

## Chapter 6.17

### SPAY AND NEUTER PROGRAM

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6.17.010 Definitions. As used in this chapter the following definitions apply:

- A. "Altered" means spayed or neutered.
- B. "Animal" means any cat or dog adopted from the shelter.
- C. "Contractor" means an organization that Douglas County may contract with for shelter services.
- D. "Program" means the Douglas County Spay/Neuter Program created for spay and neuter services, public education and improvement of adoption facilities.
- E. "Purchase" means to pay a fee to accept custody of an animal.
- F. "Shelter" means the Douglas County Animal Shelter or an organization that Douglas County may contract with for shelter services.
- G. "Sheriff" means the Douglas County Sheriff and the Sheriff's designee(s).
- H. "Veterinarian" means any licensed veterinarian.

6.17.020 Establishment of program. There is created a spay and neuter program for animals adopted from the shelter, which shall be funded through the County Spay and Neuter fund. (initiative §2, 1990; Ord 91-7-1 §2, 1991; Ord. 93-4-1 §12, 1993; Ord. 93-12-2, §2, 1993; Ord. 96-5-1 §2, 1996; Ord 2007-10-03 Eff 2-25-2008)

6.17.025 Contracted services provisions. If Douglas County owns and operates a shelter, then the provisions of sections 6.17.030 and 6.17.040 shall apply. If Douglas County contracts with an organization for shelter services, then the provisions of section 6.17.045 shall apply.

6.17.030 Operation of program. The program shall operate at levels based upon public demand and services shall be provided by licensed veterinarians, and other necessary support staff. Douglas County may enter into agreements with local veterinarians contracted by the County and other necessary support staff to provide spay and neuter services. The agreement shall provide that participating veterinarians shall agree to provide the services in accordance with this chapter. The form of

agreement, including the costs and performance of the program, shall be reviewed annually by the participating veterinarians and the Sheriff. A veterinarian shall give a 30-day written notice upon terminating participation. (initiative §3, 1990; Ord. 91-7-1 §3, 1991; Ord. 96-5-1 §3, 1996; Ord 2007-10-03 Eff 2-25-2008)

6.17.040 Financing. An altering fee for spay/neuter services shall be charged to the purchaser at the time the animal is adopted by the purchaser from the shelter. The purchaser shall receive a spay/neuter certificate form in exchange. Upon presentation of the animal and certificate form to a participating veterinarian, the animal will be spayed or neutered. The participating veterinarian shall then forward the certificate form to the Sheriff for payment in accordance with the terms of the agreement and section 6.17.030. Altering fees shall be established by order of the commissioners from time to time, and shall be based upon annual review of the actual costs, the program compliance rates and the balance of the spay/neuter fund. (initiative §4, 1990; Ord. 91-7-1 §4, 1991; Ord. 96-5-1 §4, 1996) (Ord 2007-10-03 Eff 2-25-2008)

6.17.045 Contracted services voucher program procedures. If Douglas County contracts with an organization for shelter services, then the provisions of this section 6.17.045 shall apply, as follows, and shall be imposed on the Contractor by the contract for shelter services:

A. For every unaltered dog or cat sold by Contractor, Contractor shall collect from the purchaser the amount specified under the Commissioners Order Setting Spay and Neuter fees for Animals adopted from the Contractor, based on animal type, gender and weight of the animal. That amount shall be forwarded to the Sheriff each month, between the 15th and 30th of the following month to be deposited into the Douglas County Spay and Neuter Fund established under 6.17.050. Contractor shall issue a spay and neuter voucher to the purchaser of the unaltered dog or cat, indicating the amount collected from the purchaser and the amount the Sheriff will contribute from the Spay and Neuter fund for a completely paid for Spay or Neuter, based on the rates agreed upon by licensed Oregon Veterinarians under contract with the County for alteration services. Subject to Local Budget Law, the Sheriff 's contribution from the Spay and Neuter fund shall be an amount the Board of Commissioners may approve from time to time. That amount shall be specified in the Sheriff's Procedure for that purpose.

B. The Board of Commissioners may also authorize, by Board order or resolution, a special voucher from time to time, funded by the Spay and Neuter Fund, to be issued in such form and for such amounts as the Board may approve, to dog or cat owners residing in Douglas County for "Spay Day USA" or other such recognized events to promote the spay and neuter of dogs and cats in conjunction with other local animal groups.

C. The Board of Commissioners may also authorize, by Board order or resolution, or by contract, a special voucher program, funded by the Spay and Neuter Fund and on such terms and conditions as the Board may approve, for pre-alteration of animals at the shelter that have not yet been adopted but are reasonably anticipated to be so, by purchasers residing in Douglas County. (Ord 2007-10-03 Eff 2-25-2008)

6.17.050 Spay and Neuter Fund. There is created a spay and neuter fund. All funds from altering fees under section 6.17.040 and from Contractor payments under section 6.17.045 shall be dedicated to the spay and neuter fund for the program. All monies above expenses shall remain in the spay and neutering fund to be used for program purposes. (initiative §5, 1990; Ord. 91-7-1 §5, 1991; Ord. 96-5-1 §5, 1996; Ord 2007-10-03 Eff 2-25-2008)

6.17.060 Spay/neuter. All animals adopted from the shelter shall be altered, unless a participating veterinarian, at the veterinarian's sole discretion decides otherwise. If Douglas County contracts with an organization for shelter services, then the provisions of this section 6.17.060 shall be imposed on the Contractor by the contract for shelter services. (initiative §6, 1990; Ord. 91-4-3 §1, 1991; Ord. 91-7-1 §6, 1991; Ord. 96-5-1 §6, 1996; Ord 2007-10-03 Eff 2-25-2008)

6.17.070 Licensing.

A. If Douglas County owns and operates a shelter, this subsection A. shall apply.

The purchaser of any dog adopted from the shelter shall be charged for a license, a rabies vaccination deposit and altering fee at the time of purchase; however no rabies deposit or license fee will be charged if the dog is currently licensed. For any dog without a rabies vaccination and old enough to receive a rabies vaccination, purchaser shall post a twenty-dollar deposit with the county prior to release of the dog. Upon demonstrating proof of rabies inoculation within eight days of obtaining possession of the dog, the twenty-dollar deposit shall be refunded to the purchaser and a license shall be issued to the purchaser. If proof of rabies inoculation is not provided within eight days after the owner obtains possession of the dog, the twenty-dollar deposit shall be forfeited to the county. Altering fees and rabies vaccination deposits will be separate from license fees. Altering fees and forfeited rabies vaccination deposits are dedicated to the spay and neuter fund and program as provided in this chapter.

B. If Douglas County contracts with an organization for shelter services, this subsection B. shall apply.

The purchaser of any dog adopted from the Contractor shall be told by the Contractor that the purchaser is required to obtain a license and rabies vaccinations for the dog and that the dog is required to be altered, unless a veterinarian, at the veterinarian's sole discretion, decides otherwise. Alternatively, the Board of Commissioners may authorize, by Board order or resolution, or by contract, and on such terms and conditions that the Board may approve, the Contractor and/or local veterinarians to issue dog licenses and collect fees therefore and to provide rabies vaccinations. (Ord. 91-4-3 §2, 1991; Ord. 91-7-1 §7, 1991; Ord. 96-5-1 §7, 1996; Ord 2007-10-03 Eff 2-25-2008)

6.17.075 Spay/neuter penalty fee. At the time a dog owner or keeper is issued a citation for a violation of Douglas County Code or Oregon Revised Statute for having an unlicensed dog, if the dog is unaltered the dog owner or keeper shall pay (in addition to the license fee pursuant to Douglas County Code section 6.04.210 and license penalty fee under Douglas County Code section 6.04.240) a spay/neuter penalty fee of twenty-

five dollars. Upon the issuance of the citation, a notice is given to the owner or keeper that says: "You have been issued a citation to appear for failure to obtain a dog license(s). This citation may be dismissed without court appearance by taking (or mailing\*) your citation, this notice, appropriate fee, and proof of rabies inoculation to: Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Justice Building, Room 210 Roseburg, OR 97470. Phone 541-440-4328. Cost for citation & license are: Spayed or Neutered Dog - \$26.00 per Dog (proof required) Unaltered Dog - 70.00 per dog . If you do not license your dog before 4 PM (date) your citation will be forwarded to the court and you will need to appear in court on the date listed on the citation. \* If citation is mailed, it must be received in Animal Control Office before the date listed above." The notice date will not exceed 30 days from the issuance date and the court date on the citation will not exceed two weeks after the noticed date to allow time for the citation to reach the court. If the owner or keeper licenses the dog(s), pays the citation penalty and the spay/neuter fee (if the dog is unaltered), within the time allowed, the citation will be dismissed. If the owner or keeper fails to comply with the notice, the citation will be sent to the court. Upon a finding or plea of guilty or no contest, the court, in addition to their penalties and fees, will send the owner or keeper to the Animal Control Division to purchase a license and pay all citation and unaltered dog fees as stated in this ordinance. Spay/neuter penalty fees are dedicated to the spay and neuter fund as provided in this chapter. (Ord. 93-4-1 §13, 1993; Ord. 93-12-2 §2, 1993; Ord 2007-10-03 Eff 2-25-2008)

6.17.080 Advisory committee. (deleted Ord. 96-5-1 §8, 1996)

6.17.090 Advisory committee--Authority. (deleted Ord 2007-10-03 Eff 2-25-2008)

6.17.100 Advisory committee--Meetings. (deleted Ord. 96-5-1 §10, 1996)