

# POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

YOUR PICK-UP TIME IS:

YOUR TOTAL COST AT PICK-UP IS:



Any guardian who arrives 30 minutes past the scheduled pick-up time will be charged a **\$25 late fee** and required to pick up his or her animal from PETA's Norfolk office. Please call if you are running late. Thank you.

**HOLLAND WARE CLINIC: 757-390-1389 • SNIP CLINIC: 757-390-9178**

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## PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

**1** You will be given three days of pain medication to give to your companion animal. Please follow the instructions on the label. **If you were sent home without any oral pain medication, it is because your animal received an injection to control pain after the surgery. DO NOT give your animal any over-the-counter medications unless such medications were specifically prescribed by your veterinarian following the surgery.**

**2** Please keep your animal companion indoors in a warm and quiet place after surgery. Keep your animal away from other animals and children for at least 24 hours.

**3** Unless instructed otherwise by our staff, please offer your animal a small meal several hours after going home. Gradually increase meal size to the normal amount over the next 24 hours.

**4** Some vomiting and/or diarrhea may be normal after surgery because of stress and anesthesia. If vomiting and/or diarrhea persist for more than 24 hours, please contact your veterinarian immediately.

**5** Shaking, whimpering, and/or extreme tiredness within a day or two of surgery are likely caused by stress, mild discomfort, and drugs still working their way through the body. These symptoms should subside within 24 hours. Keep your animal indoors, warm, and comfortable.

**6** Restrict your animal's activity for the next seven to 10 days. Dogs are permitted leash-walking only. Do not allow cats to run, jump, or climb. Excessive movement may result in swelling, bruising, and/or tearing open of the incision. Do not allow your animal to get wet for 10 days after surgery—no bathing, swimming, or exposure to rain.

**7** Please check the incision site at least twice daily. Do not allow your animal companion to lick or chew at the incision. Slight swelling and redness are normal, but if you notice any drainage or excessive swelling or redness, call your veterinarian immediately. If your animal persists in licking or chewing at the incision site, please pick up a size-appropriate Elizabethan collar (E-collar) from your local pet

supply store or veterinary clinic. **It is not abnormal for a firm lump or raised area to develop around the incision site.** This usually indicates a suture reaction, not a hernia. Please give the area two to three weeks to heal, and if the lump remains or increases in size, call us at 757-622-7382, option 3, to schedule a recheck.

**8** You will notice a small tattoo on your animal's abdomen. This will appear as a small green line near the incision or—for male cats—by the belly button. This is to indicate that the animal has been sterilized, and it should not be confused with infection or gangrene.

**9** Your animal's sutures will dissolve and do not require removal. Male cats do not require sutures.

**10** In the event that your animal exhibits any continuous bleeding from the incision, continuous vomiting, extreme pain, pale gums, seizures, or any other extreme symptoms after surgery, please visit the closest veterinarian or emergency hospital without delay.



A staff member is on call for surgery-related emergencies only. However, please be advised that our medical staff is not available to examine your animal until our next scheduled surgery day. Our emergency phone number is **757-297-3938**. Non-emergency calls will be returned on a priority basis within 24 to 48 hours.

Thank you for using our services and helping us fight the animal homelessness crisis.

[For a list of area emergency veterinary hospitals, please refer to the reverse page.](#)

**PETA**



**BAY BEACH VETERINARY HOSPITAL**

4340 Virginia Beach Blvd.  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452  
757-340-3913  
757-340-4476 (fax)  
[www.baybeachvets.com](http://www.baybeachvets.com)

**THE COVE, CENTER OF VETERINARY EXPERTISE**

6550 Hampton Roads Pkwy., #113  
Suffolk, VA 23435  
757-935-9111  
757-935-9110 (fax)  
[www.thecovevets.com](http://www.thecovevets.com)

**ANIMAL EMERGENCY CENTER**

5007 Victory Blvd. (Village Square Shopping Center)  
Yorktown, VA 23693  
757-234-0461  
757-234-4031 (fax)  
[www.animalemergencyyorktown.com](http://www.animalemergencyyorktown.com)