



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - CATS

Who is responsible for a cat?

Apart from the owner of the Cat, the occupier of any premises where the cat is ordinarily kept or permitted to live, or a person who for the time being has the cat in his or her possession or control.

Does my cat have to be registered?

Yes, if you own a cat you have a legal responsibility under the Cat Act 2011 to ensure it is microchipped, sterilised (unless an approved breeder) and registered by six months of age. This applies even if the cat is contained indoors or in a cat enclosure.

Do I have to keep my cat confined to my yard or inside my house?

The Cat Act 2011 does not currently include confinement of cats however we do encourage owners keep to their cats inside or in a cat enclosure. This prevents them becoming a nuisance to other residents by entering properties, digging in gardens and causing dogs to bark.

Containment is especially important at night given a cat's instinct is to hunt and therefore helps protect other wildlife. There is a range of cat enclosures available along with products that can be installed along fences.

What do I do if a cat is been a nuisance?

If you know where the cat lives we would encourage you to speak to the owner in the first instance. If you have done this or are not comfortable doing this, you may contact Ranger Services on 0408 931 274. Rangers provide cat traps in locations where problems are reported.

If Rangers set a trap at your property you are responsible for checking the trap and reporting immediately to Rangers if a cat is caught. Rangers will pick up the cat and impound it. They will then scan the cat for a microchip to identify the owner. Rangers will speak to the cat owner regarding the nuisance once identified; no details of residents are disclosed during this process without prior permission. Rangers are bound by the Act to release the cat to the owner once it is proven to be microchipped, sterilised and registered.

There are also a wide range of products available to deter cats from coming onto your property and may work better in the long term than trapping.

What do I do if my cat is missing?

If your cat is missing please contact Ranger Services on 0408 931 274. We may already have your cat safe and secure in our Animal Management Facility. If not, we will contact you as soon as we receive any reports or find your cat. Please ensure your cat is microchipped, sterilised and registered and that your details are kept up to date.

