

## Why should you spay or neuter your dog?

### It's good for you!

- » It makes dogs more loving.
- » It makes dogs less likely to bite.
- » Spaying your dog gets rid of her heat cycle. This means no crying, nervous behaviour or unwanted attention from male dogs.
- » Neutering dogs makes them less likely to run away or get into fights.

### It's good for your community!

- » It keeps your community safe.
- » It keeps your community from having too many stray dogs.
- » Spaying your female dogs keeps her from attracting wolves and coyotes.
- » Less puppies and dogs to feed.



## Contact NWT SPCA

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### Definitions

**Litter** – a group of puppies that are born together.

**Overpopulation** – when there are so many dogs that people can't take care of them all.

**Spay** – a surgical operation for female dogs so they can't have puppies.

**Neuter** – an operation for male dogs so they can't be a father.

**Veterinarian** – a doctor who deals only with animals.

**Anesthesia** – a medicine that makes sure your dog feels no pain during an operation.



[www.nwtspca.com](http://www.nwtspca.com)

# Spaying and Neutering

It's good for you, your dog,  
and your community



Learn about affordable spaying  
and neutering programs  
available from the NWT SPCA.



## What is overpopulation?

Groups of puppies born together are called a litter. When there are too many litters, there are not enough homes for all the newborn puppies. This causes overpopulation in the community.

Overpopulation can cause lots of trouble. Dogs can get into fights, knock over garbage, leave poop all over the community, and stray dogs will eventually make more puppies.

To help with overpopulation, it is important to spay and neuter all dogs.



**Myth:** My dog won't be protective.

**Fact:** Your dog will still be protective of you and your family.



## What is spaying and neutering?

Spaying is an operation for female dogs and neutering is an operation for male dogs. In both cases, a veterinarian performs the operation while the dog is sleeping. Once dogs are spayed or neutered, they can no longer make babies.

**Myth:** My male dog will feel like less of a male.

**Fact:** Neutering will not change their personality.

## How do I care for my dog following the procedure?

Dogs are usually back to normal within 3 to 4 days and completely healed within a week. During this time, be gentle with your dog and keep small children away.

## How much will it cost?

The NWT SPCA has a low-cost spay and neuter program so that anyone can get their dogs spayed or neutered.

For \$250 a family can send in their dog to the NWT SPCA in Yellowknife and they will get the pet spayed or neutered, and vaccinated. The dog is then sent back to the community where it will not have any more puppies in the future.

Please email the NWT SPCA at [nwtspcayk@gmail.com](mailto:nwtspcayk@gmail.com) if you would like to know more about this program.

**Myth:** It's too expensive to spay or neuter my dog.

**Fact:** With the NWT SPCA spay/neuter program, the cost is about half the typical cost of the procedure.