

**Spaying or neutering** is one of the greatest gifts you can provide your pet, your family, and your community. These routine medical procedures not only help control pet overpopulation, but they may also prevent medical and behavioral problems from developing, allowing your pet to lead a longer, healthier and happier life.

### **What is spay/neuter?**

The word “spay” refers to the sterilization of female pets. The term “neuter,” while more commonly used to refer to the castration of male pets, can be used to describe the sterilization of either female or male pets.

### **What are some benefits of spay/ neuter?**

**Healthy Pets.** Spay/neuter improves your pet’s health, reducing or eliminating the risk of certain cancers and other diseases. Because spay/neuter often reduces the tendency to fight with other animals, it also protects your pet from fight-related injuries and from dangerous viruses spread through bite wounds. Spayed/neutered animals wander less and stay closer to home. As a result, they are less likely to be lost or hit by cars.

**Happy Families.** Spay/neuter reduces or eliminates spraying (marking objects with a spray of urine), yowling/howling, escaping, and other troublesome behaviors. You won’t have to deal with the mess or the inconvenience of a pet in heat (or a male pet reacting to a female in heat). You’ll be saved the considerable amount of time, money, and hassle (not to mention property damage!) involved in raising litters of puppies or kittens.

**Healthy Communities.** Spay/neuter has a direct impact on the incidence of dog bites in a community. The majority of dog bites (60–80 percent) are caused by intact male dogs. Pregnant or nursing female dogs are more likely to bite as well. Reducing your pet’s likelihood of biting or fighting may also help protect you from potential legal action. Spayed/neutered pets are less likely to engage in behaviors that could cause problems.

**No More Homeless Pets.** Spay/neuter directly impacts the number of animals that lose their lives in our shelters and on our streets. Having your pet spayed or neutered frees up homes for homeless pets that are already born. By getting your pet fixed, you are part of the campaign to reach the day when there are truly no more homeless pets!

### **Will my pet’s behavior change after the surgery?**

Spay/neuter can result in some behavior changes – for the better! Spayed or neutered pets are often less aggressive, more relaxed, and even more affectionate. Contrary to what some people fear, pets show no signs of “missing” mating or breeding. Rather, they are more content without those raging hormones.

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# Treasure Coast Low Cost Spay & Neuter Programs & Vouchers

## **ST. LUCIE COUNTY**

### **City of Fort Pierce Animal Control**

City Hall – Code Enforcement  
100 N. US 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Fort Pierce, FL 34950  
772-467-3720

<https://www.cityoffortpierce.com/334/Spay-Neuter-Program>

*All residents of the City of Fort Pierce are eligible to receive a reduced cost or free voucher. Fees for additional services may apply.*

### **City of Port St. Lucie Animal Control**

1133 S.W. S. Macedo Blvd.  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34983  
772-871-5042

<https://www.cityofpsl.com/government/departments/police/animal-control/spay-and-neuter>

*They offer city residents certificates for free spay/neuter services with simple qualifying requirements.*

### **St. Lucie County Animal Safety**

15305 W. Midway Rd  
Ft. Pierce, FL 34945  
772-462-8120

<https://www.stlucieco.gov/departments-services/a-z/public-safety/animal-safety-service-protection/spay-neuter-programs>

*Offers free spay/neuter surgery to county residents in the unincorporated areas of the county. Fees for additional services may apply.*

### **Dogs & Cats Forever**

4600 Selvitz Road  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34981  
772-489-5454

<http://www.dogsandcatsforever.com/>

*Pick up vouchers at the shelter for low-cost sterilizations that are honored at local animal hospitals in the area.*

### **Operation CatSnip**

772-293-4621

<http://operationcatsnipc.com/>

*Offers low cost spay/neuter/vaccinate package for all cats. Participates in City of Fort Pierce, City of Port St. Lucie, and unincorporated St. Lucie County community cat TNVR programs.*

### **Operation SOS**

772-222-7717

<https://www.operationsos.net/>

*SOS operates a state-of-the art mobile veterinary clinic offering spay-neuter surgeries for income-qualified residents. They have scheduled stops in St. Lucie and Okeechobee Counties. Also participates in City of Fort Pierce, City of Port St. Lucie, and unincorporated St. Lucie County voucher and community cat TNVR programs*

### **Rescue Adoption, Inc.**

3802 Oleander Ave.  
Fort Pierce, FL 34982  
772-618-3334

<http://www.rescueadoption.org/>

### **United for Animals**

P.O. Box 3307  
Ft. Pierce, FL 34948  
772-979-4008

<https://unitedway4animal.wixsite.com/mysite>

*UFA participates in local TNVR Community Cat programs and provides referral services and assistance with local free and low cost spay/neuter programs primarily for unincorporated St. Lucie County and City of Fort Pierce residents. We also provide extra needed services including, when needed, transportation.*

## **MARTIN COUNTY**

### **Humane Society of the Treasure Coast**

4100 S.W. Leighton Farm Avenue  
Palm City, FL 34990  
772-223-8822

<https://hstc1.org/public#psn>

*Dogs and Cats are spayed/neutered, micro-chipped, given rabies vaccination (If 4 months old @ the time of surgery), appropriate pain medications, and nail clipping. Rabbits receive spay/neuter only and must be 4 months and 2 lbs. (breed dependent). You can also purchase a dog voucher to be used at participating veterinarians.*

### **Caring Fields Felines**

P.O. Box 1693  
Palm City, FL 34991  
772-463-7386

<https://www.cffelines.org/>

*Their voucher program offers low-cost spay/neuter certificates for all cat sterilizations that can be used at a Martin County animal hospital.*

### **Domino's Cat Rescue League**

P.O. Box 1608  
Palm City, FL 34990  
772-781-5592

<http://www.dominoshouse.org/>

*Vouchers available for low cost cat spay/neuter surgery.*

## **INDIAN RIVER COUNTY**

### **Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County**

6230 77th Street  
Vero Beach, Florida 32967  
772-388-0801

<https://www.hsvb.org/animal-wellness-clinic.html>

*HSVB has an Animal Wellness Clinic to help you control the costs of having your animals spayed and neutered.*

### **H.A.L.O. No-Kill Rescue**

710 Jackson Street or Indian River Mall  
Sebastian, FL 32958 Vero Beach, FL  
772-589-7297 772-778-8798

<https://www.haloescuefl.org/>

*Low cost vouchers for several local veterinarians available at both HALO locations.*

### **Raining Cats Rescue**

Vero Beach, FL  
772-464-3981 Diane

<https://www.facebook.com/rainincatsrescueinc/>

*Special voucher prices honored by Crossroads Animal Hospital in Vero Beach.*

### **Indian River Community Cats**

Vero Beach, FL  
772-913-3333

<http://www.indianrivercommunitycats.org/>

*Low cost spay/neuters and vaccinations for community/feral/un-owned cats.*

### **Dr. Dan's Animal Hospital**

1624 14th Avenue  
Vero Beach, FL  
772-562-8468

*FREE TNVR program for residents of Indian River County. We have traps for rent for anyone interested in this. All cats are spayed or neutered, micro-chipped, rabies vaccinated and eartipped...all at no charge.*