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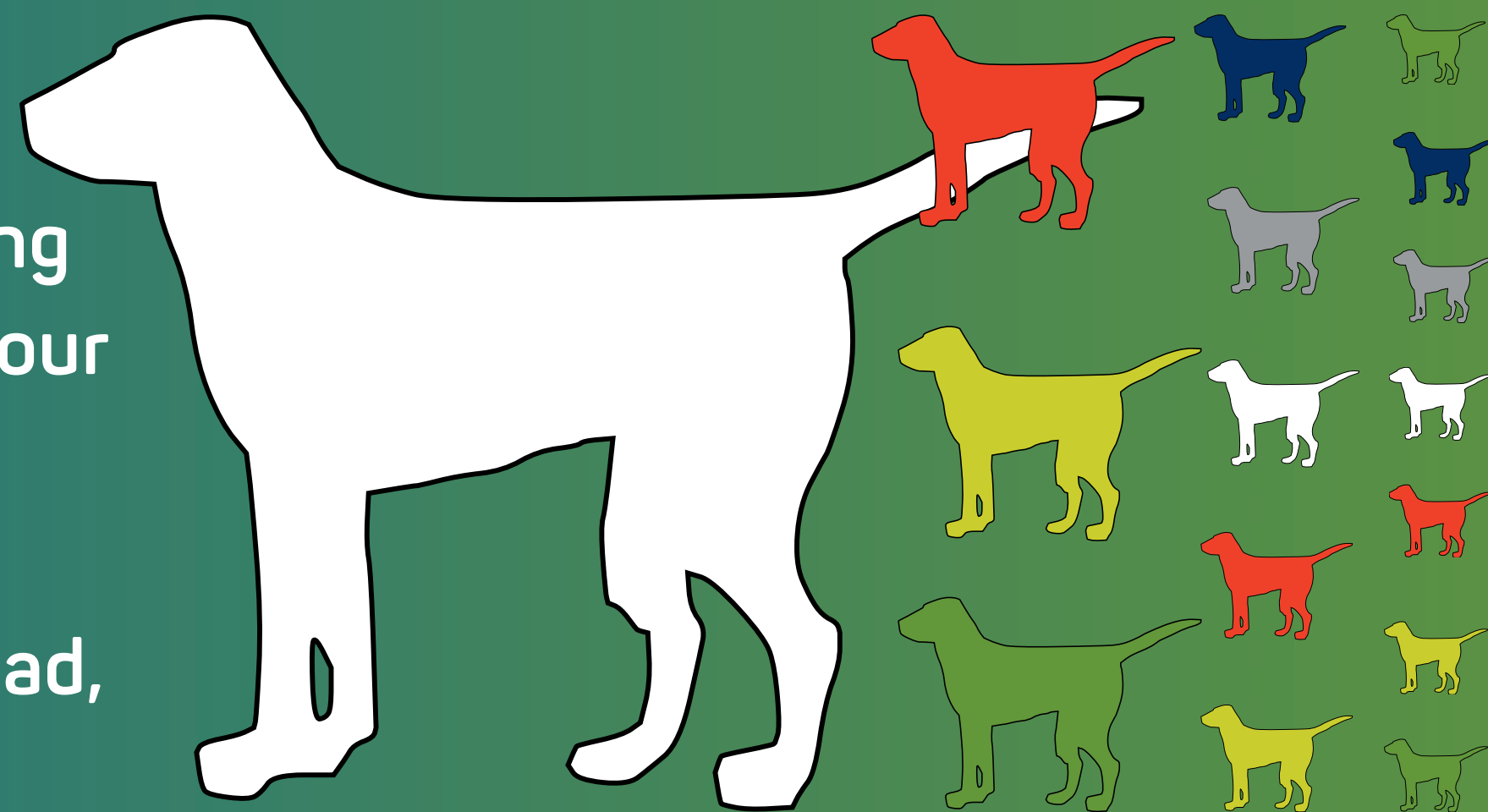
CARING FOR ALL ANIMALS



Spaying or Neutering Your Dog/Puppy

STOP DOG OVERPOPULATION

Each year, thousands of unwanted dogs/puppies are being handed into shelters or abandoned. Spaying/neutering your dog/puppy is the most effective solution. Even if good homes are found for an entire new litter, they are filling homes that other abandoned dogs/puppies might have had, therefore adding to stray population.

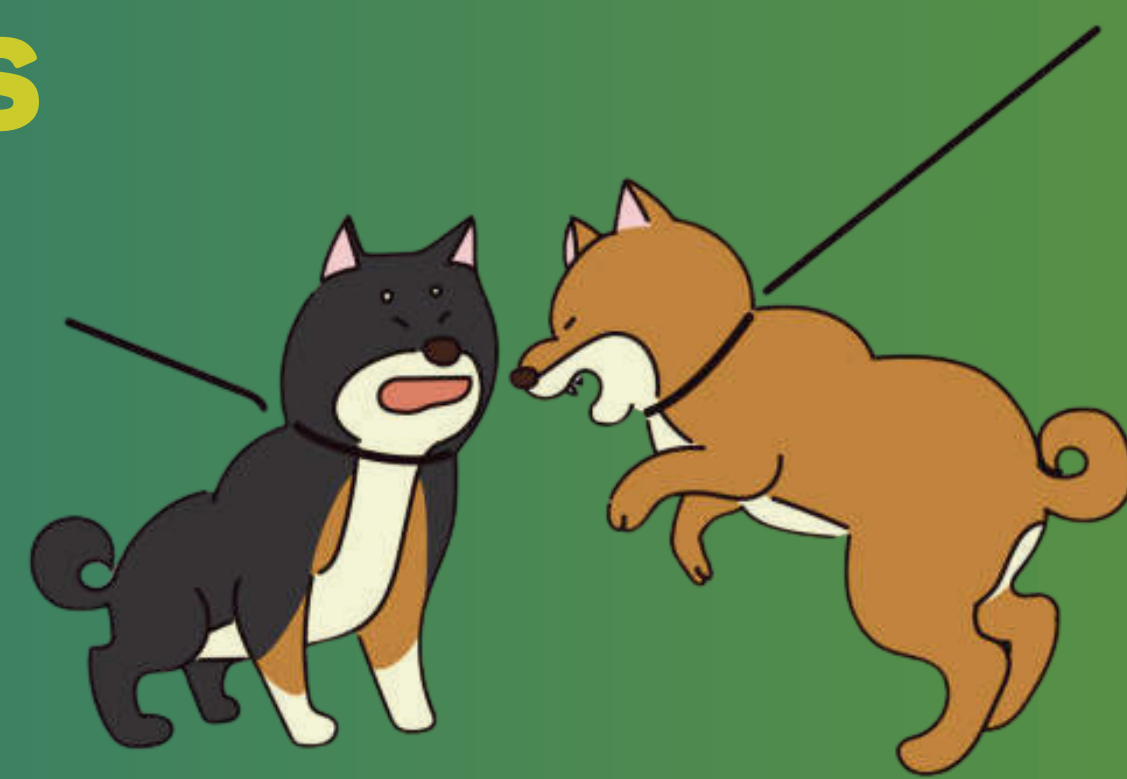


BENEFITS OF SPAYING FEMALE DOGS/PUPPIES

Spaying dramatically **reduces the risk of mammary cancer** - the risk of a non-spayed female dog developing mammary tumours during her life drops from 70% to 0.5% if spayed before her first heat. Spaying **removes the risk of uterine, cervical and ovarian tumours, perianal fistulas** (affecting the anal area), **dystocia** (birthing difficulties) and **pyometra** (infection of the uterus), which occurs in 23% of non-spayed females and kills approximately 1% of them. It also avoids physiological and behavioural changes associated with the female dog's reproductive cycle as well as prolongs their lifespan.

BENEFITS OF NEUTERING MALE DOGS/PUPPIES

Neutering eliminates the risk of **testicular cancer**. It reduces the danger of non-cancerous conditions of the mature prostate and certain tumours and **diabetes**. Neutering also reduces unwelcome behaviours such as **aggression, dominance, sibling rivalry, territorial marking with urine, roaming/straying and dry-humping**.



WHEN TO SPAY OR NEUTER YOUR DOG/PUPPY

In general, both male and female dogs/puppies should be neutered/spayed at **5 to 6 months of age**.

Large breed: 12 months of age | Giant Breed: 18 months of age

Please seek advice from your vet. Your vet will assess your dog/puppy and help you to weigh up the benefits of spaying or neutering in relation to your dog/puppy's individual health and circumstances.



www.ispca.ie/spayaware

