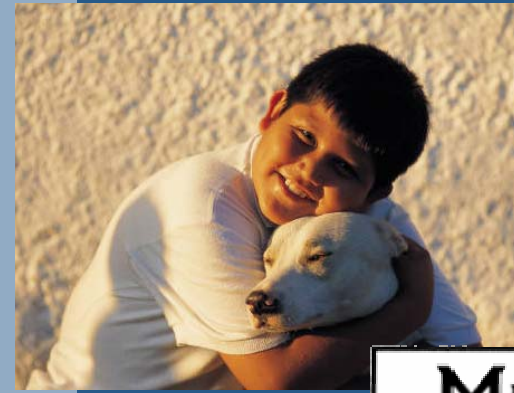
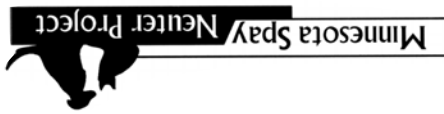


Mailing Address Line 1
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 Mailing Address Line 3
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 Mailing Address Line 5

www.geocities.com/mnspayneuter/
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Minnesota Spay/Neuter Project



Saving lives, one spay at a time

By Daniel Cubias

Since its founding in 1999, the Minnesota Spay/Neuter Project has helped hundreds of dogs and cats avoid the pain of excessive reproduction. We have also prevented other animals from being born into a cruel and depressing fate, where the best they could hope for was malnourishment and eventual euthanasia. In addition, because of our efforts, communities have saved tens of thousands of tax dollars that would have otherwise been spent on animal control.

We focus our efforts on low-income areas, so individuals who cannot afford to have this vital service performed can now help their companion animals lead happier, fuller lives. And because the well-being of animals affects the community, our work improves the quality of life for people as well.


Although our projects have been very successful, we have even more ambitious goals for 2005. As such, we will undertake three projects this year in the Twin Cities metro area. These projects will tap into the waiting list of clients who are eager to use our services. Our clients' dogs and cats will be spayed or neutered, and each companion animal will be brought up to date on vaccinations. In addition, each dog and cat will be implanted with a microchip for identification, which is a proven method for finding lost companion animals. Finally, our clients will receive information and advice on caring for their companion animals.

Each of our projects puts the safety and comfort of the companion animal first. We have



We have completed projects in every metro county and have sterilized over 450 animals. When you consider that each pair of unsterilized dogs or cats can produce an average of three to four offspring per litter, the 450 sterilizations have saved communities the expense and hardship related to 1,600 unwanted animals in just the first generation of breeding.

developed veterinary procedures that provide high-quality care and minimize risk to our patients. And after each project, dozens of dogs and cats go on to lead healthier lives.

The Minnesota Spay/Neuter Project is committed to working toward a society where every dog and cat has a loving home, and where people find the happiness that comes by sharing their lives with a faithful companion animal. 



Each day **10,000** humans are born in the U.S. – and each day **70,000** puppies and kittens are born. As long as these birth rates exist, there will never be enough homes for all the animals. As a result, millions of healthy, loving cats, dogs, kittens and puppies face early deaths as a form of animal control. Others are left to fend for themselves against automobiles, the elements, animals and cruel humans. What can you do to stop the suffering? *Spay and neuter your pets!* Work with the **Minnesota Spay/Neuter Project** and together we can make a difference.

An unspayed female cat, her mate and all of their offspring, producing 2 litters per year, with 2.8 surviving kittens per litter can total:

- **1 year: 12**
- **2 years: 67**
- **3 years: 376**
- **4 years: 2,107**
- **5 years: 11,801**
- **6 years: 66,088**
- **7 years: 370,092**
- **8 years: 2,072,514**
- **9 years: 11,606,077**



An unspayed female dog, her mate and all of their puppies and their puppies' puppies, if none are ever neutered or spayed, add up to:

- **1 year: 16**
- **2 years: 128**
- **3 years: 512**
- **4 years: 2,048**
- **5 years: 12,288**
- **6 years: 67,000**



IN THIS ISSUE:

page 1
 Saving Lives, One Spay at a Time

page 2
 Walking the Talk

page 3
 Helpful Hints for Summer

Get Involved

Walking The Talk

By Peter Marsh, Founder and Director of Solution to End Overpopulation of Pets (N.H.)

For years we've been telling every-one who cares for companion animals how important it is to have them neutered. Fortunately, they've taken our word and spent hundreds of mil-lions of dollars on neutering. Because of that, the tide of homeless animals crested some time ago and has begun to recede almost everywhere.

We won't win our fight against pet overpopulation, though, until we begin to take our own advice. Most companion animal protection groups and shelters spend less than 5% of their budgets on neutering assistance programs. Any system that spends 19 times more to treat a problem than to prevent it in the first place is doomed to an endless struggle.

There is no longer any excuse for us not to do what we say. Everything we've learned in recent years shows that what we've been telling people all along is right.

First — and best of all — neutering saves lives. Effective neutering programs dramatically reduce pet overpopulation. For instance, in 1993 11,500 homeless dogs and cats were put to death in New Hampshire shelters, a number that had remained the same for a decade. Our statewide neutering assistance program began the following year and the death toll has dropped every single year since then. By last

year, the toll was less than 5,000, a drop of almost 60% in only five years.

Neutering programs save money, too. They more than pay for them-selves. It's cost us \$840,000 to operate our program for five years, lock, stock and barrel, including all veterinary fees and administrative expenses down to the last paper clip. During that time 22,000 fewer cats and dogs entered our shelters than in the five years before we had the program. This has saved us more than 1.5 million dollars on impoundment costs alone, not counting the savings to municipalities from reduced animal control expenses.

But the most important reason for us to invest more in neutering assistance programs is that we won't ever end pet overpopulation if we don't. Most everyone knows by now that we can't build enough shelters or adopt out enough animals to do it. And although education programs are a critical part of our work, they can only carry us so far.

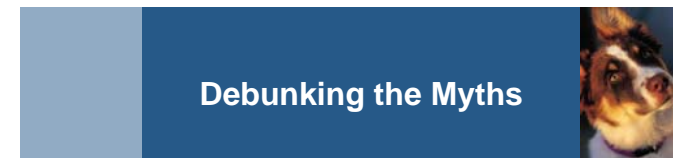
They can't help with the two biggest sources of surplus pets that remain — homeless pets and those from low-income households. The most convincing programs are of no value to pet caretakers who just don't have the money to follow through.

New Hampshire's program costs residents about 15¢ a year per person. This includes all costs, veterinary and administrative. Public funding is a great source of money for neutering assistance programs. Indeed, it's probably essential. But it can't be the only source.

So it's up to us to take our fight against pet overpopulation to the next level. Companion animal protection groups that don't operate shelters should at least "tithe" to neutering subsidy programs. And shelters with endowments that total more than a year's operating costs must do the same.

TALK (-) ACTION = 0, according to the Activist Equation. The verdict is not that harsh here. Public education programs have helped greatly. But it's become plain that **TALK(-)ACTION < ENOUGH.**

Reprinted with permission from Spay/USA Summer Newsletter



Debunking the Myths

Shouldn't female dogs and cats have at least one litter before they are spayed?

No, there is no medical evidence to justify allowing a dog or cat to have a litter before spaying. In fact, spaying female dogs and cats eliminates the possibility of uterine or ovarian cancer and greatly reduces the threat of mammary cancer.

Doesn't the behavior of animals negatively change once they are sterilized?

No. In fact, the only changes in behavior after spaying or neutering are positive changes. Altered animals are less inclined to spray and urinate in the house, especially when they are altered at an early age. Because they don't feel like they need to defend territory, altered dogs and cats are more relaxed and are less likely to fight with other animals. Also, since they are not as likely to roam, there's less chance they will get lost, injured, or killed.

Don't animals become less active and overweight as a result of spaying or neutering.

No. Animals become overweight only when they are fed too much and not exercised properly. It is necessary for human guardians to adjust dietary intake to compensate for more sedentary lifestyles.

Helpful Hints for Summer!

Summer is a time for fun and relaxation. Everyone enjoys walking on the beach, swimming in the pool, or taking a day trip out of town — even our fourpawed friends. However, if folks are not careful, it can be a dangerous time for pets. You can help your dogs and cats have a good summer if you remember these simple tips:

☀ **NEVER LEAVE YOUR PET IN A PARKED CAR — EVEN IF IT IS PARKED IN THE SHADE AND THE WINDOWS ARE OPEN!** A dog or cat's temperature can rise rapidly and to a dangerous level within a few minutes in a hot car. Heatstroke and even death can occur.

☀ Always make sure your pet has fresh, cool, clean water available. Dogs, and even cats, drink more on hot days. Remember water bowls can get knocked over very easily and cool water gets warm quickly on hot days.

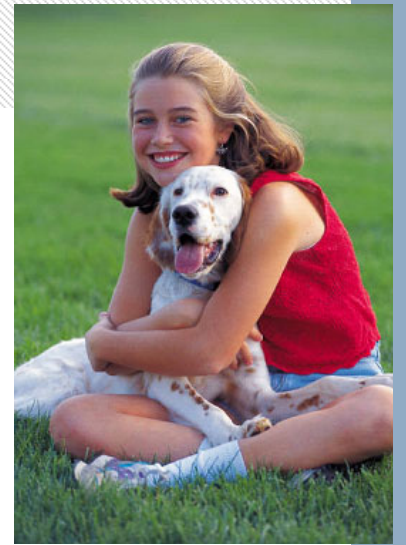
☀ If your dog likes to swim, do not leave him/her unattended. Bathe your dog afterwards to remove all sand, mud and chlorine. Also, be sure all pool chemicals are stored safely out of reach.

DO NOT ALLOW YOUR DOG TO HANG OUT OF A MOVING CAR! Objects such as rocks or tree limbs might hit your pet or he/she might fall or jump out. It is also not recommended that animals ride in the back of pick-up trucks. Animals may be thrown from the vehicle if a sharp turn is taken, or get seriously injured if braking suddenly.

☀ Be aware of oncoming thunderstorms by bringing your pets inside. Beside the possibility of becoming ill if left in the rain, thunder may scare them, or they may be hit by lightning.

☀ Check your pet daily for fleas and ticks. This is not only a problem for your pet, but for you and your home as well. Talk to a veterinarian about taking preventative measures against these pesky bugs.

Reprinted with permission from SpayUSA Summer 2001 Newsletter



A dog wears a fur coat and cannot eliminate heat by sweating. Air temperatures approaching the dog's normal body temperature don't allow for cooling by panting, and the dog's internal temperature will quickly rise to dangerous — even fatal — levels.

Get involved. You can make a difference.

There are a number of ways to get involved.

- Spay or neuter your own pet and encourage others to do the same.
- Volunteer with the Minnesota Spay/Neuter Project and assist us in our efforts.
- Research and prepare funding requests.
- Contribute to the Minnesota Spay/Neuter Project to help us fund our projects.

I'd like to volunteer.

- Please check areas in which you are interested in volunteering:
- Help screen potential clients.
 - Research and prepare funding requests.
 - Provide administrative support.
 - Help with marketing and educational resources and materials.

I'd like to contribute.

Your gift is accepted with sincere gratitude. Monetary gifts go directly toward our programs and are tax deductible.

- Monetary gift in the amount of _____
 - Be a Hero, Buy a Spay
- For \$75 you can ensure that one animal is spayed/

Make checks payable to "MSNP" and mail to:



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