

Urine Removal Process

Understanding the different methods of urine removal and the process we use to treat the urine in carpeting.

Nitrogen cycle is critical for life and reproduction. Nitrogen coverts from solid, liquid and gaseous forms as it cycles through the environment. Lightening, rain, decaying waste, and microbes all play an important role in the nitrogen cycle and pet urine within carpet is no exception.

When oxidizers are applied to pet urine the results are instant the odor disappears immediately but they are counterproductive. Pet urine contains many sources of nitrogen including creatinine, urea, and uric acid (salt). Special ammonifying bacteria populate the nitrogen-rich waste to break down the nitrogen into its gaseous form of ammonia. This stage within the nitrogen cycle is known as ammonification. The resulting ammonia gas is lighter than air and becomes an unpleasant nuisance within a home as it wafts upward.

Oxidizers eliminate the bacteria on contact. While the odor may be gone eliminating the bacteria is winning the battle not the war. Oxidizers and other non-bacterial cleaners cannot remove the nitrogen, the area will eventually repopulate with ammonifying bacteria until the nitrogen is successfully converted to ammonia- no exceptions. Oddly enough the bacteria were helping rid the area of nitrogen just not fast enough for the homeowner's sense of smell.

Uric salt is not removed by oxidizers which is a waste product of pet urine that absorbs water and gives the bacteria life giving water for growth. Once the peroxide loses oxygen it turns into water. The sodium and nitrogen along with the atmospheric moisture creates the prefect environment for the bacteria to return.

The only true way to get rid of pet urine is to replace the carpet and pad and either seal or replace the sub-floor. But this is unnecessary as there are products to remove significant amounts of urine and odor. The cost of treatment is 5% of the cost of replacing the carpet and should be worth trying before replacing the carpet. Homeowners must of course consider the condition of the carpet and finances before making this decision.

This is where Rio Rancho Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning shines. We use a patented bacterial enzyme that we apply to carpet that breaks the nitrogen cycle. The process is to apply the enzyme and let it work for 30 minutes to an hour and then extract from the carpeting. We then apply a deodorizer and odorcide topically after cleaning. There is no way to guarantee the complete removal of the urine but it may remove a significant amount to improve the ammonia smell and appearance of the carpeting. Cost for treatment can run \$50 to \$100 per room based on room size and contamination levels.