



Environment



Prince George's County, Maryland

Spay-A-Day Keeps the Litter Away!

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Prince George's County to launch new campaign for free spay and neuter surgeries

The Department of the Environment's Animal Management Division (AMD) has been awarded a \$49,580 grant through the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Spay and Neuter Grants Program to launch its "Spay-A-Day Keeps the Litter Away" campaign - an initiative providing free spay and neuter surgeries to 365 dogs and cats in Prince George's County. Beginning in January 2015, residents interested in applying for a spay or neuter pet surgery may contact AMD to request an application, which will be reviewed by the Spay-A-Day campaign coordinator. Applicants will be notified of their application approval status by the coordinator.

In total, 51 applications were received for the 2015 Spay and Neuter Grants Program, and of those, AMD and 13 other local government facilities and animal welfare organizations were selected to receive grants. "This is an exciting time for Prince George's County to receive this State grant, which allows us to spay/neuter a total of 365 cats and dogs at no cost to the pet owners. Spaying and neutering is the answer to dealing with the overpopulation of stray animals," said Rodney Taylor, Associate Director of the Animal Management Division.

AMD will use the campaign to promote spay/neuter services while educating dog and cat owners in areas designated through County Executive Baker's Transforming Neighborhoods Initiative (TNI) on the importance of having their pets undergo this important surgery. Special radio and print advertisements will promote key campaign messages including fighting pet overpopulation, reducing high animal shelter intake and euthanasia rates, and improving pet health. AMD will perform surgeries on 219 dogs and 146 cats and provide complementary rabies vaccinations, as needed, at the Spay Spot Clinic in the Animal Services Facility in Upper Marlboro.

For more information about the "Spay-A-Day Keeps the Litter Away" campaign, call (301) 780-7201 or County Click 3-1-1.

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