



Bay County Animal Services

Post-Operative Instructions

1. **NO Running, jumping, playing, swimming, or other strenuous activity for seven to ten days.** Keep your pet quiet. Pets must be kept indoors where they can stay clean, dry, and warm. No baths during the recovery period, at least 10 days. Dogs must be walked on a leash and kept indoors.
2. Check the incision site twice daily. Redness and swelling should be minimal. **Do not allow your pet to lick or chew at the incision.** If this occurs, an Elizabethan collar **MUST** be applied to prevent it.
3. Your pet received a green tattoo next to their incision. This tattoo is a scoring process; it **is not an extra incision.**
4. Appetite should return gradually within 24 hours of surgery. Lethargy lasting for more than 24 hours after surgery, diarrhea, or vomiting are normal, and your pet should be taken to your regular veterinarian. Dogs may have a slight cough for a few days after surgery.
5. Do offer water when you bring your pet home and half of their normal meal this evening. **Do not change your pet's diet at this time or give them special treats.** Their regular diet and treats can be given the following day.
6. We recommend your pet receive a post-operative examination with your regular veterinarian seven to ten days after surgery. Have the incision checked for complete healing, and to discuss additional needs, follow-up care, and vaccination boosters.
7. If there are any questions or concerns during the recovery period, please call your regular veterinarian.

Scrotal neuters: The incision has been left slightly open to drain. There will be a small amount of blood-tinged discharge. There are no sutures. Dogs will have surgical glue, cats do not.

Spays and Pre-Scrotal: The incision has internal and dissolvable sutures with surgical glue to keep the outer incision closed.

If there is a medical emergency please contact your regular veterinarian.

"No one loves you like a shelter pet."