

Where can I get more information?

For more information, including tips on being a responsible cat owner, visit the Department of Local Government and Communities Responsible Cat Ownership webpage at:

www.dlg.wa.gov.au



Registration fees

Scan the QR code to view current registration fees and submission locations.



For more information, please contact your local Shire of Ashburton office.

Via phone: (08) 9188 4444

Via email: soa@ashburton.wa.gov.au



Responsible Cat Ownership

The Cat Act 2011



ashburton.wa.gov.au

Cat registration

In 2011, the State Government introduced the *Cat Act 2011*, requiring the identification, sterilisation and registration of all domestic cats in Western Australia. The new cat laws came into effect 1 November 2013.

What does this mean for you and your feline friend? The *Cat Act 2011* now requires all cats that have reached six (6) months of age to be:

- Microchipped;
- Sterilised;
- Registered with the relevant local Government of the district; and
- Wearing a collar with their registration tag.

Just like dogs, cats are required to wear a collar and registration tag to ensure they can be easily identified and returned to you, should they become lost or trapped.

My cat is very old, do I still need to have them sterilised?

Yes, the legislation applies to cats of all ages. However, your vet can issue an exemption if sterilising your cat is likely to have a negative impact on their health and welfare.



How much does it cost?

Registration type	Cost
One year	\$20
Three years	\$42.50
Lifetime	\$100
Pensioner – one year	\$10
Pensioner – three years	\$21.50
Pensioner – lifetime	\$50

You must be at least 18 years of age to register a cat.

It is an offense for your cat to not be registered or to not wear a collar with a registration tag. You can be given an on-the-spot fine of \$200 for non-compliance.

What is the purpose of the Cat Act 2011?

These cat laws are not only about responsible pet ownership, they are also aimed at reducing the number of unwanted cats in the community and the number that are euthanised each year. Sterilised cats are healthier, live longer and are less of a nuisance to the community. Free-ranging unsterilised male cats spray on doors and cars, causing an influx of other strays. Through sterilisation, cat urine loses most hormonal odour.

Microchipping and registration will also ensure your cat is returned to you if they become lost or trapped. Many lost or injured cats never find their homes again, simply because they have no identification. Microchipping is the safest form of identification, as all details of both the owner and the registered pet are stored in a national computer database.

Lost or impounded cats

If your cat has gone missing, please contact Ranger Services in your town immediately, who can then advise you if your cat has been impounded. Additionally, both your details and your cat's details will be recorded into a lost cat register, making the return of your cat easier should they be located.

Your cats should preferably be confined to a pen or house during the nighttime to reduce wandering and the impact to native wildlife.



Nuisance or feral cats

For cats that are causing a disturbance on your property, there are a number of deterrent sprays that are available through vets and pet stores. There has been some success with herbal sprays made from water and chilli/garlic; even the direct application of pepper in frequented areas can be effective. All water-based sprays must be reapplied on a regular basis and after the area has been in contact with water or rain. If these options fail to resolve the issue, you can contact Ranger Services for further assistance.

How many cats can I own?

Under the *Cat Act 2011*, you are not allowed to keep more than two (2) cats over the age of six (6) months.