

Cats in the Shire of Capel



Legislation

The Shire of Capel is bound by the Western Australian Cat Act (2011) which requires all cats over the age of 6 months to be:

- Registered with your Local Government (Shire of Capel);
- Sterilised unless owned by a registered breeder or medically exempt; and
- Micro-chipped.

In addition, the Shire of Capel has a Local Law Relating to the Keeping and Welfare of Cats. Under this law, cats must be confined to your property at all times. You must also apply to Council for a permit if you wish to keep more than two (2) cats.

The aims of both the state Cat Act and Capel Local Law are to:

- Encourage responsible pet ownership.
- Reduce the number of unwanted cats in the community.
- Reduce the number of cats euthanised each year.

Registration

Cat registrations are due on 31 October each year. You can register your cat for a period of 1 year, 3 years or a lifetime. Eligible pensioners are able to register their cat for half the normal fee.

Fees

1 Year	\$20 (\$10 if registered after June 1 st)
3 Years	\$42.50
Lifetime	\$100

Identification

In addition to being micro-chipped, all cats must wear a collar and identifying name tag. The tag must include your name, correct residential address and phone number and be attached to the cat's collar along with the registration tag.

Identification of your cat will ensure that it can be returned to you quickly should it become lost, or trapped and impounded. Clear identification also enables Council's Community Rangers to easily determine if a cat is a pet, stray or feral animal.

Limits on cat numbers

The Local Law restricts the number of cats that may be kept at a particular property to two. Cat owners who wish to keep more than two cats should apply to Council for a permit.

If the additional cats are sold or die, you will not be able to obtain new cats under the existing permit.

Cats in the Shire of Capel



Breeders

You must be registered as a Cat Breeder with Council if you wish to keep and breed from an unsterilised cat. Application forms for permits are available from Council, however conditions apply.

Wandering Cats

Cats that are allowed to roam the streets are a hazard to motorists and can be a nuisance to other residents. Unsterilised cats that wander are often responsible for unwanted litters of kittens that are frequently destroyed or dumped. Many abandoned kittens mature into adult feral cats with significant impacts on our native fauna.

Community Rangers are able to trap and impound wandering cats. Owners should take care to ensure that their cat is confined to their property at all times.

Cat prohibited areas

Many of the reserves in the Shire of Capel have been identified as 'Cat Prohibited Areas'. Council intends to undertake intensive trapping in environmentally sensitive and conservation areas.

This approach will assist in addressing the feral cat problem and help reduce the number of domestic cats allowed to wander.

Further information about "Cat Prohibited Areas" is available from Council on request.

You can download and print the Cat Registration Form from our website:

<http://www.capel.wa.gov.au/live/animal-control/cat-registration.aspx>

Once you have completed and signed the form it can be returned to our office via mail, email or fax with payment.