



Laparoscopic Dog Spays

We have been spaying dogs by laparoscopy since 2008 at Douds Veterinary Hospital and have been very pleased with the results! This technique involves placing a scope through a single small (1/2 inch) opening in the female dog's abdomen to remove her reproductive organs. The attached digital camera gives us a "Hi-Def" magnified view of internal structures and allows for many other procedures as well.

Many people have benefited personally from their physician's use of endoscopy in human medicine. Arthroscopic (joint) and laparoscopic (abdominal) surgeries plus diagnostic colonoscopies are common examples. This minimally invasive technique results in much less pain and a reduced recovery time. The same benefits hold true in dogs, and we've seen the small incision result in quicker recoveries with much less pain and less need for medication. People have told us that their biggest problem is holding down their girl's activity level the next day.

Our specific system allows for making only one small opening while the more prevalent endoscopic techniques create two or three. Our patients have no external sutures and can go home a few hours after the procedure.

Deep-chested breeds, which are prone to bloat (gastric torsion), can also be "tacked" with our laparoscope so they don't suffer from this life threatening condition later. We advise doing this at the same time as spaying for Standard poodles, Great Danes, Collies, Rottweilers, German Shepherds, Goldens and other large, deep-chested breeds. It can also be done independently in animals not being spayed.