



NEWS RELEASE



City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services

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Spaying/Neutering – It's not just the law, it's a Change for the Better

Spaying or neutering your dog or cat over 4 months old is not only the law in the City of Los Angeles, it will improve the health and well-being of your beloved family member. You will also be taking one of the important steps toward solving the problem referred to as "too many pets and not enough homes." In our city, not every loving and adoptable dog or cat is placed in a home. You can be part of the solution by making sure your dog or cat is surgically altered.

Spaying and Neutering is a Change for the Better.

- **You get a healthier pet.** Spayed/neutered pets are less likely to roam away from home, get injured in fights, or get lost. They live twice as long and are less likely to develop breast, uterine, ovarian, prostate or testicular cancers. This means lower medical bills.
- **You get a happier family member.** Spay/neutered pets are freed from the constant need to roam and seek out mates. Their personalities do not change. They are calmer because they are more focused on being a loving member of their caregiver family.
- **Your pet can relax and smell the roses.** Spayed females avoid the annoyance of serenading would-be suitors - screaming and howling throughout the day and into the night. Altered animals are less territorial, less likely to fight and less likely to bite.
- **Your pet and your house will be cleaner.** Spayed females will not have heat cycles that soil your rugs and furniture. Neutered males are less likely to mark furniture and rugs with urine.
- **Spaying or neutering your pet is a good investment.** It is expensive to raise a litter properly.
- **Show your children the real miracle of birth and saving a life.** In our multi-media age, you can easily find many great birth education TV documentaries, videos or CDs to bring home. Consider having your children participate in the "miracle of saving a life" by adopting a rescued pet as a family member from one of our LA City shelters. Explain to your children that by giving a loving home to a spayed or neutered animal, you are actually saving lives of thousands of dogs or cats.

LA Animal Services has several programs to assist with the cost of the sterilization of your animal companion at participating veterinary hospitals if you live in the City of Los Angeles. Free services are available for qualifying low income, senior citizens, and permanently disabled Los Angeles residents. For more information please visit, www.laanimalservices.com or call 888-452-7381.