

# SPAY AND NEUTER MYTHS

DEBUNKED

## **I can't afford it**

St. Francis CARE S.P.O.T. (Stop Pet Overpopulation Today) offers low cost spay and neuter surgeries to qualifying individuals. Think about it- do you want the one time cost of getting them fixed, or the repeated cost of unwanted litters?

## **It's better to let my female have one litter first**

Spaying prevents uterine infections and breast cancer, and spaying before the first heat cycle is the best way to prevent these diseases. Having a litter will not change the disposition of a female. It will only put her at risk for these diseases.

## **My pet will get fat and lazy after being spayed/neutered**

The truth is that pets gain weight because their owners feed them too much, or they don't get enough exercise. Spaying and neutering has nothing to do with it.

## **My male dog/cat will feel like less of a male**

Dogs and cats have no concept of sexual identity or ego. Neutering will not change a pet's basic personality.

## **But my pet is purebred**

So is 1 out of every 4 animals brought into a shelter. There are simply too many dogs and cats, both purebred and mutts.

With the help of the **St. Francis CARE S.P.O.T. program**, over 6,000 animals for low-income families have been spayed or neutered in the past 6 years.

Need to get your pet spayed or neutered? Call us at 618-687-2079 to see if you qualify, or find out more about the S.P.O.T. at [stfrancis-care.org](http://stfrancis-care.org)