

NEWS RELEASE

February 19, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Parkland County recognizes National Spay Day.

PARKLAND COUNTY, AB. February 26, 2008, is National Spay Day and Parkland County Animal Control wants to remind residents of the benefits of having your pet spayed or neutered.

“People don’t realize that it is just as – or even more important – to have their pets spayed or neutered when living in a rural community,” said Peter Morris, Parkland County Patrol Services Supervisor. “Unaltered animals are more likely to wander from their properties, which increases the chances of unwanted pregnancies, the animal becoming lost, or being attacked by wildlife in the area.”

Other benefits of spaying and neutering your pet include a reduced likelihood of health problems, including many forms of cancer, which can be very difficult and expensive to treat. Sterilized animals are also less likely to have behaviour and temperament problems, including sexual aggression, territorial marking and biting. Altered animals are also less likely to wander from their property.

“Animal Control is kept very busy responding to animal complaints, particularly dogs running at large,” said Morris. “The dogs are brought to the animal shelter, where we try to reunite the animal with its owner. If that is not possible, we have a Dog Adoption Program to help the animal find a new home.”

The Parkland County Dog Adoption Program offers easy and inexpensive services to ensure the health of adopted pets, including licensing, spaying or neutering, first set of shots, veterinarian check-up and micro-chipping.

“National Spay Day”

For more information about Parkland County Animal Control services, call (780) 968-8458 or visit our website at www.parklandcounty.com

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Parkland County is a rural municipality located immediately west of Edmonton. Covering an area of 246,462 hectares (609,007 acres), it is one of the largest in size and the highest populated of all rural municipalities in Alberta. Parkland County has grown to a community of over 29,000 people and has seen generations of families continue to enjoy country living.

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