

### **When and where do I schedule surgery?**

Please wait until you receive an approved certificate in the mail. Once your application has been approved you will receive "Instructions to Owners", a list of "Participating Veterinarians" including the address and phone number, along with an approved certificate to take with you on the day of surgery.

### **What if I do not have a current FL driver's license?**

What is needed is a photo ID. It is not necessary that it be a driver's license, nor does the license need to be current or issued by Florida.

### **What is necessary for proof of residency?**

Send a copy of your most recent utility bill showing your current address. (electric, water, trash pick-up, telephone, etc.) Other acceptable proof would be:

- Rental receipt with address and signed by landlord or a copy of the lease.
- Voter ID
- Other forms of official mail or form showing the current address.

### **My Social Security check (or retirement) is directly deposited and I do not have the form they sent me for this year. I am not required to file a tax return. How do I show proof of income?**

Send a photocopy of a recent bank statement. Please cross out Social Security and bank account numbers.

### **How long does the application take to process?**

Please allow 3 weeks for processing. Applications are processed once a week by professional individuals who volunteer their time so that we may provide this service at a low cost to you.

### **How can I expedite the process time?**

The best thing to do is to double check that you have enclosed all of the information and copies required, along with a check or money order for the co-payment. If all is in order, your certificate and instructions will be mailed directly to you. This will often be less than 3 weeks. If information is missing, the process will be delayed and you will instead receive a postcard requesting the missing information.

### **What happens to the documentation that I send in?**

After your certificate is processed and mailed to you, the information is scanned for auditing purposes as required by contract and the paperwork shredded. The scanned documents will be kept confidential and released for audit only if requested. They will also be destroyed at the end of the mandated retention period.

### **What is the difference between a domestic and a feral cat?**

Domestic cats are friendly and are able to be handled and typically have an owner, where as feral cats may be fed by someone, for example a caretaker, but the cats are very wary and often cannot be picked

up without risk of a scratch or bite. Feral cats are typically not vaccinated, spayed or neutered unless they have been trapped for that purpose.

**If the cat I have is feral is there a program for these animals?**

Yes, a Trap Neuter and Release (TNR) program is available for community cats in Pasco County. Check the Participating Hospitals for TNR and contact the clinic directly about the program and availability of traps if you will need to borrow one.

**What is the age requirement for a dog to be spayed or neutered?**

Most of our participating hospitals require that a dog is at least 4 months of age.

**What is the age requirement for a cat to be spayed or neutered?**

Most of our participating hospitals require that a cat is at least 4 months of age.

**Can a pregnant cat or dog be spayed?**

Pregnant animals may be spayed at any time in the pregnancy, but the more advanced the pregnancy the more complicated the procedure and the higher the risk for surgical complications such as bleeding. If an animal is spayed while pregnant the puppies and kittens are aborted.

**After a litter, when can I have a mother cat or dog spayed?**

Two weeks after weaning.