



## POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

1. No running, jumping, over active playing, swimming or other strenuous activity for 14 days. Pets must be kept indoors where they can stay clean, dry and warm. No baths for 10-14 days after surgery. Dogs must be walked on a leash and cats kept indoors. Keep your pet quiet.
2. Check the incision site twice daily. There should be no drainage. Redness and swelling should be minimal. Do not allow your pet to lick or chew at the incision. If this occurs, an Elizabethan or Bite-Not collar **MUST** be worn to prevent biting, licking or chewing. Tails will not be responsible for post-operative care if these instructions are not followed.
3. If your dog had a scrotal castration, they may have small amounts of drainage/discharge for up to three days.
4. Appetite should return gradually within 24 hours of surgery although some pets may experience some nausea secondary to the anesthetic agents. Lethargy lasting for more than 24 hours post-op, or multiple bouts of diarrhea or vomiting are not normal, and your pet should be taken to your regular veterinarian. Dogs may have a slight cough for a few days after surgery.
5. Do not change your pet's diet at this time and do not give "junk food": table scraps, milk, or any other people food during the recovery period. This could mask post-surgical complications.
6. We recommend your pet receive a post-operative examination with your regular veterinarian 7-10 days after surgery to have the incision checked for complete healing, and discuss additional needs, follow-up care and vaccination boosters.
7. If there are any questions or concerns directly related to the surgery, please call (815) 758-2457 ext. 102. If there is a medical concern or an emergency, please call your regular veterinarian.
8. Your pet has received a green tattoo next to the incision (for male cats, it will be located on the abdominal skin). This tattoo is a scoring process in the skin. **IT IS NOT AN EXTRA INCISION.**

Tails Humane Society will treat, at our clinic, at no or minimal charge, any post-operative complications resulting directly from the surgery, if the above post-operative instructions are followed in full but **Tails does not provide after-hours emergency care**. If you feel that you have followed the post-operative instructions and that your pet needs to be seen by one of our veterinarians because of concerns you have directly related to the surgery, call (815) 758-2457 ext. 102. Your regular veterinarian must address illnesses or injuries that are not a direct result of surgery. Please call for an appointment as soon as you see cause for concern. We cannot be held responsible for complications resulting from failure to follow post-operative instructions, or for contagious diseases for which the animal was not previously properly vaccinated.