

COUNTRY ROADS VETERINARY SERVICES

(419)962-4344

ASHLAND VETERINARY CLINIC

(419)281-8611

CANINE SPAY

Spaying your female dog is may be one of the most important decisions you make for her long term health. There are several diseases in female dogs that can be prevented by spaying her as a puppy. Spaying your dog involves the surgical removal of the uterus and ovaries (ovariohysterectomy). This will prevent her from coming into heat again as well as eliminating her ability to become pregnant.

Mammary neoplasia (breast cancer) is a common problem in older female dogs. Studies have shown that spaying a female dog before her first heat cycle reduces the risk of this type of cancer to less than 0.5%. After four heat cycles, there is no difference between an intact and a spayed female dog in the rate of mammary cancer. Some mammary tumors in dogs are benign and some are very malignant. Uterine and ovarian cancer can also be avoided by spaying a young puppy. Pyometra (infection of the uterus) is a very common disease in middle aged to older dogs. This infection is fatal unless an emergency spay is performed along with medical treatments. All of these diseases can be avoided by spaying your dog while she is healthy. It is never too late and your dog is never too old to be spayed. These problems are, for the health and well being of your dog, better to prevent and are much less costly to prevent, than to treat.

Pet overpopulation is a serious concern in this country. Many unwanted pets are euthanized each year due to the fact that there are too many intact dogs. Spaying your dog can be your way of helping decrease the problem of pet overpopulation. If your dog is a pet, and not a breeding animal, please consider spaying her. We would be happy to answer any or your questions concerning this surgical procedure, anesthetic concerns, pain management, and our preanesthetic blood testing program with you today.