



Be Wise Sterilise

Our mission is to combat the biggest problem in animal welfare concerning domestic pets: the lack of sterilisation. Be Wise Sterilise is a campaign aimed not only at creating awareness but also at raising funds to help sterilise abandoned and neglected animals that end up in shelters, as well as the companion animals of people who cannot afford to sterilise them.

Animal shelters and rescue centres deal mostly with the consequences of thousands of animals being abandoned and in some cases abused by irresponsible owners. A large number of these animals end up being euthanised simply because shelters are full to capacity and there are just not enough people willing to adopt the animals. Be Wise Sterilise deals directly with the crux of the problem in order to reduce the number of unwanted animals.

Creating awareness about the importance of sterilisation

In order to do this, we attempt to eradicate erroneous beliefs such as “My female pet needs to experience motherhood” or “Castration robs a male pet of its manhood”, which are the root cause of animals ending up in the streets, in shelters or being euthanised.

When questioned on such beliefs, the answer most commonly given is “I make sure the puppies/kittens go to good homes”. Being a good pet owner, however, is not about finding good homes for your pet's offspring but about sterilising your pet and preventing the breeding of more animals – many of which will be abandoned. The reality is that there are just not enough homes; if there were, our shelters wouldn't be overflowing with unwanted animals. By being responsible pet owners, we begin to mitigate the harsh reality of healthy animals being euthanised.

Be Wise Sterilise also wishes to educate the public about the many veterinary health risks which can be eliminated by sterilisation, simply because their pets will roam less and become involved in fewer fights.

Unfortunately another common answer to why pets are not sterilised, is: “I cannot afford sterilisation”. Our response is that yes, it can be expensive, but that sterilisation is a once-off cost. We recommend that people should budget for it and even save up for it, and that they should contact several different vets and animal organisations until they find one offering more affordable rates. Many vets will also allow people to pay off the costs over a longer period. Although some people really can't afford to sterilise their pets, we find that this reason is all too often used as an excuse.

We believe that we can make a difference, one pet at a time. We would like people to realise that, although they can't help all the unwanted pets, they can certainly prevent suffering by sterilising their own pets and encouraging everyone around them to do the same.

Raising funds to subsidise or sponsor sterilisations

Using funds raised by way of sponsors and/or donations, we help people who really can't afford sterilisation, and especially those who take in abandoned animals. Our ultimate aim is to provide mobile clinics which will be able to go into townships and other areas, so that sterilisations will be done on site.

For more information or if you would like to donate to or assist Be Wise Sterilise in any way, please contact Charlene Grover on 081 018 4446 or email her at info@sterilise.co.za. You can also visit the website www.sterilise.co.za or find us on Facebook at Be-Wise-Sterilise.

Banking details:

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