



6251 O'Neil St., Niagara Falls, Ont., Phone: (905) 354-5645, Fax: (905) 354-9225

CAT CASTRATION

Why should I have my cat neutered (or castrated)?

Neutering, or castration, offers a number of advantages, especially if performed at an early age (6 months). Following puberty, at approximately 8-9 months old, the male cat often develops a number of undesirable behavioral changes. He will become territorial and start to mark areas, even inside the house, by spraying urine, which will have a particularly strong and difficult to remove odour. He will start to enlarge his territory by straying ever farther from the house, particularly at night. It is for this reason that many cats hit by cars are non-neutered males. By increasing his territory he will come into contact with other cats and fight for dominance. Inflicted fight wounds can result in severe infections and abscesses.

Diseases such as FIV and FeLV, which can cause AIDS-like syndromes and cancers in cats, are also spread through bites. These cats are most commonly affected with such incurable diseases. Finally, but not least, neutering prevents unwanted litters and the needless deaths of kittens and cats.



The longer a tomcat sprays and fights, the less likely neutering will stop it.

When should I have my cat neutered?

In most cases, it is desirable to neuter before puberty, and it is customary to operate on kittens at an early age. The actual age chosen will depend upon the preference of your veterinarian - many individuals will neuter male cats at around 6 months of age. This is the best time for castration and will help to prevent the unwanted behaviours that develop at approximately 8-9 months of age.

What does the operation involve?

You will need to withhold food for twelve (12) hours prior to surgery. Your pet should have free access to water during the pre-operative fasting period. Please bring him in at 8:00AM the morning of the procedure.

Your cat will be then be examined and pre-anesthetic blood tests are highly recommended to be sure the kidney and liver is functioning normally. If a problem is noticed, the anesthetic protocol can be adjusted or the procedure may be put on hold for other tests to be performed. Your pet will then be given a general anesthetic. During surgery, both of the testicles are removed through a small incision in the scrotum. Stitches are rarely required in the skin. He is then free to go home later the same afternoon (usually between 4 to 6 PM).

Your cat will likely be tired for a few days after the procedure and may not be interested in food for 24-48 hours. He should then be back to his normal self. If any problems arise, do not hesitate to give us a call.