



## Post-Surgical Instructions

Spay/Neuter Clinic (517) 908-0756

After Hours Emergency Phone (517) 420-8458

Your pet has been spayed or neutered by a licensed veterinarian. This is a major surgery, and they have been in a strange environment, therefore, they may behave abnormally. This behavior may include growling, hissing, and hiding. **Please keep in mind, the more active your pet is, the more likely it will open the incision, leading to complications and infection.**

For questions or concerns following surgery, please call the Spay/Neuter Clinic at (517) 908-0756.

Normal business hours are 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

**\*\*For after-hours EMERGENCIES that cannot wait until the next morning, please call (517) 420-8458\*\***

### Instructions for the Evening of Surgery:

- **PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW CHILDREN OR OTHER PETS TO PLAY WITH OR HAVE OTHER INTERACTIONS WITH YOUR PET TONIGHT.** This could result in injury to your pets or child. Your cat or dog will do best if they are alone in a crate or dark room.
- **The evening of surgery, you may offer your pet a small amount of food.** Usually about half of a normal meal works well. They can have a normal amount of water. It is okay if your animal does not wish to eat or drink tonight, as the medication administered may make them nauseous. If they do eat, they may vomit. The nausea should resolve within 24 hours after surgery.

### Instructions for the Next Two Weeks:

- ***Crate or room confinement is highly recommended for 10-14 days.*** **DO NOT ALLOW:** excessive exercise or play with family members and other pets. **NO** long walks, hiking or running during the healing process. **DO NOT ALLOW** or encourage playing, running, jumping, and climbing. Potty breaks need to be done on leash only. Avoid full flights of stairs.
- ***Check the incision twice daily and DO NOT allow your pet to lick the incision.*** Licking will cause infection and breakdown of the glue used to close the incision. There may be a nickel-sized lump and minor bruising around the incision site. Abnormalities include opening of the incision, discharge, or excessive swelling.
  - The incision for female cats, female dogs, and male dogs has been closed with dissolvable suture (stitches) and tissue/skin glue. This suture will dissolve on its own and does not need to be removed. The incision for female cats and dogs is on the abdomen (belly). Male cats do not have sutures and the incisions are on the scrotum above each testicle. The incision on male dogs is just above the scrotum. It is normal to see a small amount of blood or clear fluid from the incision site for male dogs. If more than occasional spotting occurs, please contact the clinic or after hours emergency phone.
  - Your pet has been tattooed with a small green line on the abdomen near the incision. This is a common identifier to indicate that your animal has been spayed or neutered. It will not wash off.
- ***DO NOT give human medications such as ibuprofen (Advil), aspirin and/or Tylenol to your pet, as this could lead to serious complications and could be fatal.*** The day of surgery, your pet has received a 24-hour dose of pain medication. We recommend an additional 2-3 days of pain medication that can be purchased at our clinic the day of the surgery (dogs: \$10.00; cats: \$12.00). Both are in pill form.
- ***An e-collar is highly recommended and needs to be worn 24 HOURS A DAY for the next 10-14 days.*** We highly recommend the use of an e-collar! We offer e-collars for \$10.00. For cats: An e-collar can be made from a sturdy paper plate, or a small stack of thin ones. Cut a slit from the edge of the plate to the center of it. Cut a circle in the center of the plate. The plate can then be bent and stapled into a cone shape. Only a small amount of room should be between the plate and your cat's neck to prevent them from taking it off.
- ***Do not bathe your pet or allow them to swim for the next 14 days.*** The glue used to close the incision site is water soluble and will easily dissolve with contact from water