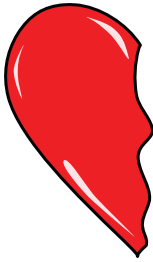


WHAT TO DO WHILE YOU'RE WAITING FOR YOUR PET'S APPOINTMENT?



You Gotta Keep 'Em Separated



PET FRIENDLY
SERVICES OF INDIANA™



This guide is intended to help pet owners keep their animals safe while waiting for a spay/neuter surgery appointment. It is vital that you schedule your appointment right away, as some vet offices are booked up for months.

Both dogs and cats will mate with members of their own litter, and mating begins at a very young age. You must keep males and females separated to avoid unwanted pregnancies. The gestation period for both cats and dogs is just over two months. That right! In two months, a cat or dog can produce an entire litter.

Female Dogs

Never allow your female dog to be outside without the supervision of a competent adult (who is also outside.) When female dogs are in heat, it's vital that you do not turn your back for a second. Many local ordinances do not allow female dogs in heat to be outside without the supervision of a competent adult who is also outside. Fencing will not protect a female dog, as males will do everything in their power to reach an in-heat female. Males will jump or climb fences, or they will dig underneath. There's no stopping a male dog on a mission.

Male Dogs

Like female dogs, it is essential that your intact male dog is supervised by a competent adult while outside. They must be in a fenced area where they are unable to jump, climb or dig to escape. Male dogs can smell a female in heat up to 2 miles away – and he will stop at nothing to reach her. Escapees on a love crusade will cross busy roads and traverse neighborhoods. This puts them at risk from cars and other animals.

As a dog ages and testosterone levels rise, they will start to present unwanted behaviors like urine marking, fighting, and aggression towards other males. Their hormones can also cause them to be frustrated, antsy, and destructive. They may turn their attention to other pets, pillows, and unsuspecting human legs. The earlier the dog is neutered, the easier these behaviors are to correct.

Coyotes – Potential Danger to Both Unaltered Female & Male Dogs



Coyotes live in both rural areas as well as cities and are found in every state of North America.

Male coyotes are attracted to dogs in heat and can mate with your female dog. They can scale 6-foot fencing to reach a female dog in heat.

Unneutered male dogs can be lured by the scent of a female coyote in heat. This is a very dangerous and potentially deadly situation for a male dog, as he can end up approaching a pack of coyotes or a male coyote that will compete to mate with the female.

[https://www.parkerpolice.org/DocumentCenter/View/22618/Coyote-Tips-](https://www.parkerpolice.org/DocumentCenter/View/22618/Coyote-Tips-20122013)

All Cats

Cats reproduce early and often. Schedule their spay/neuter appointment right away! Cats looking for a mate can be escape artists. Small children or unsuspecting guests can open doors just wide enough for a cat to slip through. It's important to contain cats in an interior room or a large crate (such as those used for dogs) until they are fixed.

Female Cats

Cats come into heat as early as 5 months of age. Females in heat cry loudly. They go into heat continuously until they become pregnant. It's an uncomfortable situation for both people and their pets.

If you must wait an extremely long amount of time for your scheduled appointment, you may wish to talk to your veterinarian about the temporary use of megestrol acetate.

Male Cats

Unfixed male cats have lots of testosterone, which makes their urine especially strong smelling. Male cats may begin spraying to mark their territory, and they are laser focused on getting outside to meet the ladies. Once they are neutered, their testosterone levels drop and their odor and behavior improve.



About This Guide: This guide was compiled by Pet Friendly Services of Indiana. Pet Friendly Services is Indiana's spay/neuter financial assistance program.

Pet Friendly Services is financially supported by donations, grants, and the #4 selling Pet Friendly specialty license plate. Contact us or visit us online to learn more:

Pet Friendly Services of Indiana
1100 W 42nd Street, Suite 205
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Voice Mail: 317-767-7771
Info@PetFriendlyServices.org
www.PetFriendlyServices.org



Community Cats – If You Feed Them, Fix Them!

If you are feeding outdoor cats, please get them fixed!

Need help trapping cats or finding low-cost spay/neuter resources?

Google keywords such as: “low cost spay neuter near me”. To find a community cat program in your area, Google “community cat program near me”, “TNR programs near me” or “trap neuter return program near me.”

Most community cat programs are all-volunteer, so be patient and courteous.

