



Friends of SVACA Announces the Spay/Neuter Voucher Program

Santa Clara, Ca – Friends of SVACA announces the Spay/Neuter Voucher Program which is designed to help pet owners in need of financial assistance have their pets spayed and neutered. Residents of Santa Clara, Campbell, or Monte Sereno with pets currently licensed with the SVACA and an annual household income of \$50,000 or less are eligible for the program.

Eligible residents can find the application on the Friends of SVACA website. Each application must be accompanied by proof of residence (ie, a utility bill with the residents name and address on it). After the application is approved, the resident will receive a voucher for \$5 towards each cat's spay or neuter and/or \$40 towards each dog's spay or neuter. There is a limit of two animals per household per year. Without the voucher, the current pricing at SVACA is \$10 per cat and \$50 per dog.

Once the voucher is received, the resident will have 90 days from date of issue to schedule a sterilization appointment at SVACA by calling (408) 746-0358. No refunds will be made if the voucher expires. The clinic must be advised if someone other than the person listed on the voucher will be taking the pet in on the date of surgery.

About Spaying and Neutering Pets

Spaying or neutering pets helps to keep them healthy and helps prevent many diseases including reproductive tract diseases, urinary tract infections and many cancers. In male dogs and cats, neutering completely removes the possibility of testicular cancer and greatly reduces the chances of prostate cancer. In female dogs and cats, spaying reduces the chances of developing breast cancer, particularly if spayed at a young age and removes the possibility of uterine infections which can be fatal for female dogs and cats.

Spaying or neutering your pet has many other benefits such as keeping your pets at home since he or she will not have the urge to seek a mate, ensures no more unwanted animals are born, and may help with many behavior problems, such as spraying and marking their territory.

About Friends of SVACA

Friends of SVACA was created out of the passion of two volunteers at Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority (SVACA) to help companion animals in the shelter find good homes. While doing this, they saw the tremendous need for funds to truly give animals a chance, especially those who were sick or wounded. Therefore, Friends of SVACA was founded as a private nonprofit to raise awareness and funds needed to fill the gaps between adoptive homes and animals for the Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority (SVACA). Unlike other private nonprofit organizations, SVACA is required to take any animal presented to it. It is separate from the Humane Society and several other shelters and organizations serving the county. Further, as a Joint Powers Agreement, it is limited in the ways in which it can raise additional funds. With the tremendous cutbacks in government funding, it has become increasingly stretched. In 2008, they established Friends of SVACA as a private nonprofit 501(c) (3) corporation.

For further information on Friends of SVACA or to donate, please visit the website at www.friendsofsvaca.org

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