

Metro St. Louis

Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Assistance

1. 909-VETS is sponsored by OpSPOT (www.OpSPOT.org). The program is a free referral service for veterinarians who agree to spay/neuter companion animals at the following prices:

Cats: Male \$30 Female \$40

the veterinarian, be sure to tell them that you are coming to them through the OpSPOT 909-VETS program. Call the following clinics directly for an appointment:

St. Louis City

Hampton Animal Hospital- 314-647-8818

Jefferson Animal Hospital- 314-772-4438

Operation SPOT- 314-995-8678

St. Louis Pet Clinic- 314-773-6400

St. Louis County

Webster Groves Animal Hospital- 314-968-4310

Yorkshire Animal Hospital- 314-843-2394

Murphy Animal Hospital- 636-677-8555

St. Charles County

McCauley Animal Hospital- 636-300-0200

Dogs: Male \$50 Female \$60

Franklin County

Animal Hospital of Washington- 636-239-2745

Dorothy Brinker, DVM- Washington- 636-239-3927

New Haven Veterinary Clinic- 573-237-7387

The Pet Station- 866-583-2858

St. Clair Veterinary Clinic- 636-629-2323

Jefferson County

Animal Clinic of Herculaneum- 636-937-1655

Lawson Animal Hospital- 573-438-2077

Dacus Veterinary Hospital- 636-937-9502

2. BARC's low-cost spay/neuter program) \$10 dog and \$5 cat spay or neuter for families meeting the income requirements. Must email for appt. barcspay@aol.com Call 314-435-1819 for eligibility.

3. The Reduced Cost Spay/Neuter Program is a voucher program that permits residents of Saint Louis County to have their pets spayed or neutered at a reduced cost: Vouchers can only be used by Saint Louis County residents.

Pets MUST have a current Saint Louis County rabies tag to be eligible.

Residents can obtain vouchers at: **North Animal Shelter:** 4100 Seven Hills Drive Florissant, MO 63033 (314) 831-6500; **South Animal Shelter:** 77 Hunter Rd, Ladue, MO 63124 (314) 726-6655

5. Humane Society of Missouri (www.hsmo.org): Any dog or cat spayed or neutered for \$29.95.

Watch for other "Added Costs" By appointment only. **You must call and ask for the SNIP Program**, or you will be directed to the Humane Society's regular market rate spay/neuter program. The SNIP Program will not be advertised over the telephone; you must request it by name. 1201 Macklind Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110. 314-802-5700.

5. Nooterville (www.poundpals.org) is a service that allows you to spay or neuter your dog or cat for a low cost or free! Call us at 314.776.SPAY to discuss your eligibility. If you are eligible, we will provide you with a surgery voucher. After that, you call one of our clinics to arrange an appointment.

Surgeries are done on weekdays.

NOOTERVILLE has two spay/neuter programs. The NOOT program is for pets of City of St. Louis residents who are low income, using government assistance, or fixed-income seniors.

The BIG DOG program is for dogs over 39 pounds at the time of surgery and is available for all residents of the Bi-State area. Call 776-SPAY and leave your phone number. A volunteer will call to discuss financial eligibility.

6. Spay Day USA: (www.pets911.com) - 1-888-PETS-911 (1-888-738-7911)

Top Ten Reason to Spay and Neuter

Whether you've recently adopted a pet or you're considering it, one of the most important health decisions you'll make is to spay or neuter your cat or dog. Spaying—removing the ovaries and uterus of a female pet—is a veterinary procedure that requires minimal hospitalization and offers lifelong health benefits. Neutering—removing the testicles of your male dog or cat—will vastly improve your pet's behavior and keep him close to home. Not convinced yet? Check out our handy—and persuasive—list of the top 10 reasons to spay or neuter your pet!

- 1. Your female pet will live a longer, healthier life.**
Spaying helps prevent uterine infections and breast cancer, which is fatal in about 50 percent of dogs and 90 percent of cats. Spaying your pet before her first heat offers the best protection from these diseases.
- 2. Neutering provides major health benefits for your male.**
Besides preventing unwanted litters, neutering your male companion prevents testicular cancer, if done before six months of age.
- 3. Your spayed female won't go into heat.**
While cycles can vary, female felines usually go into heat four to five days every three weeks during breeding season. In an effort to advertise for mates, they'll yowl and urinate more frequently—sometimes all over the house!
- 4. Your male dog won't want to roam away from home.**
An intact male will do just about anything to find a mate! That includes digging his way under the fence and making like Houdini to escape from the house. And once he's free to roam, he risks injury in traffic and fights with other males.
- 5. Your neutered male will be much better behaved.**
Neutered cats and dogs focus their attention on their human families. On the other hand, unneutered dogs and cats may mark their territory by spraying strong-smelling urine all over the house. Many aggression problems can be avoided by early neutering.
- 6. Spaying or neutering will NOT make your pet fat.**
Don't use that old excuse! Lack of exercise and overfeeding will cause your pet to pack on the extra pounds—not neutering. Your pet will remain fit and trim as long as you continue to provide exercise and monitor food intake.
- 7. It is highly cost-effective.**
The cost of your pet's spay/neuter surgery is a lot less than the cost of having and caring for a litter. It also beats the cost of treatment when your unneutered tom escapes and gets into fights with the neighborhood stray!
- 8. Spaying and neutering your pet is good for the community.**
Stray animals pose a real problem in many parts of the country. They can prey on wildlife, cause car accidents, damage the local fauna and frighten children. Spaying and neutering packs a powerful punch in reducing the number of animals on the streets.
- 9. Your pet doesn't need to have a litter for your children to learn about the miracle of birth.**
Letting your pet produce offspring you have no intention of keeping is not a good lesson for your children—especially when so many unwanted animals end up in shelters. There are tons of books and videos available to teach your children about birth in a more responsible way.
- 10. Spaying and neutering helps fight pet overpopulation.**
Every year, millions of cats and dogs of all ages and breeds are euthanized or suffer as strays. These high numbers are the result of unplanned litters that could have been prevented by spaying or neutering.

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