



SPAY & NEUTER AT THE KALAMAZOO HUMANE SOCIETY

WHAT TO EXPECT BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER A SPAY/NEUTER SURGERY

BEFORE SURGERY

- No food after midnight the night before surgery; water is permitted.
- Pets 4 months or younger may have a small portion of food overnight if needed, but no food in the morning.
- Please put away the trash, table scraps or any accessible food overnight if your pet may get into it overnight.
- Your pet should have an empty stomach prior to surgery.
- Please groom, bathe or apply flea prevention prior to your appointment date, if necessary. You will not be able to bathe your pet for 10-14 days following surgery.

CHECK-IN PROCEDURES

- Your pet will need to arrive between 7:30 am to 8:00 am on your scheduled appointment date. Late arrivals may be turned away.
- You may designate someone to drop your pet off on your behalf.
- Dogs should stay in your vehicle for check-in. Our staff will let you know when to bring your dog in. Your dog will need to be brought in on a leash.
- Cats should be brought in for check-in, and must arrive in a sturdy, clean carrier. Feral cats must arrive in a live trap.
- Other pets will be checking in at the same time, and there may be a wait, depending on how many others are ahead of you. Please allow ample time for check-in and remain patient while we give each client our undivided attention.
- You may add and pay for additional services during check-in. [Click here for a complete list of services available for cats and dogs.](#)



DURING THE DAY

- Please make sure the primary phone number we have on file is working and able to receive messages.
- We will call if there is anything we need to bring to your attention.
- Some calls may require a response from you. Please answer your phone on surgery day, or review messages promptly.
- Please do not call us to check on your pet. Our office staff and veterinary team will not be able to give you status updates throughout the day. We will contact you if something needs to be immediately brought to your attention.

PICK-UP PROCEDURES

- You may pick up your pet between 4 pm to 4:30 pm.
- If your pet is able to be picked up sooner, we will call you at the primary number we have on file for you and let you know.
- You may designate someone to pick your pet up on your behalf.
- Our veterinary team will talk to you about the surgery and review the discharge instructions with you before releasing your pet.
- Additional items such as pain medication or an e-collar/cone collar may be recommended by the veterinarian. These items should be paid for and received at check-out.
- KHS closes at 5 pm. Pets that have not been picked up will be secured at our office with appropriate accommodations, however, no staff will be available to monitor your pet overnight.

AFTER SURGERY

- Please review and follow the discharge instructions that will be provided at check-out. You can also download them from our website in advance.
- Limit physical activity, including jumping or climbing on and off furniture and stairs, running, playing with other pets or children, or any other activity that could pull, twist or tear the incision area, stitches and surgical glue.
- You will receive a copy of your veterinary record at check-out. Please put those in a safe place.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office for a recheck or advice.