



SPAYING OR NEUTERING HELPS KEEP YOUR CAT HEALTHY AND HAPPY

What do the words “spay” and “neuter” mean? Spay and neuter is the surgical sterilization of an animal. For female pets, the procedure is called *spaying*; for males, it's called *neutering*.

Spaying and neutering your feline friends is very important for a number of reasons. It can prevent inappropriate behavior patterns, such as urine spraying and inter-cat aggression. It is also important to spay or neuter your pet to help prevent against mammary, testicular, ovarian, and uterine cancer.

In unsplayed female pets, a very serious condition called *pyometra* can develop. Pyometra, an infection of the uterus, is a life-threatening illness. Treatment requires a tremendous amount of veterinary care, plus surgery. Spayed pets cannot develop pyometra.

At the Sacramento Cat Hospital, we recommend that you spay or neuter your kitties between the ages of 6 and 8 months. If you neuter your male kittens too early, their urethra may not fully develop. If this occurs, and the kitty develops urinary crystals or stones, he runs a higher risk of experiencing blockage of his urinary tract. Treating a blockage, which can quickly become life-threatening, requires extensive medical care.

If we spay or neuter too late, we run the risk that our kitties will develop one or more of the serious illnesses discussed above.

Pet overpopulation is also important to consider. There are millions of homeless and unwanted animals in our country; we can decrease this number by spaying and neutering.

If you're not sure about the best age to have your feline family member spayed or neutered, please talk with one of our doctors.

April Spay/Neuter Discount

During the month of April 2010, we are offering a \$5 discount on all neutering procedures, and a \$10 discount on all spays. Please call soon to schedule your appointment, as this discount only applies to spay or neuter surgeries that you schedule during the month of April.

(Spay/neuter procedures do not need to be performed during the month of April to qualify for this discount; however, you must call us before April 30 to make your appointment. If you must reschedule an appointment, please call before April 30, as discount will not apply to surgeries rescheduled after this date.)

SAVE THE DATE!

Don't forget to save the date for our second annual **Cat's Meow Arts & Crafts Fair**, to be held **Sunday, May 23**.

Fair hours are 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in our back parking lot. Please come and browse many unique handmade and artisanal items. Fairgoers can also purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win great prizes.

All proceeds from the Fair will benefit the Sacramento Cat Foundation Benevolent Fund, which was established in 1989 to provide treatment for injured, sick, and feral cats.

We look forward to seeing you there!

KITTENS, KITTENS, KITTENS!

Caution: Extreme cuteness ahead! Please ask to meet our Spring litters of kittens. We have many darling little girls and boys who will soon be looking for homes. Schedule a time for your visit, and get ready to experience maximum adorableness!

APRIL SPECIAL OFFERS

This month, we're pleased to extend three special offers to our clients.

1. Through April 30, receive a **free feline leukemia virus (FeLV) and FIV test** with the purchase of a heartworm test.
2. When you purchase a six-pack of Advantage or Advantage Multi, **you'll receive two free doses!** The cost for a six-pack of Advantage is \$72.42 (including sales tax). For Advantage Multi, it's \$82.01 if your kitty weighs less than 9 pounds; it's \$92.11 if your kitty weighs more than 9 pounds. With your two free doses, the monthly cost for Advantage is only \$9.05, and for Advantage Multi it's only \$10.25–\$11.51!
3. Through April 30, **receive 50% off parasite fecal testing with doctor's examination.** You'll need to bring in a fresh fecal sample so we can perform this important test; call us for complete instructions on how to collect and submit the sample.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

If you haven't already joined us on Facebook, we sure hope you will. It's a great way for us to stay in touch with each other. To join, just go to www.facebook.com/SacramentoCatHospital.

Don't miss an issue of our newsletter! Sign up to receive each month's issue by email. To subscribe, just go to www.sacramentocathospital.com, or speak with one of our staff members.