

Pet Friendly Services of Indiana Resources for Vets & Vet Technicians



Pet Friendly Services runs Indiana's statewide spay/neuter program. We're a small nonprofit, funded by the Pet Friendly specialty license plate, grants and donations. We partner with vets to perform spay/neuter surgeries, in addition to an array of other initiatives, all designed to help Indiana's dogs and cats. This info sheet provides info and opportunities specifically for the veterinary field.

- **The Indiana Animal Welfare Conference** – Register for this informative conference, complete with 18 sessions, including a track dedicated to vets and vet techs. **Saturday, April 18, 2026, with a networking event Friday evening.** www.IndianaAnimalConference.org

- **The Pet Friendly Plate** funds thousands of spay/neuter surgeries each year. With your help, we can increase awareness and save more lives. We have compiled Facebook posts, graphics and more for you to easily share at this website: <https://tinyurl.com/p26e74xx>
<https://petfriendlyservices.org/make-a-difference/downloads-widgets/>



- **Join our Spay/Neuter Program** – Help your community address the root cause of overpopulation by joining our program! Participating vets are reimbursed at an agreed rate, and you can choose the program(s) that best fit your needs. You can perform just a few surgeries – or many. It's completely up to you. www.PetFriendlyServices.org/for-Vets

- **Spay/Neuter Wet Lab Training** – To increase spay/neuter capacity, Pet Friendly Service is hosting 3 wet labs for community-minded veterinarians who wish to prevent overpopulation. Attendees will sharpen their skills and increase their confidence while networking with high-quality, high-volume spay/neuter surgeons. Seating is very limited. Register now to reserve your spot! You'll earn 8 CEs while you learn. The cost is only \$150. www.PetFriendlyServices.org/for-Vets

March 22 Elkhart (Dogs) June 27 Evansville (Cats) Oct. 25 Lafayette (Dogs)

- **Feline Fix by Five:** Help us spread the word! Most pet owners don't know the best time to spay/neuter their cat because they don't realize kittens can go into heat when they are just four months old. That means the best time to spay/neuter is *before* five months of age. Learn more about this campaign, which is endorsed by the AVMA, the IVMA, and the IVTA, among others!
<https://petfriendlyservices.org/when-to-spay-neuter/>



- **Rabies:** Did you know that both the CDC and the Indiana Department of Health credit the incredible strides to minimize rabies to the collaborative work of veterinarians and the animal welfare field?

Spay/neuter is not only an animal welfare service—it's a proven public health tool.

By reducing the number of unowned and free-roaming animals, we reduce the chances that pets and people will come into contact with rabid wildlife. Vaccines administered during spay/neuter surgery or as part of sheltering and rehoming programs provide a crucial layer of protection.



Current Challenges: Across the nation, shelters are struggling. Many are being advised to turn away animals, sending them back into communities - unaltered and unvaccinated. If this is happening in your community, please use your voice to push back against policies that lead to overpopulation and threaten public health.

Similarly, some pet owners are choosing not to vaccinate against rabies due to misinformation and distrust, a result of humane vaccine hesitancy.

Learn more at: <https://www.unitedspayalliance.org/no-babies-no-rabies/>



Until the early 1960's, most of the rabies cases in Indiana were dogs, cats, and animals bitten by dogs and cats. After pet vaccination increased and animal control programs were established, dog and cat rabies decreased rapidly. From the 1960s to 1988 skunks were the most commonly found rabid animals in Indiana.

<https://www.in.gov/rabies/rabies-by-the-numbers/>



Rabies prevention efforts by veterinary, wildlife management, and public health professionals mean that human cases of rabies in the U.S. are rare. Every year, wildlife management professionals distribute more than 5 million oral vaccines to wildlife through baits to control rabies at its source. Veterinarians vaccinate more than 90 million cats and dogs each year. These vaccinations significantly reduce the risk that you or your pets get rabies.

Around the world, large-scale dog vaccination programs are the most effective way to prevent rabies.

<https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/about/index.html>

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