

Important Information about Your Pet

TOP 3 REASONS TO SPAY/NEUTER YOUR PET:

- > It helps to reduce companion animal overpopulation. Most countries have a surplus of companion animals and are forced to euthanize or disregard their great suffering. The surplus is in the millions in the United States.
- > Sterilization of your cat or dog will increase his/her chance of a longer and healthier life. Altered animals have a decreased risk of mammary gland tumors/cancer, prostate cancer, perianal tumors, pyometria and uterine, ovarian and testicular cancers.
- > Sterilizing your cat or dog makes him/her a better pet, reducing his/her urge to roam and decrease the risks of contracting diseases or getting hurt as they roam. Surveys indicate that as many as 85% of dogs hit by cars are unaltered. Intact male cats living outside have been shown to live on average less than two years. FIV and FeLV is spread by bites and intact cats fight a great deal more than altered cats.

Benefits of Spay/Neuter for Cats and Dogs:

Benefits of Spaying (Females):

- > no heat cycles, therefore males won't be attracted
- > less desire to roam
- > risk of mammary gland tumors, ovarian, uterine cancer is reduced or eliminated, especially if done *before the first heat cycle*
- > reduces the number of unwanted kittens/puppies
- > helps dogs and cats live longer and healthier lives

Benefits of Neutering (Males):

- > reduces or eliminates risk of spraying or marking
- > less desire to roam, therefore less likely to be injured in fights or auto accidents
- > risk of testicular cancer is eliminated and decreases incidence of prostate disease
- > reduces number of unwanted kittens/puppies
- > decreases aggressive behavior, including dog bites
- > helps dogs and cats live longer and healthier lives

DOG LICENSING — IT'S THE LAW !

The owner of any dog reaching the age of 4 months shall immediately make application for a dog license.

~Apply for a dog license at your local licensing agent. This would be the clerk of the town, city or in some counties, village.

~Dogs harbored in NEW YORK CITY must be licensed through the NY City Department of Health.

New York State requires that all owned dogs be licensed and every dog owner should have a dog license tag attached to their dog's collar while in public. Dog owners maybe fined for violation of these laws.

Exemptions may apply for out of state owned dogs who have a license from their state of residence.

Questions?? Contact your local town clerk because they handle all dog licensing. If you cannot reach them, you may try the NYS Dept of Ag and Markets office at (518) 457-3502.

Benefits of Licensing:

Licensing contributes to animal control and the protection of the public health:

- > information about licensed dogs assists in the medical follow-up of individuals potentially exposed to infected dogs, especially important during rabies outbreak
- > licensing helps reunited lost dogs with their owners.
- > licensing is key to family emergency preparedness planning to ensure a dog and owner is reunited in case of separation during a citywide emergency
- > licensing helps enforce the New York State spay/neuter law, which mandates a surcharge on the license fee for unaltered dogs. Spaying or neutering is in the best interest of your pet because it helps reduce the stray animal population and may help reduce unwanted behaviors as well.



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Information courtesy of:

~SpayUSA.org

~New York City Department of Health

~NYS/DAM Dog Licensing Division