Spay/Neuter Prep Procedures

We do not have a veterinarian on staff and must rely on local vets to perform all surgeries for our shelter pets. We have agreements with several of the local veterinarians for spay/ neuter surgeries which stipulate the dates and prices based on the animal's gender and weight.

Each individual clinic has specific requirements and requests regarding the logistics of how shelter pets are transported and housed at their facilities. In order to maintain a good business relationship it is important to respect the wishes of each clinic.

At Animal Health Clinic, shelter pets are removed from their crates while awaiting surgery and are expected to spend the night after surgery.

At Picayune Veterinarian Clinic, the pets will remain in their crates while awaiting surgery and are expected to be returned to the shelter immediately after surgery.

Surgeries are typically reserved for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Dogs sent on to Animal Health Clinic on Tuesday will return Wednesday morning. Dogs sent to Picayune Veterinarian Clinic on Wednesday will return that same evening. Dogs sent to Animal Health Clinic on Thursday will return Friday morning. The attendant assigned to the dog hall is also responsible for S/N Prep and must arrive at the shelter at 7:30 to load the dogs in their crates so they can be transported to the vet.

Tuesday's crates are to be made by the attendant working Monday shifts. The list will be on the office bulletin board around late morning. The weekend attendant is also responsible for making sure there is no food in the listed dogs' kennels and that the "Getting fixed" signs are on the respective kennels.

## How to Prep S/N Crates:

* The only foster who needs crate made will be Rhonda. All other fosters will bring the dogs straight to and from the vet themselves.
* Tues/Thurs crates can be the smallest a dog can fit in since they are taken out of their crates during their overnight stay.
* Wednesday crates need to e roomier since those dogs remain in that crate all day.
* Review s/n list to determine who is going to vet tomorrow. When reviewing list handwrite in each animal's location on the list and use listed weight to estimate what size crate will be needed.
* Hang "Getting Fixed" signs near kennel latch for each pet, remove ALL food from kennel. (This also gives you the opportunity to see animals' size to determine appropriate crate size.)
* Label crate doors with duct tape. The label should have the dog's name and location (kennel number or foster).
* Line crate bottom with newspapers.

## Tuesday Morning:

The attendant assigned to the dog hall should arrive at 7:30am to get the dogs ready to go to the vet. Crate should already be made and dogs should have been fasted by the weekend worker. (IF PETS HAVE EATEN THE VET NEEDS TO KNOW) Once the dogs are in their crates, bring the Explorer around to the parking lot so the crates can be loaded. Keys can be found in a drawer on the side of the shelter manager's desk; the vehicle may be in the front garage. There are a pair of wire crates in the Explorer that can be used for larger dogs. These wire crates should be labeled and lined with newspapers just like the regular crates.

## Tuesday Afternoon:

After the new S/N list has been posted on the bulletin board, the attendant should make the crate for Wednesday. Before leaving for the day, the attendant should put "Getting Fixed" signs on respective kennels and make sure the dogs do not have any food. This includes puppies and any kennel mates. Tuesday dogs do not return the same day.

## Wednesday Morning:

The hallway attendant should arrive at 7:30am to load the dogs going to the vet. The procedure is the same as Tuesday morning.

At some point before opening, the Tuesday S/N dogs will return. These dogs will need to e unloaded and checked for chips (if the dog doesn't have a microchip, it will need to be chipped at this point) before returning them to their kennel or foster home. These dogs can be given breakfast since they stayed at the vet overnight to sleep off the anesthesia. The "Getting Fixed" signs need to be removed once the pet has returned to its housing.

## Wednesday Afternoon:

Thursday's S/N list is usually posted by the afternoon. The hallway attendant should make crates, put up the "Getting Fixed" signs, and fast Thursday's dog.

Wednesday S/N dogs are the only ones who return the same day. These dogs will also need to be scanned and, if necessary, chipped before being returned to their kennel or foster. These dogs do not get food in the afternoon as they are usually still under the influence of anesthesia. Sometimes the dogs don't return until after closing, so the run hallway attendant may have to stay late.

## Thursday Morning:

Thursday mornings are the same as Tuesday and Wednesday with the only difference being that there will not be any returning pets on a Thursday morning.

## Thursday Afternoon:

Dogs do not return until Friday Morning.

## Friday Morning:

Thursday dogs should return from the vet before opening. They should be scanned and, if necessary, microchipped before returning to their kennel or foster. These dogs may have breakfast since they stayed overnight at the vet and slept off the anesthesia.