

ANIMAL LICENSING PROVIDES STERILIZATION REBATES FOR HERNANDO COUNTY CITIZENS

The Board of County Commissioners of Hernando County, Florida has authorized a portion of unsterilized licensing proceeds to fund sterilization rebates for citizens of Hernando County. Citizens that sterilize, vaccinate, and license their pets may qualify for a rebate of up to \$50.

The rebates are being offered to help curb the overpopulation of cats and dogs. Unsterilized pets reproduce and contribute to the thousands of unwanted pets that are euthanized in shelters every year. The Humane Society of the United States estimates that between eight and ten million dogs and cats enter U.S. shelters each year and four to five million animals are being euthanized. In Hernando County alone there were 4,600 dogs and cats euthanized in 2005. Simply put, there are too many pets and not enough homes.

Due to this nationwide epidemic, communities throughout the nation spend millions of taxpayer dollars trying to cope with the problems created by surplus pets. These costs include services such as investigating animal cruelty, responding to calls of nuisance animals, humanely capturing stray animals, and sheltering lost and homeless animals.

Why is spaying and neutering such an important issue? Because in seven years, one female cat and her offspring can theoretically produce 420,000 cats; in six years, one female dog and her offspring can theoretically produce 67,000 dogs

Spay or neuter surgery carries a one-time cost that is relatively minor compared to its long-term benefits for you and your pet.

Spaying or Neutering Is Good for Your Pet

- Spaying and neutering helps dogs and cats live longer, healthier lives.
- Spaying and neutering can eliminate or reduce the incidence of health problems that can be difficult or expensive to treat.
- Spaying eliminates the possibility of uterine or ovarian cancer and greatly reduces the incidence of breast cancer.
- Neutering eliminates testicular cancer and decreases the incidence of prostate disease.

Spaying or Neutering Is Good for You

- Spaying and neutering makes pets better, more affectionate companions.
- Neutering cats makes them less likely to spray and mark territory.
- Spaying a dog or cat eliminates her heat cycle. Females in heat can cry incessantly, show nervous behavior, and attract unwanted male animals.
- Unsterilized animals often exhibit more behavior and temperament problems than those who have been spayed or neutered.
- Spaying and neutering may make pets less likely to bite.
- Neutering makes pets less likely to roam the neighborhood, run away, or fight.

In order to receive a rebate, you must follow the instructions listed below:

1. Take your dog or cat to a **participating veterinarian** and have the pet sterilized and vaccinated against rabies.
2. Purchase a Hernando County animal license for your pet. The license is only \$10 per year for sterilized pets.
3. Provide the following documents to Hernando County Animal Services within 30 days of the sterilization date:

- 1) Proof of sterilization by a **participating veterinarian** including the cost of surgery (Amount of rebate will not exceed the cost of surgery).
- 2) A current rabies vaccination certificate
- 3) A current Hernando County animal license certificate
- 4) The completed form attached to this flyer.

Additional rules and qualifications

1. You must be a legal resident of Hernando County, Florida. Rebates will only be mailed to Hernando County Addresses.
2. To qualify for the rebate, the pets must reside in Hernando County.
3. This rebate is available "As funds allow." There is a limited amount of funds set aside for rebates each year. In any given year if the funds are depleted or are not replenished, rebates will be suspended until such time as more funds become available. Please check with Hernando County Animal Services prior to sterilizing your animal to ensure that funds are currently available.
4. Sterilization must be performed by a **participating veterinarian** defined as any veterinarian that actively sells Hernando County Animal Licenses.
5. Rebates are available only to individuals, not to groups, organizations, or corporations.

PET STERILIZATION REBATE FORM

Pet Owner Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Pet Information:

Pet's
Name: _____

Cat or Dog Breed: _____

Sex: _____ Age: _____

Color: _____

Hernando County License #

Rabies Tag # _____

Date of Rabies Vaccination

Date of Sterilization

Cost of Surgery _____

Veterinarian Clinic performing surgery:

(Must be a participating veterinarian)

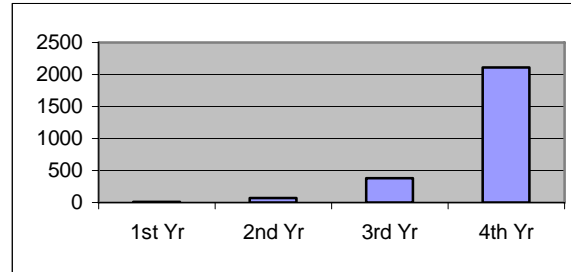
Veterinarian Telephone
#: _____

By my signature below I certify that I am a legal resident of Hernando County and that I have met all of the requirements for the pet sterilization rebate:

Signature: _____

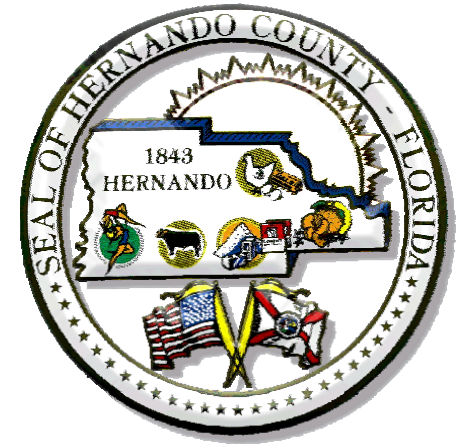
Save Lives Spay and Neuter

One un-spayed house cat, her mate and all of their offspring, producing two litters per year with 2.8 surviving kittens per litter can total 2107 cats in 4 years



Hernando County
Animal Services
19450 Oliver Street
Brooksville, FL 34601
(352) 796-5062
Fax (352) 796-3746
ac@hernandocounty.us

Pet Sterilization Rebate for Hernando County Residents



**Responsible dog and cat
owners in Hernando County
may qualify for
up to \$50 per pet**

**See Qualification
Requirements Inside**

**Participating Veterinarians
as of 7/28/06**

Animal Sterilization and Prevention
(ASAP)
837 Broad St.
Brooksville, FL 34601
352-797-9090

Dr. Vincent Centonze
P.O. Box 2061
Land O' Lakes, FL 34639
727-869-9729

Country Vet Animal Clinic
22273 Cortez Blvd.
Brooksville, FL 34601
352-796-7559

County Line Animal Hospital
15240 County Line Rd.
Spring Hill, FL 34610
352-799-1025

Dade City Animal Clinic
13117 Hwy. 301
P.O. Box 528
Dade City, FL 33526
352-567-2669

PetLuv Non-Profit Spay/Neuter
Clinic
7348 Broad St.
Brooksville, FL 34601
352-799-9990

Roberts Animal Clinic
808 W. MLK Jr. Bvd.
Brooksville, FL 34601
352-796-0274

Westside Animal Clinic
3501 Commercial Way
Spring Hill, FL 34606
352-683-1512

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