# Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Official Policies and Procedures

July 5, 2012

Ohio House Rabbit Rescue is proud to offer limited quantities of low-cost spay/neuter certificates. Individuals interested in low-cost spay/neuter for their rabbit can purchase a certificate on a first-come, first-serve basis. Two certificates can be purchased per household. The availability of the certificates is subject to change based on the amount of funding available. If OHRR does not have low-cost spay/neuter certificates available, we will recommend alternate options.

**Cost of Surgery:**

Spay (female): $120
Neuter (male): $90

**Program Procedures**: Individuals interested in purchasing a Low-Cost Spay/Neuter certificate must inquire about the certificate availability by e-mailing OHRR at director@ohiohouserabbitrescue.com or sending OHRR a letter by US mail. If certificates are available, OHRR will send the interested parties an application that is to be completed and returned back to OHRR along with the appropriate payment. When the application and payment is approved, OHRR will send a certificate via e-mail (or, if requested, by US mail). The certificate will be numbered to prevent multiple usages. It is then the responsibility of the rabbit owner to schedule an appointment for a primary wellness check and spay/neuter surgery, which are both covered by the certificate. **Please mention the certificate when calling to schedule your appointment**. Barring any unusual circumstances or illnesses found during the wellness check, the wellness check and surgery will be done on the same day to reduce the amount of stress for your pet. The rabbit owner then can present the certificate in lieu of payment to the veterinary hospital.

The certificate will cover:

- A pre-surgery wellness check, which is required for all rabbits undergoing spay/neuter surgery
- Spay/Neuter surgery package including IV catheter
- Baseline Blood work
- Pre- and post-surgery pain medication

If additional treatments are required due to unusual circumstances or complications, those costs are the responsibility of the rabbit owner and are not covered by the certificate. Some of these costs may include but are not limited to the following conditions:

- Complications due to an unforeseen pregnancy in female rabbits
- Complications related to anesthesia including sudden death
- Anatomic abnormalities not apparent during the preliminary wellness exam

Ohio House Rabbit Rescue, Inc. is not responsible for any complications during the surgery and by purchasing the Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Certificate, the rabbit owner recognizes that with surgery and anesthesia there is a risk of illness and/or fatality. The rabbit owner assumes full responsibility of the risks associated with surgical procedures and agrees to hold harmless and release from liability Ohio House Rabbit Rescue's Low

Cost Spay/Neuter Certificate program of any illness or fatality that may result from spay/neuter surgery.

**Eligibility**: In order to be eligible for a low-cost spay/neuter certificate, individuals must fill out the application sent via email or US mail. The primary caregiver of the rabbit to be altered must also guarantee that the rabbit has ***not used pine shavings as litter or bedding within 4 weeks of the surgery***. Pine shavings have been linked to alterations to enzymes in the rabbit's liver, which can significantly reduce the rabbit's ability to handle standard drugs used in the alteration surgery. Spaying or neutering a rabbit that has been exposed to pine shavings can cause toxic poisoning and will likely cause death.

**Availability of Certificates:** The number of certificates offered is determined by the funding available to Ohio House Rabbit Rescue. Only two certificates can be purchased per household. Certificates are offered on a first-come, first-serve basis to be determined by receipt of Spay/Neuter Application **and** payment by check or credit card.

**Location of Services:** The certificate is currently ***only valid*** at Norton Road Veterinary Hospital and at East Hilliard Veterinary Services. Other hospitals may be added at the discretion of the OHRR Board of Directors.

The contact information for the Norton Road Veterinary Hospital is:

Norton Road Veterinary Hospital
1111 Norton Road
Galloway, OH 43119
Phone: (614) 870-7008
Fax: (614) 870-9845
Hours: Sun-Mon: 8-5, Tues-Thurs 8-7, Fri-Sat: 8-5
Website: www.nortonroadveterinaryhospital.com

The contact information for East Hilliard Veterinary Services is:

East Hilliard Veterinary Services
3993 Brown Park Dr.
Hilliard, OH 43026
Phone: (614) 876-7762
Fax: (614) 876-2496
Hours: Mon, Thurs: 8-7:30, Tues, Wed, Fri: 8-5, Sat: 8-11:30
Website: www.easthilliardvet.com