

At SVAH, we believe that spaying and neutering is one of the most important things you can do for the health and well being of your animal. It is the most common surgical procedure we perform here so what exactly happens during this surgery?

Before the surgery is scheduled we require an exam with one of our veterinarians. This is so they can make sure your pet is healthy and developed enough for this surgery. At this appointment we can then make an accurate estimate for the procedure tailored to your pet and set up a surgery date.

When surgery day comes, pets check into the hospital at 8am. Our licensed veterinary technicians then begin to prep them for surgery. They take note of your pet's temperature, pulse and respiration and get them ready for the doctor. Once the animal is under anesthesia they are hooked up to a heart rate monitor called an EKG which they will remain on until the surgery is complete. The technician will be there the entire time your pet is under in addition to the doctor to assist and track vital signs.

As soon as the procedure is completed your pet will be placed in their own kennel to wake up. Surgical patients spend the day with us usually until early to late afternoon. By doing this we can make sure that there are no adverse reactions and that their pain is being managed accordingly.

Every animal that under goes a spay or neuter goes home with medications. These medications are typically pain killers and sedatives and sometimes antibiotics. Some pets are sent home with a cone to keep them from licking or chewing at the surgery site. After 10 to 14 days, the incision should be fully healed and your pet can resume all of their normal activities.