water. Trapping equipment, instructions, and trapping assistance are available. Contact:

Website: www.azcats.org
Email: info@azcats.org
Phone: 480-968-4TNR (4867)

Low-Cost Services for All Residents

Maricopa Animal Care & Control "Big Fix" Program
Maricopa County Animal Care and Control (MCACC) sponsors periodic "Big Fix" days at its facilities. On these days, up to 200 dogs and cats are sterilized free of charge. For full details and a schedule, contact:

Website: www.maricopa.gov/pets
Phone: 602-506-PETS (7287)

MCACC Mobile Clinics
Selected dates and locations

Website: www.maricopa.gov/pets
Phone: 602-506-PETS (7287)

Arizona Humane Society Margaret McAllister Brock Spay & Neuter Clinic
1521 W. Dobbins Road, Phoenix

Website: www.azhumane.org
Phone: 602-942-7283

Arizona Humane Society Sunnyslope Low-Cost Spay & Neuter Clinic
1311 W. Hatcher Road, Phoenix

Website: www.azhumane.org
Phone: 602-216-6442

Arizona Humane Society Mobile Spay/Neuter & Animal Wellness Center
Selected dates and locations

Website: www.azhumane.org
Phone: 602-997-7586, Ext. 3002

Low-Cost Clinics Open to the Public

Please mention you were referred by the Spay/Neuter Hotline

North Phoenix Spay and Neuter Clinic
1610 E. Bell Road, Suite 108 (at N. 16th St.)
Phone: 602-787-4240

Van Aken Pet Hospital (West Phoenix)
3869 W. Indian School Rd. (at N. 39th Ave.)
Phone: 602-278-6632

Bethany Animal Hospital
2524 W. Bethany Home Rd.
(at N. Black Canyon Hwy.)
Phone: 602-242-1657

The Spay/Neuter Clinic - North Phoenix
12416 N. 28th Dr., Suite 18 (at Cactus)
Phone: 602-863-0116

The Spay/Neuter Clinic - West Phoenix
7342 W. Indian School Rd. (at 75th Ave.)
Phone: 623-846-3979

The Spay/Neuter Clinic - Mesa
925 S. Gilbert Rd. Suite 113
(north of E. Southern Ave.)
Phone: 480-633-1734

The Spay/Neuter Clinic - Tempe
1425 W. Southern Ave. Suite 12 (at Priest)
Phone: 480-829-1002

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