Why You Should Neuter Your Cat or Dog:

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The main reasons for neutering (castrating) a dog or cat include reducing pet overpopulation, lowering testosterone associated health problems and modifying undesirable testosterone associated behaviors. Castrating a male animal which is not intended for breeding purposes is one way in which you can help to insure the health and safety of your pet and his place in your family.

Overpopulation:
Each year thousands of animals are relinquished to animal shelters as a result of unplanned pregnancies and undesirable behavior. Many of these healthy kittens, cats, dogs and puppies must be euthanized due to a lack of adoptive homes, space and resources. Castrating males who are not going to be used for breeding purposes helps to decrease the number of unwanted breedings.

Health Benefits:
Elevated androgens (testosterone) in the male animal can contribute to potentially life threatening diseases. Inflammatory and infectious conditions such as orchitis and epididymitis (inflammation of the testis and epididymus), prostatitis (inflammation of the prostate gland) and perianal adenomas (tumors of the anal area) occur more frequently in non-castrated males. Perineal hernias are more common in non-castrated animals. Testicular cancers such as sertoli cell tumors, leydig tumors and seminomas also occur more commonly in non-castrated individuals.

Behavioral Benefits:
Castration reduces or eliminates fighting, roaming and spraying in 80-90% of male cats. Urine marking, roaming and mounting is reduced in 75% of male dogs and aggression is reduced in 33%.

Neutering a male dog does not reduce his energy level or ability to work. Obesity can occur if adjustments are not made for the resultant reduced caloric
requirement post castration (approximately 25%). Pre puberty neutering of dogs actually improved their incidence of becoming a successful guide dog at one school for the blind.