



LAKE COMMUNITY  
PET CLINIC

1414 East Main Street  
Leesburg, FL

Phone: 352-901-6589  
Email: [info@lakecpc.com](mailto:info@lakecpc.com)

## Spay/Neuter Post-Operative Instructions

### Immediate post-op care:

- Feed smaller meals for the first 24 hours after surgery.
- You may offer food in very small amounts for the first 12 hours.
- Do not be concerned if your pet does not want to eat right away.
- Remove food until morning if vomiting occurs. Offer normal amounts of water.
  - If vomiting continues or your pet is not eating within 48 hours of surgery, please contact us.
- Kittens and puppies should be offered food and water upon returning home.
- Do not give aspirin, Advil, or Tylenol to your pet for pain. **These medications can be deadly.**
- Keep the pet in a confined area away from other pets and children for at least 24 hours.
- Do not place them in a high place (bed, sofa, etc.).
- Rest and sleep are essential for healing.
- A small amount of blood near the incision can be normal immediately after surgery.
  - You will not see any sutures, only surgical glue, which provides protection for the incision.
- You must keep your pet from licking the incision or the surgical glue.
  - If your pet cannot be restrained from licking, we recommend an E-collar, which prevents licking. If your pet is using an E-collar, prepare for them to react negatively first. It will be awkward for them and hinder their movement. It takes pets 24 hours to get used to the collar, but then most are accepting of it.
- Your pet had eye drops for protection during surgery. This makes the eyes look weepy.

**For the next week:**

- Keep your pet in a clean environment that is quiet, warm, and dry.
  - Keep your pets indoors for the next 7 days
- Restrict your pet's activity. Walk dogs only on a leash.
  - No running or jumping for 7-10 days.
- Check your pet's incision daily.
  - A small amount of redness and very mild swelling is normal.
  - Do not allow your pet to lick the incision site.
  - If your pet is wearing an E-collar, do not remove it for 3-7 days, or until your pet seems uninterested in licking the incision site.
  - Do not wash or clean the incision. Do not bathe or get your pet wet for 7 days.
  - Keep males and females separated. They may try to breed for several weeks after surgery.
  - Neutered males can be fertile for up to six weeks after surgery.
  - Spayed females that were in heat can have bloody discharge for a few days after surgery.

**Please call 352-901-6589 if your pet exhibits the following symptoms within 24 hours of surgery:**

- Your pet is unable to stand or walk 12 hours after surgery.
- Your pet is not eating or drinking 24 hours after surgery.
- There is significant swelling or bleeding at the incision site.
  - A firm, small swelling/bump under the skin is generally a normal inflammatory response to surgery and will get smaller over several weeks. When pets are too active after surgery, swellings occur.
  - If you have questions or concerns or your pet is exhibiting symptoms of discomfort or lethargy 48 hours after surgery.

If you believe your pet is experiencing a life-threatening emergency (trouble breathing, unresponsive, bleeding profusely, etc.) please take your pet to **VEC (Veterinary Emergency Clinic) 407-644-4449** or your nearest animal emergency clinic.

**Females**

- Your pet was spayed today.
  - This surgery is comparable to a hysterectomy in people.
  - She was under general anesthesia for her surgery.
- It takes 7-10 days to fully recover from this surgery.
  - Please keep your pet as calm as possible for the next 7 days
  - No excessive activity or playing. Leash walks only for dogs.
  - You may need to keep her in a small room (bathroom) to limit activity.
  - If your pet is too active, there could be swelling and inflammation of her surgery site.
  - If there is swelling from excess activity, it should resolve over the next week.

- Her sutures are all internal and the skin was closed with surgical glue.

- Do not bathe your pet or get her abdomen wet for the next 7 days.
- You should not see any sutures.

If your pet was in heat today, she may continue to show signs for the next 1-2 weeks.

- Keep your pet away from any unneutered males
- Your pet may still be receptive to mating.
- If a male tries to mate with her, it could cause serious and life-threatening complications.
- Do not give medicine on an empty stomach.

Do not give any other medication without consulting your veterinarian.

### Males

- Your pet was neutered today.
  - This surgery is similar to a vasectomy in people, but the testicles were removed.
  - He was under general anesthesia for his surgery.
- It can take up to 7 days to fully recover from surgery
- Please keep your pet as calm as possible for the next 7 days.
  - No excessive activity or playing. Leash walks only for dogs.
  - You may need to keep him in a small room (bathroom) to limit activity o If your pet is too active, there could be swelling, bleeding and inflammation at surgery site.
  - Do not bathe or get your cat wet for the next 7 days
- There are no sutures with male cats.
  - The incision is left open to drain. It is very common to have a slight bloody discharge for a few days.
  - Adult male cats may have swelling/bruising around the scrotum. This will resolve over the next 5-7 days.
- Male dogs have an incision above their scrotum.
  - His sutures are all internal and the skin was closed with surgical glue.
- Please keep your male away from any sexually intact females.
  - Males can still be fertile for up to 6 weeks post-surgery.
  - If allowed around an in-heat female, your male could still breed with her.
- Start pain medication tomorrow (evening for cats: morning for dogs).
  - Do not give medications on an empty stomach.
  - **Do not give any other medication without consulting your veterinarian.**

If your pet received vaccines today, they may experience some common symptoms such as mild fever, discomfort at the injection site and/or lethargy. Rare symptoms are swelling of the face and legs, repeated vomiting or diarrhea and difficulty breathing. If your pet experiences any of these symptoms, please contact us or the **Veterinary Emergency Clinic at (407) 644-4449**.