

? When do I need to spay/neuter (sterilize) my puppy?

You are required to sterilize your puppy no later than the date specified on the Central Coast Herding Dog Rescue (CCHDR) Sterilization Contract that you signed at the time of adoption. You will receive a reminder email and text one month prior to the specified date.

? Can I get an extension if my vet recommends waiting until the puppy is older?

In most cases, no. While we understand that from a vet's perspective there may be long-term reasons for waiting, CCHDR firmly believes in the need to sterilize before a dog is able to create more puppies. If you have a reason other than a vet's general recommendation to wait (e.g. a specific medical condition, major personal emergency, etc.) please contact CCHDR as soon as possible to discuss.

? Where can I find inexpensive sterilization services?

While you are certainly welcome to have your puppy spayed or neutered at your regular vet's office, this can be an expensive option. Many humane societies offer low cost services. Please note that it may be necessary to book an appointment a month or two in advance. SpayCalifornia <https://www.spaycalifornia.org/home.htm> is a website resource for locating low-cost options for spays and neuters throughout California.

? How do I submit proof of sterilization to CCHDR?

Once your puppy is sterilized, please submit a copy of either the sterilization certificate or a copy of your bill for the services, showing your name and the puppy's name. Please submit the document via email to cchdrescue@gmail.com or by text to (805) 680-4732.

? What happens if I don't sterilize my dog by the deadline?

CCHDR will retain your sterilization deposit. In addition, and more importantly, your adoption is not considered final until your puppy has been sterilized. Per your signed contract, your puppy is to be returned to CCHDR if sterilization has not taken place.

? Where can I find more information about the need to spay and neuter?

The CCHDR website <https://www.cchdrescue.org/faq-spay-neuter> contains further information and additional resources.