



## Owning a cat in the Shire of Dalwallinu

### Fines and Penalties

	<u>Infringement Notice</u>	<u>Court Imposed Penalty</u>
Unregistered cat	\$200	\$5,000
Failure to wear a tag	\$200	\$5,000
Interference with a tag	\$200	\$5,000
Failure to microchip	\$200	\$5,000
Interference with microchip	\$200	\$5,000
Failure to sterilise		\$5,000
Identifying as sterilised a cat that is not		\$5,000
Transferring a cat that is not microchipped or sterilised	\$200	\$5,000
Failure to notify the local government of new owner	\$200	\$5,000
Failure to notify the local government of detail changes	\$200	\$5,000
Breeding cats when not an approved breeder	\$200	\$5,000
Cats must not be offered as a prize	\$200	\$5,000



**All cat owners have an obligation to ensure their cats do not stray and cause a nuisance.**

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# What do the new cat laws mean for you and your feline friend?



The new cat laws are about encouraging responsible pet ownership and reducing the number of unwanted cats in the community and the number that are euthanized each year.

## What does this mean for you and your feline friend?

From **1 November 2013**, all cats that have reached six months of age are required by law to be:

- Microchipped
- Sterilised
- Registered with the Shire of Dalwallinu

## My cat is very old - do I still need to have it sterilised?

Yes, the legislation applies to cats of all ages.

However, your vet can issue an exemption certificate if sterilizing your cat is likely to have a negative impact on your cat's health and welfare

## How does this affect cat breeders?

Even if you wish to only breed one litter from your cat, you are considered a cat breeder.

If you are a current cat breeder or wish to become a breeder, you must apply for a permit from the Shire. These permits are valid for 12 months. A fee is payable.

## Transfer of Ownership

The Shire of Dalwallinu **MUST** be notified of a change of ownership. Failure to do so may result in a fine.

When a cat is sold or given away, the seller must ensure the cat is microchipped and sterilised prior to transfer.

If the cat cannot be sterilised due to its health or age, the seller must issue a prepaid sterilisation voucher to the new owner.

## Keeping and Control of Cats Local Law

The Shire of Dalwallinu has Local Laws in place which control the number of cats kept on premises.

You can keep up to three cats at one premise without a permit. You will need to apply in writing to Council to keep more than three cats at your premises.



## Registering your Cat

To register your cat you need to complete an Application for Registration available from the Shire Office and website, provide proof of sterilisation and microchipping and pay the prescribed fee. You will be issued a registration tag which the cat must have attached to their collar and a registration certificate.

Registration	1 Year	3 Years	Lifetime
Full Fee	\$20.00	\$42.50	\$100.00
Pension Concession*	\$10.00	\$21.25	\$50.00

## Concessions\*

Pensioners will receive a discount on registration fees. The pension card must be presented at the time of registration

## Impounded Cats

Any stray cats will be kept for 3 days and then destroyed if the owner cannot be found.

Feral strays will be destroyed immediately.

## Responsible cat ownership checklist

- Register your cat with the Shire of Dalwallinu
- Microchip your cat.
- Sterilise your cat.
- Ensure your cat is easily identifiable by wearing a collar with name tag and current registration tag.
- Keep your cat confined to your property, particularly at night.
- Vaccinate your cat.