

Important Information for Spay & Neuter Surgeries



Before a Cat or Kitten can go up for adoption, they must be spayed or neutered. Only shelter staff can schedule this with the clinic, so please do not call the clinic to schedule foster animals.

Kittens must meet the following requirements before surgery

1. Weight at least 2 pounds
2. Be a minimum age of 8 weeks old
3. Healthy

Feeding the night before:

- Kittens under the age of 6 months **SHOULD** have access to food and water all night and the morning of the surgery day. This is so that their blood-glucose level doesn't drop too low.
- Kittens and Cats 6 months or older should **NOT** have access to food after **MIDNIGHT**. They should have access to water. Please try to separate a mom from her kittens the night before surgery to ensure she does not have access to food over night. If this is not possible, then you may give the kittens only a snack in the morning, but do not allow mom to have a snack.

Drop off for surgery:

- Surgeries are done at the Fort Collins Spay and Neuter Clinic. They are located in unit #9 of the same building the shelter is in. If you have concerns with making the appointment on time and it is before shelter hours, please call the clinic at 970-484-1861.
- If your foster kitty's surgery is on a normal clinic business day you should expect to wait for 20 minutes. Drop off time is between 8:00 am – 8:30 am.
- Ways to speed up the intake process:
 - o Label your carrier with the foster kitties name, color, sex & any other identifying information. If multiple kitties might look similar, please separate them or give them ID tags before or during check in.
 - o Make sure to leave the last time the kitty ate & the best contact number staff can reach you if there is an urgent question regarding your foster kitties.

Please refer to the other side of this sheet for take home instructions after surgery

Fort Collins Spay/Neuter Clinic
Post-Operative Take Home Instructions

(Please read these instructions carefully)

Pick up times: 4:30pm-5:15pm Dogs
5:15pm-6:00pm Cats

1. Your animal had a **surgical procedure today**, which he/she received an injectable **pain medication** for. If you want your animal to continue to have a **comfortable pain free recovery**, please give the pain medication we prescribe as directed. If you have any concerns about the medication or your animals' recovery, call us immediately.
2. **Do Not** let your animal **lick or chew at their incision**. It is important that the incision stay clean and dry. If need be, your pet will have to wear a special collar to prevent them from getting to the incision site.
3. **If your** dog was neutered today, please place an **ice pack** wrapped in a washcloth on his scrotum for **5 minutes twice daily for the first 3 days** following surgery. This will help to reduce the risk of a scrotal hematoma (swelling of his scrotum). If the swelling becomes large and painful please call us.
4. **Monitor** the incision daily for the following: **swelling, discharge or redness** (inflammation). If you notice any of those signs please call us immediately.
5. **Restrict** your animals' activity for the next **7-10** days. No running, jumping, roughhousing with other animals, swimming or bathing. Avoid any activity that could potentially harm the incision. Short walks are fine.
6. **Special feeding** tonight for your pet is best. Please give **half** of the normal amount of food for dinner. Your pet can return to their regular diet starting tomorrow. Allow access to water. If your animal is **6 months old or younger, you need to feed the normal amount of food and make sure they eat**. Young animals are predisposed to becoming hypoglycemic (low blood sugar), it is important to prevent this from happening as serious complications can arise from hypoglycemia.
7. **Behavior** of your animal is critical to a good recovery. Please watch them closely. If they show any signs of concern such as; lethargy, decreased appetite, pain, abnormal behavior, please do not hesitate to call. **It is your responsibility to ensure your animal recovers well from surgery**. Please adhere to these guidelines, as they are instructions for a healthy post-surgical recovery.