

## Dog Neuter Discharge Instructions

We appreciate your commitment to your pet's health. The surgery your pet received today will prevent illnesses, such as testicular cancer and prostate disease. Neutering also saves lives by reducing the number of unwanted dogs being euthanized every year due to overpopulation. Here is some information to consider during your pet's recovery:

- **Most dogs do quite well after surgery.** If your dog does not, please let us know what is going on. Some dogs are groggy after surgery and do not eat the first night they go home. **For the first night home, only offer small amounts of food and water** (about half of what you normally offer). **He should feel good, he should eat well, and his incision should not be red, swollen, or oozing.** Occasionally there will be some swelling in the scrotum, and it may even look like the testicles have not been removed. Rest assured that they have. This swelling generally resolves itself in a few days. If you notice any vomiting, lethargy, poor appetite, leaking or oozing from the incision, please call us right away.
- **Exercise restriction is important for the first week.** Moderate exercise is allowed, but we recommend that your pet avoid strenuous activity. It is best not to let him run free. Only take him outdoors on a leash. A kennel, garage, or keeping him inside works well.
- **At least once a day look at his incision.** Make sure he is not chewing or licking it. If you see your dog lick the incision (even once!) he must wear a "lampshade collar" at all times (also known as an Elizabethan Collar). You can purchase one from our hospital. The incision should not appear red or infected. It should be dry and clean. You do not need to put anything on the incision. We do not recommend cleaning the incision, as that can slow down healing. If necessary, you may clean the incision with warm water and a soft cloth. No bathing and no swimming until two weeks after surgery.
- There will be no stitches to worry about but **if anything is concerning you we will gladly take a look!** There is no charge for the visit, but we do ask that you call ahead and schedule an appointment - **250-371-3236**.

