

microchip & register your pet for lifetime protection



Pets are much loved family members and in NSW, around 80,000 dogs and cats are lost, hurt or stolen each year. Many of these animals are impounded and of those that are taken to pounds, many are not able to be identified and therefore unable to be reunited with their owners.

The Companion Animals Act was introduced by the NSW Government in 1998 to protect pets, their owners and the broader community. Under the Act, all owners of puppies and kittens must take two steps to provide lifetime protection for their pet.

The first step involves ensuring your cat or dog is microchipped by 12 weeks of age or before being sold or given away.

The second step involves lifetime registering your cat or dog with a local council before it is six months of age. This enables you to have your cat or dog desexed before registration, in order to be eligible for the lower lifetime registration fee.

These '2 steps' will help return your pet to you if it is lost, hurt or stolen. Once microchipped and registered, your pet is protected for life.

MICROCHIP YOUR PET

Only an authorised identifier, generally a vet, or other authorised people at a local council or animal welfare organisation can microchip a cat or dog.

Shop around for the best price and service on microchipping.

All cats or dogs, once microchipped, must be listed on the NSW Companion Animals Register (the Register). Following microchipping a Permanent Identification form (P1A form) is completed and details then entered on the register. A Certificate of Identification will be issued to the owner of the animal.

Ask your vet or identifier if they will enter your details onto the Register directly. This will ensure your pet's details are recorded immediately, and avoid delays involved with sending off paperwork.

REGISTER YOUR PET

How to lifetime register your pet

Registration must be completed by the time your pet is six months of age (see over for further details).

The registration fee is a once-only payment which covers the cat or dog for its lifetime in NSW, regardless of any changes in ownership. You are encouraged to have your cat or dog desexed before registering it.

Desexing your cat or dog

Having your cat or dog desexed prior to registration helps to reduce straying, fighting, aggression and antisocial behaviour such as spraying to mark territory. It also helps to reduce the number of unwanted pets born each year.

DESEXING PAPERS ARE REQUIRED FOR A DISCOUNT
 Proof of desexing, such as a Desexing Certificate, is required before a rebate can be provided (see table below).

TO REGISTER YOU WILL NEED

- the fee (see table, right)

You can register and pay your registration online and your online profile will give you access to update your contact details, report your missing pet, claim your existing pet, or register new ownership of dogs and cats. You will need an email address and your pet microchip number (if you are not aware of your pet microchip number, this must be verified at your local vet).

HOW TO REGISTER

- visit www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au and follow the steps to register.
- if you are unable to register online you can come into Ballina Shire Council - 40 Cherry Street, Ballina or telephone 6686 1210.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I HAVE BOUGHT OR BEEN GIVEN A CAT OR DOG WITH NO PAPERWORK

- Proof of purchase or Permanent Identification Form (P1A). If these are not available a Statutory Declaration is required to show that the cat or dog was obtained legally. The declaration should describe the animal, how it was obtained and who it was obtained from, including dates.
- If from interstate a NSW vet will have to verify microchip details or formal paperwork such as pedigree papers, registered club membership that shows the microchip number, description of animal and name of owner.
- Proof of desexing or Statutory Declaration stating the animal is desexed.

REGISTRATION FEES 2019/20

Desexed animal	\$58
Non-desexed animal	\$210
Breeder (recognised) concession	\$58
Pensioner concession (desexed animal only)	\$25
Assistance dogs e.g. guide dog	Free

** fees are set by the NSW Government and increase with CPI from 1 July each year.*

CHANGE OF DETAILS

If the contact details change (i.e. change in address, phone number, owner, or if your pet dies) you must update your pet's NSW Pet Registry profile within 14 days via www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au. If you are unable to update these details, contact Ballina Shire Council on 6686 1210.

