

COUNTRY ROADS VETERINARY SERVICES

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ASHLAND VETERINARY CLINIC

(419)281-8611

CANINE CASTRATION

Castrating your male may be one of the best ways to prevent several problems from developing down the road. Castration surgery involves removal of the testicles. The surgery is low risk and post operative recovery is usually rapid. Pain control is a routine part of all of our surgical procedures. Castration is ideally done in a young (6 month old) puppy to assist in preventing behavioral problems. Older dogs can still be castrated to prevent health problems. The hormone testosterone is produced by the testicles and this hormonal influence can have physical and behavioral aspects.

Intact male dogs are more prone to roaming, aggression, urine marking, and territorial type behavior. Once a dog starts to roam or show signs of aggression, castration may not reverse this behavior. It is much better to castrate a dog as a puppy before these behaviors become established. Dogs who roam are also more likely to be injured by such behavior (hit by cars, gunshots, and dog fight wounds).

Not castrating your dog can also lead to health problems. Enlargement of the prostate leading to constipation, anal tumors, and cancer of the testicles are all common problems in male dogs who do not get neutered at a young age. If these problems develop, castration can reverse these problems, however preventing the diseases in the first place is a better way to ensure your pet has a happy, healthy life!!

Intact male dogs are also responsible for the serious problem of pet overpopulation in this country. Castration will prevent your male dog from breeding a female dog and help prevent him from chasing females in heat.

We would be happy to answer any of your questions regarding this surgical procedure, anesthetic concerns, and our pre-anesthetic blood testing program with you today!