

Keeping Animals in Baw Baw Shire

Animal Registration

It is a legal requirement that all cats and dogs over three months old are registered with Council. Annual registration renewals are sent out each year, with a due date of 10 April.

To register a new pet, forms are available online or at our Customer Service Centres. Written proof of de-sexing must be provided to receive the discounted fee.

Mandatory De-sexing of Cats

All cats being registered for the first time (new registrations) must be de-sexed from the age of six months. Some animals are exempt under the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

Transferring Animals from another Council to Baw Baw Shire

Pet registrations may be transferred from another municipality, free of charge, providing the animal is microchipped and proof of current registration is available.

Registration Tags

Please ensure that your animal is wearing a registration tag at all times to assist in the identification and return of your pet. If you misplace or need a replacement animal registration tag, please call in to one of Council's Customer Service Centres.

Restricted Breed Dogs

There are additional registration requirements for restricted dog breeds including;

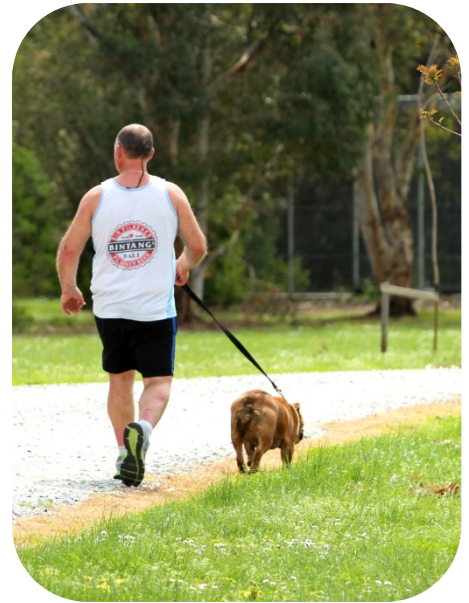
- American Pit Bull Terrier, Dogo Argentino, Fila Brasileiro, Japanese Tosa, Perro de Presa Canario and Pit Bull Terrier. These requirements will be discussed with you when you lodge a new animal registration.

Microchipping Your Pet

It is a State Government requirement that all pets are microchipped prior to a new pet registration. To get your pet microchipped, please contact your local vet.

Locating a Missing Pet

An updated list of all found pets and livestock is available on Council's website. If you report your pet as missing Council officers will contact you if a pet matching the provided description is found or located in the pound. It is important to stay in contact with Council regularly if your pet is still missing and continue to check the lost animal page on Council's website.



Responsible Pet Ownership

Animal Waste

Dog owners are required to remove any excrement deposited by their pet in a public place. Please ensure you carry waste bags when taking your pet to a public area or on a walk.

Confining Your Animals

It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that their animals are securely contained on their property. This includes cats, which must be securely confined to the owner's premises at all times. Penalties apply for dogs or cats that are found wandering at large or trespassing on private property.

Barking Dogs

People have a right to enjoy peace and quiet within their neighbourhood, and animal owners have a responsibility to ensure that their animals do not cause a nuisance. As a dog owner, it is important that you are aware if your dog is barking persistently, and take steps to rectify the problem to minimise disturbance to your neighbours.

Dog Attacks

It is an offence for any dog to attack another animal, or to rush at, chase, bite or attack a person. Offences of this type carry heavy penalties and may result in Court action.

If you or your animals are the victim of a dog attack, or if you witness an attack, you should notify Council immediately so the matter can be investigated.

Number of Animals Allowed on a Single Property

There are restrictions on the number of animals you are allowed to house on your property. For more information on these restrictions contact the Compliance Team on 5624 2411 or visit Council's website.