

# Why Spay and Neuter?

## How does spaying and neutering help my pet?

- Enhances your pet's health and quality of life
- The cost of licensing is considerably lower
- You will do your part to prevent the birth of unwanted puppies and kittens
- Decreases a pet's desire to roam and mark their territory

## What is the best age to spay or neuter my pet?

- Consult with your veterinarian about the most appropriate time to spay or neuter your pet
- Considerations are the breed, age and physical condition
- It is NOT best to wait until your female dog or cat has gone through its first heat cycle

## What is the pet overpopulation problem?

- In Santa Barbara County over 2,000 unwanted dogs and cats are euthanized each year
- County animal shelters are overflowing with cats and dogs resulting in longer shelter stays, stress, illness, disease, lowered adoptability of pets and ongoing need for euthanasia

## Where can I find out about affordable spay-neuter surgery?

- Contact Project PetSafe at 805-934-6968 or [www.projectpetsafe.org](http://www.projectpetsafe.org)

**Having your pet spayed or neutered is part of responsible pet ownership.**



# Santa Barbara County



## Animal Services

### Shelter Locations

Santa Barbara	Santa Maria	Lompoc
5473 Overpass Rd. Santa Barbara, CA 93111 805-681-5285	548 W. Foster Rd. Santa Maria, CA 93455 805-934-6119	1501 W. Central Ave. Lompoc, CA 93436 805-737-7755

[www.projectpetsafe.org](http://www.projectpetsafe.org)

## Animal Licenses Save Lives

Santa Barbara County Animal Services is proud to partner with:



Santa Barbara County  
Animal Care Foundation



R.P.O. ALLIANCE  
RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

Project PetSafe is made possible through a generous grant from the ASPCA

# Project PetSafe



**License  
Vaccinate  
Spay-Neuter  
Microchip**



## A License is Your Pet's Ticket Home

A pet wearing a license may never have to come to the shelter. Our staff makes every effort to return the pet home.

Animals wearing licenses that are impounded at the County Shelter have reduced fines for redemption.

### How Do I Get an Altered Animal License for a Dog?

- 🐾 Provide a current rabies certificate
- 🐾 Provide written proof that the dog is spayed or neutered

### How Do I Get an Unaltered Animal License?

- 🐾 Provide a current rabies certificate (only applies to dogs)
- 🐾 Provide a Veterinary Certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian

### Where Can I Purchase a County Animal License?

- 🐾 In person at one of the three county animal shelters
- 🐾 Online through [www.sbcpd.org/as](http://www.sbcpd.org/as)
- 🐾 Download application from website and mail to shelter
- 🐾 Check with your veterinarian to see if licenses are sold at their hospital

### Where do I purchase a city animal license if I live in the City of Carpinteria or Santa Barbara?

- 🐾 Contact City Animal Control

### It is the Law...

- All dogs over 4 months of age are required to be licensed and to wear the license tag.
- Unaltered cats over 6 months of age are required to be licensed.
- A current rabies vaccination is required for dogs.



# Project PetSafe

## Why Should I License My Animal and Have My Animal Wear the Tag At All Times?

- 🐾 A license tells everyone your pet has an owner and is not a homeless stray.
- 🐾 A license is the best identification your animal can wear and is easily recognized.
- 🐾 Animal Services can quickly reunite a lost animal with its family if the animal is wearing a license.
- 🐾 A license requires a rabies vaccination which protects people and pets from contracting this terrible disease.
- 🐾 Licensing fees support the care and adoption of homeless and abandoned animals in the animal shelters.



## 4 Steps to Responsible Pet Ownership

### 1. Vaccinate

Provide veterinary care for your pet. Keep vaccinations up to date.

### 2. License

Keep the animal license tag on your pet. It is your pet's ticket home.

### 3. Spay and Neuter

Altering your animal prevents the birth of unwanted puppies and kittens and enhances your pet's health and quality of life.

License fees are lower for altered pets.

### 4. Microchip

A microchip is a permanent identification for pets. Microchipped pets can be easily identified if found by a shelter or veterinary office.

My license  
is my  
ticket  
**home**