

ANIMAL REGISTRATIONS

In 2008 the State Government introduced the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*. Section 44 and 46 of this Act requires that animal owners register their dog within their Local Government Authority.

All dogs that are kept within the Weipa Township and are aged three months or over must be registered with the Weipa Town Authority (WTA) each year. Registrations expire each year on April 30 and must be renewed by 1 May.

Benefits of registration

It allows for quick and easy identification of your dog should it be wandering at large. This allows the WTA to return your dog to you as soon as possible.

Note: It is currently not a requirement to register your cat, however the WTA does recommend that you do.

Dog registration fees

Registration fees vary according to the status of the dog and any concessions that may apply to the owner. These fees are set each year by the WTA. The WTA offers;

- Discounts for desexed dogs.
- Free registrations for puppies up to 12 months of age.
- Pro-rata registration.
- Reciprocal registration (free transfer from other councils).
- Discount for pensioners.

What you get for your registration fees

The WTA provides an animal management service to the Weipa community. This includes, but is not limited to;

- Providing a lost and found service for compliant owners.
- Responding to calls of wandering dogs and dog attacks to ensure community safety is upheld.
- Dealing with community complaints relating to animals.
- The control of 'dangerous', 'menacing' and 'restricted breed' dogs to ensure they do not pose a risk to the community.

Limit of dogs on premises

There is a limit to the number of dogs that can be kept on a property.

- One dog in a unit.
- Two dogs in a house.

If you would like to house more than this allocated number of dogs you must apply for an additional dog permit with WTA.

How to register your animal

You must submit a completed registration form along with the allocated fee to the WTA. This can be done face to face, by visiting the Town Office. You can download a registration form online, by heading to www.weipatownauthority.com.au website page. Once you pay your new registration fees you will receive a dog tag that must be displayed on your dog's collar at all times.

When to notify WTA

You must notify the WTA as soon as possible if any of the following changes occur:

- Your personal details change i.e. address or contact number or email address.
- The dog has moved to another premises or has a new owner.
- The dog dies or is missing.
- Ownership of the dog is transferred to another person.

For any further information relating to this fact sheet, contact the WTA on 4030 9400.

