

Presqu'ile Animal Hospital Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program

Our Feline Spay/Neuter program will be offered at the discretion of Presqu'ile Animal Hospital alone. This is a voluntary program which we hope to continue to offer throughout the year.

This program will run on March 10th, 2024.

The cost will be \$100+hst for a feline spay and \$50+hst for a feline neuter. All pets will receive a rabies vaccination unless declined by the owner or if proof of vaccination is provided.

Microchips are available at a cost of \$25+hst.

Applications must be received by February 29th, 2024.

You will receive confirmation of your booking by March 4th, 2024.

The spay or neuter surgery must be pre-paid by noon on March 8th, 2024, otherwise your spot will be offered to the next applicant on the list. **Do not send funds until your booking is confirmed.**

This program is open to anyone needing their cat spayed or neutered; however, bookings will be taken first-come, first-serve, **with priority selection going to those who meet the following criteria:**

- Seniors receiving the Federal Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS).
- Disabled individuals receiving the Ontario Disability Support Payment (ODSP) or the Canada Pension Plan Disability Payment (CPP Disability).
- Individuals receiving assistance through the Ontario Works Program.
- Persons with an annual household income of less than \$25,000.
- Supportive housing for seniors, retirement homes or long-term care facilities with live-in pets.

Applications must include current documentation as follows if applicable:

Pet owners on provincial support (ODSP/OW) can provide:

- a current(within the month) Statement of Assistance
- a letter of entitlement from their ODSP/OW government official case worker
- or an online screen shot of program participation (current to the day).

For Federal supports-(GIS/ CPP Disability/ household income of \$25000 or less)

- Pet owners on GIS/ Guaranteed Income Supplement have letters of entitlement or Statements of Old Age Security which provide proof of current support.(current to the year)
- Pet owners receiving CPP Disability I have letters of entitlement or Statements of Assistance which provide proof of current support.(current to the year)
- Pet owners with an annual household income of \$25,000 or less must submit their recent Notice of Assessment that shows this and if they have a spouse, we will need their Notice of Assessment as well.

Which cats are eligible for spay or neuter surgery?

- Healthy adult cats under the age of 6 (no coughing, sneezing, vomiting, diarrhea or other symptoms of illness)
- Kittens that are at least 4 months old (>1kg)
- Female cats in heat
- Healthy pregnant cats with the understanding that the pregnancy will be terminated

Which cats are NOT eligible for spay or neuter surgery?

- Unhealthy or contagious cats.
- Animals that have received medications within the last two weeks (excluding anti-parasitic medications). – If your pet is on a long-term medication, please check with us to see if you can be accommodated.
- Very overweight or underweight cats. (Body condition scores: 1/9 – 3/9 or 8/9 - 9/9)
- Nursing cats
- Cats under six (6) months with retained testicles. Cats over 6 months with testicles undescended will be done at the discretion of the attending veterinarian if the testicle is palpable at the time of surgery.
- Animals seven years of age and older.

Which cats have a higher risk during surgery?

- Cats with neurological conditions.
- Cats with severely poor dental health. While also painful and uncomfortable, poor dental health can have a negative effect on your pet's organ functions and health.
- FIV and feline leukemia positive cats.
- Cats with a history of upper respiratory infections.

Please note: All surgeries are at the discretion of the veterinarian the morning of surgery. Should they determine for any reason during the pre-surgical examination that your animal is unfit for surgery; the veterinarian reserves the right to deny the patient.

If I have more than one cat, do I need to submit more than one application form?

Each cat requires its own application, which will remain part of its medical record.

What is spaying or neutering?

In female cats, the uterus and ovaries are removed through a small incision in the abdominal wall. After the surgery, females will be unable to get pregnant and will not go through heat cycles. In male cats, the testicles are removed but the scrotum remains. Removal of the testicles prevents production of sperm resulting in a male that cannot produce young.

Female cats will be unable to reproduce as soon as the surgery is complete. They will have no reproductive organs remaining. Male cats will have their testicles removed but there will be sperm and testosterone in their systems for up to three weeks post-surgery.

What if there is a complication?

It is important to monitor cats closely for several days following surgery to ensure they recover well. If you have concerns, we will provide assistance within our business hours. If outside of business hours, you must contact one of the local emergency hospitals.

Records from the surgery will be transferred to your current veterinary office (if you have one).

Pre-surgical instructions

Pets must be fasted the night before surgery, please remove food at 11pm the night before surgery. Always provide water for your pet.

You will be provided with a check-in time when your booking is confirmed. It is important that you arrive on-time. All cats must arrive in a carrier. Please label your carrier with your name and phone number.