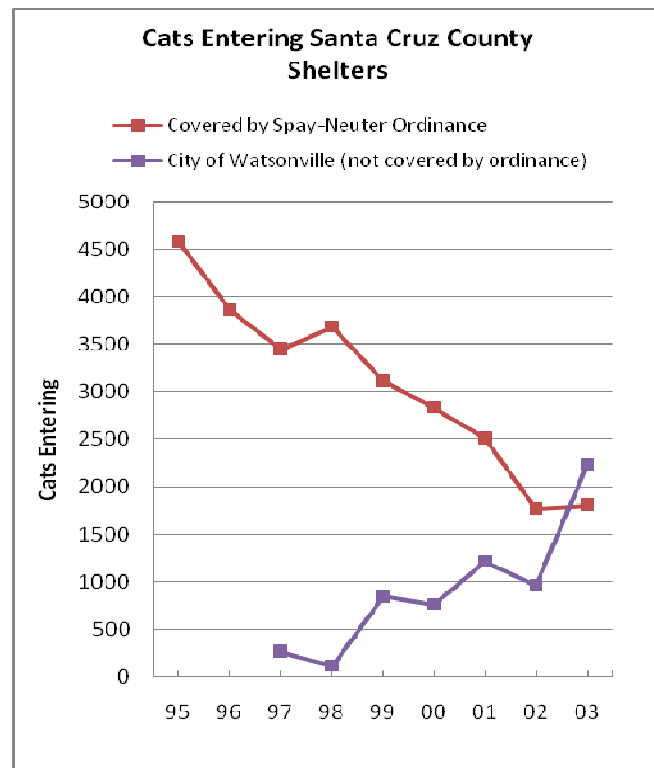
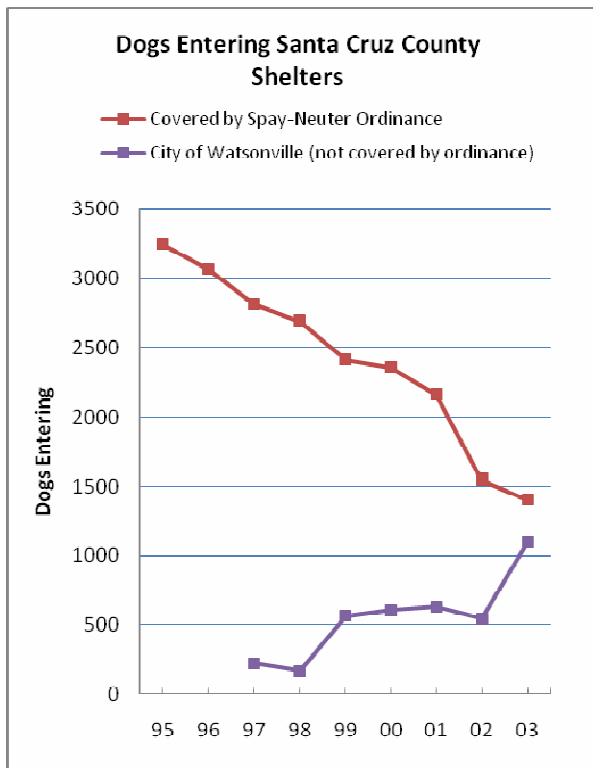


Universal Spaying and Neutering Worked for Santa Cruz County

From 1995 to 2003, areas covered by the spay/neuter ordinance in Santa Cruz County showed a 56% decrease in the number dogs sheltered, along with a 60% decrease for cats (this area includes the city of Santa Cruz, the city of Scotts Valley and the unincorporated area of the county – representing the bulk of the county’s population). By contrast, the city of Watsonville – which did not adopt the spay/neuter ordinance until 2004 – showed an increase in shelter intakes from 1997 to 2003 of nearly 400% for dogs and more than 700% for cats.



Data Sources: Santa Cruz SPCA, city of Watsonville

Lumping all of Santa Cruz County’s shelters together, as the opponents of AB1634 have done in their own analysis, is misleading, since Watsonville did not enact the Santa Cruz spay/neuter ordinance until 2004. When you separate Watsonville from the areas in the county that adopted the spay/neuter ordinance in late 1994, the picture becomes clear: universal spaying and neutering works.

STANISLAUS COUNTY SHOWING PROMISING RESULTS AS WELL

It appears that Stanislaus County is experiencing benefits from its new spay/neuter ordinance as well.

According to the annual report filed by the county with the state veterinarian, the county sheltered 10,400 dogs in 2005. At the beginning of 2006, the new spay/neuter law for dogs went into effect (it does not apply to cats). The number of dogs taken in to the county’s shelters in 2006 declined nearly 10%, to 9,549. This decrease occurred despite a steady population increase over the same period, from 510,000 to 519,000 residents.