

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Having a dog in your life can be a wonderful experience. You will need to spend time exercising and training your dog. To keep your pet in good health you will also need to have regular visits to the vet to keep vaccinations up to date. You will also be required to have your pet licensed by your local government.

LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The State Government has specific legislation regarding the licensing of dogs in WA. *The Dog Act 1976* is administered and enforced by local governments. The Act addresses the control and registration of dogs, the ownership and keeping of dogs, and the obligations and rights of dog owners and others.



Everyone who is a dog owner has a responsibility to ensure that their dog is well looked after. In addition, it is important that dog owners respect other people in the community. This can be achieved by keeping dogs adequately confined on their properties, on a leash in public places, preventing aggressive behaviour and controlling excessive barking.

MICROCHIPPING

Microchipping of dogs and cats is **COMPULSORY**. The barcode on the chip is linked to your contact details and recorded on the Central Database for the life of your pet. This means your animal is permanently identified Australia wide which will assist in its safe return to you if lost. Contact your local vet for assistance.

PARVO

Parvo is a highly contagious disease that is caused by a virus that thrives in dog faeces. Unvaccinated puppies are most at risk

REMOVAL OF DOG FAECES

Dog droppings are a source of annoyance to other users of footpaths and recreation areas. Please respect other people and collect your dog's droppings and adequately dispose of it. Any plastic bag may be used to pick up dog droppings. The Shire of Narrogin provides "poo bags" in some public places.

Dog droppings in the garden at home should also be removed daily to reduce fly and health related problems.

PEOPLE AND ANIMALS HAVE RIGHTS

Everyone is entitled to walk in the neighbourhood without being harassed or attacked by uncontrolled and often quite frightening dogs. Even if your dog is well behaved, it can be frightening to other people.

Although you may think your dog is unlikely to attack a person, roaming dogs often approach and sometimes attack other dogs. Responsible pet owners and their dogs are often targets of these attacks.

Dogs in public areas must be kept on a leash and under control. Never let your dog menace anyone on the street.

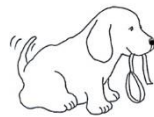
NEIGHBOURHOOD RESPONSIBILITIES

Barking dogs disturb everyone. If your dog barks at everything and everyone no one will take any notice. If there is a prowler around and your dog barks people will likely ignore this. Check with your neighbours to ensure there are no barking problems when you are not home.

You are required to ensure that your dog is confined within your property. If your dog is found to be roaming you may be fined.

EXERCISING YOUR DOG

Whenever in public, unless in a gazetted "Dog Exercise Area", dogs must be on a leash.



Specific areas have been provided by the Shire of Narrogin to exercise your dog off its leash. Whilst in these areas dogs must be supervised at all times by a person capable of controlling it and a lead should be carried. A map showing these areas is available on the Shire of Narrogin website and at the Shire office 89 Earl St.

DOG PROHIBITED AREAS

Dogs are strictly not allowed in the following areas:

- (a) Narrogin Trotting Track;
- (b) Clayton Road Oval;
- (c) a public building, unless permitted by a sign; and
- (d) all food premises;

DOG ATTACKS

A dog attack is a very serious matter. If your dog attacks a person or another animal, you will be held responsible (including for any injury or damage) even if you are not there at the time. A person who has been attacked may also take private legal action for any injury or damage.

A dog attack includes a dog aggressively rushing at or attempting to attack a person or animal, as well as tearing clothing, biting or causing physical injury.

There are penalties of up to \$10,000 for a dog attack and/or 12 months' imprisonment for inciting a dog to attack.

RESTRICTED BREEDS

The Dog Act imposes restrictions and conditions on the keeping of some dogs. These breeds include:

- Dogo Argentino (Argentinean fighting dog)
- Fila Brasileiro (Brazilian fighting dog)
- Japanese Tosa
- American Pit Bull Terrier and Pit Bull Terrier breeds
- Perro de Presa Canario or Presa Canario and any dog of a mixed breed that visibly contains any of these breeds.

Owners of restricted breed dogs are required to abide by provisions similar to those that apply to dogs declared dangerous. These measures require the display of warning signs where these dogs are kept, stringent fencing requirements, muzzling and restraint at all times in public, age restrictions for owners and handlers, disposal notification, and that these dogs wear dangerous dog collars. Dogs must be muzzled, leashed and controlled by an adult who is physically capable of handling the dog, in any environment except prescribed enclosures. Restricted breed dogs are also required to be sterilized unless there are extenuating circumstances relating to the animal's physical condition or medical treatment.

DECLARED DANGEROUS

Any breed of dog can be declared dangerous if they:

- have repeatedly or shown a tendency to attack
- cause injury or damage by an attack on a person, animal or vehicle
- attack or chase a person, animal or vehicle, even without causing injury or damage

CAT ACT 2011

The 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 of cats that are euthanised each year. Microchipping and registration will also ensure your cat is returned to you if they become lost.

All cats that have reached six months of age are required to be **Microchipped, Sterilised** and **Registered** with the relevant local government.



Your cat will be required to wear a collar and registration tag to ensure they can be easily identified and returned to you if they become lost.

NUISANCE

Wandering cats can prove to be a nuisance for neighbours, particularly non cat owners. If the Council Ranger deems your cat to be a nuisance, you may be required to confine your cat within your premises.

LOST AND FOUND DOGS AND CATS

If your dog or cat is missing please contact the Shire of Narrogin (08)9890 0900 or the Regulatory Services Officer (Ranger) on 0448 873 207, as soon as possible to check if it has been impounded. If your pet is wearing its registration tag a member of staff will attempt to notify you.



RANGER HOURS

There is a ranger on duty between the hours of 6:00 am and 6:30 pm Monday – Friday. If you need to contact the ranger outside of these hours and your call is not answered immediately, please leave a detailed message or text and they will contact you as soon as possible,

DOG/CAT REGISTRATION FEES

All dogs over the age of 3 months must be microchipped and registered. All cats over 6 months of age must be microchipped, sterilized and registered. The registration tag must be attached to the pet's collar. Pensioner concessions may apply to these fees:

	1 Year	3 Years	Lifetime
Unsterilized (dogs)	\$50.00	\$120.00	\$250.00
Sterilized Cat/Dog	\$20.00	\$42.50	\$100.00
Working dog sterilized	\$ 5.00	\$10.60	\$ 25.00
Working dog unsterilized	\$12.50	\$30.00	\$ 62.50

The Registration fee after 31 May in any year, for that registration year, is 50% of the fee payable.

REGISTRATION TAG COLOURS

Expiring	Colour
31 October 2017	Green
31 October 2018	Yellow
31 October 2019	Red
31 October 2020	Blue
Lifetime registration	Orange

ON-THE-SPOT FINES FOR OFFENCES

These on-the-spot fines are modified penalties. Serious offences must be heard in court with significantly higher penalties and costs.

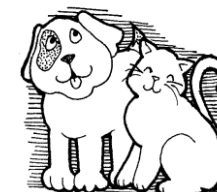
Unregistered dog/cat	\$200
Cat/Dog in a public place without collar or registration tag	\$200
Dog not held by leash in public place	\$200
Owners name and address not on collar	\$200
Dog causing a nuisance	\$200
Dog barking persistently	\$200
Failure of alleged offender to give name	\$200
Dog not microchipped	\$200
Non-control of dog in exercise and rural areas	\$200
Dog attack-not causing physical harm	\$200
Dog attack causing physical harm	\$400



Shire of
Narrogin

Love the life

How to Be a Responsible Pet Owner



Shire of Narrogin

89 Earl Street Narrogin WA 6312

Telephone: 9890 0900

[email: enquiries@narrogin.wa.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@narrogin.wa.gov.au)

At the time of preparation this information brochure was deemed to be correct. However, as laws and Council Policies are amended from time to time please ensure that you have the most up to date edition of this brochure

*All Local laws are available on the Shire of Narrogin Website
www.narrogin.wa.gov.au*

July 2017