



City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Spay/Neuter Awareness Month Returns How does this Benefit your Pets?

Los Angeles, February 8, 2019 – February is recognized as National Spay/Neuter Awareness Month and the time has come again to encourage pet owners to have their companion animals sterilized before the warmer months of the year when puppies and kittens are born. To commemorate this special month, L.A. Animal Services would like to remind pet owners about the benefits of spaying or neutering your furry companions.

“Spay/Neuter Awareness Month is a great opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of sterilization,” said Brenda Barnette, L.A. Animal Services General Manager. “By spaying or neutering your cat or dog and spreading the word to others, you are helping to prevent unwanted pets births, reduce stray animals and decrease the number of pets crowding our City animal shelters.”

Spaying or neutering your cat or dog not only reduces shelter intake, but it may enhance the life of your four-legged friend by:

- Increasing the longevity of your best buddy by decreasing the risk of certain cancers and other diseases.
- Lowering the chances of your pet roaming. As a result, they are less likely to escape your yard and get lost or hit by a car.
- Reducing or eliminating males from marking objects with urine, and females will not have heat cycles.
- Curbing undesirable behaviors such as fighting or biting.

Spaying/neutering your companion animal is not only a loving thing to do for your furry companion, it's the law in the City of Los Angeles for all cats and dogs to be spayed or neutered after the age of four months.

L.A. Animal Services offers **free** spay/neuter services to low-income L.A. City residents and **discount** coupons to any City resident for three dogs and three cats per household. The free and discount vouchers are available at all six L.A. Animal Services Shelters.

To find the nearest shelter, visit LAAAnimalServices.com/shelters.

To learn more about L.A. Animal Services Spay and Neuter programs and find participating veterinary hospitals, spay/neuter clinics and mobile spay/neuter clinics in your area, visit LAAAnimalServices.com/spay-neuter.

Los Angeles Department of Animal Services is one of the largest municipal shelter systems in the United States with six shelters serving approximately 60,000 animals annually and responding to 20,000 emergency calls involving an animal or person in danger. LA Animal Services promotes and protects the health, safety and welfare of animals and people.

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