



**ANIMAL MANAGEMENT**

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

## Registration and Identification

### Lost pets are alone – registration brings them home!

Registration and identification of pets in urban areas is important for the well being of the animals themselves, owner's peace of mind, and to allow council to plan for future community needs.

In Townsville, all dogs and cats must be registered each year and carry an identification disc. Dog and cat registration is an important investment in your pet, providing safety and security as well as assisting council to identify you in case your pet is lost, injured or involved in an incident.

#### WHEN DO I REGISTER MY DOG or CAT?

All dogs and cats in Townsville **MUST** be registered within 14 days of acquiring them or moving to Townsville, including puppies and kittens.

Puppies and kittens under 6 months of age may be registered free. You will have to show proof of age when you register them and will receive free registration up to the end of the current financial period only.

Registration needs to be renewed by 31 July each year.

A discount is offered to owners who register their dogs in July. Full fees are applicable to owners who register their dogs after 31 July.

A discount is also offered to pensioners and owners of desexed dogs.

#### WHY REGISTER?

Registration of your dog or cat is a formal commitment by you to take responsibility for it as well as giving it appropriate care. It shows the community that you care and will do the right thing by your pet.



Registration also helps council identify who owns which animals, how many live in the city and where they live. This helps council provide appropriate services like off leash areas and litter bins in places they are needed most.

#### REFUGE AND RECOVERY >>

One of the most important benefits of pet registration and identification is that it allows an effective rescue and refuge service.

Dogs and cats roaming our streets are often alone and afraid, with the potential to be hurt or involved in neighbourhood disturbances.

WEB >> [www.townsville.qld.gov.au](http://www.townsville.qld.gov.au)

PHONE >> 4727 9000



Townsville

Council is anxious to reunite owners with their lost pets and if your dog or cat is lost or strays, the council registration tag is your best safeguard to ensure getting your pet back quickly and safely.

It's important to regularly check that your pets tag is visible and undamaged. Replacement tags are available from council.

### **REGISTRATION PROCESS >>**

To register your dog or cat, simply go to the council office in Walker Street or Thuringowa Drive, with the appropriate fee (with discounts available to pensioners and owners of desexed pets).

It is important to register your dog as soon as you get it (or within 14 days if you have moved to Townsville) to help keep it safe and returned to you if it wanders.

The following breeds are prohibited in the Townsville City Council area, American pit bull terrier or pit bull terrier; dogo Argentino; fila Brasileiro; Japanese tosa; Perro de Presa Canario or Presa Canario.

### **PENALTIES FOR NOT REGISTERING >>**

Irresponsible owners who fail to register their dogs or cats with council will face significant penalties including on the spot fines.

Registration compliance is regularly checked both in public areas and residential situations to ensure that pet owners are taking their responsibility seriously.

### **IDENTIFICATION TAGS >>**

When you register your pet with Council a tag will be provided.

### **MICROCHIPPING >>**

All new puppies and kittens must be microchipped before 12 weeks of age. If you acquire a new adult dog or cat it must be microchipped.

### **SPECIAL APPROVALS >>**

Additional approvals are required in a number of circumstances, including:

- Keeping more than two dogs or cats
- Keeping any dog or more than 2 cats in a multi-residential dwelling
- Use premises as a kennel or cattery

Contact council for more information on approvals and special requirements.

### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS >>**

It is important to ensure council has your current contact details in case we need to contact you. If you change address or contact details, please contact Environmental Health Services.

### **RECIPROCAL REGISTRATION >>**

Townsville City Council offers reciprocal registration. This means that if you move from another local government area you can transfer your registration with us free with a small charge to cover the cost of your new registration tag. Proof of registration is required.

### **DOGS AND CATS UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE >>**

Dogs and cats under 6 months are registered free of charge up to the end of the current financial period. They must be registered after 12 weeks of age or within 14 days of the dog or cat being acquired if it is over 12 weeks of age.

### **DISCOUNTS ON REGISTRATION >>**

Council offers discounts for pensioners and desexed dogs. Contact Environmental Health Services on **1300 878 001** for more information.

### **CONTACTING COUNCIL >>**

If you require any further information about this or any other responsible pet ownership issue, please call Council's Environmental Health Services on **1300 878 001**, fax Council on **4727 9050** or visit the Townsville City Council website at [www.townsville.qld.gov.au](http://www.townsville.qld.gov.au) and follow the links to Animals.

### **MORE INFORMATION >>**

Further information is also available in council's range of Fact Sheets which are available from council facilities.

Complete information on Local Law 2 is available via the Townsville City Council website.

**Your council is committed to encouraging responsible pet ownership to benefit the entire community.**

**Please be a considerate and competent owner.**