

Microchipping and Registration

All cats three months of age and over must be registered with Moorabool Shire Council. Existing registrations must be renewed by 10 April each year. If being registered for the first time, cats must be microchipped prior to registration.

Microchipping and registering pets greatly improves their chances of being returned to you if they become lost.

Remember when moving house, make sure you update your details with the Moorabool Shire Council as well as The National Pet Register by telephoning 1300 734 738 or visit their website www.petregister.com.au.



Domestic Animal Businesses

Domestic Animal Businesses include: pet shops, pounds and shelters, breeding and boarding establishments. These businesses must be registered with the Moorabool Shire Council, and comply with the relevant Codes of Practice. These Codes of Practice are designed to protect the rights of consumers, and to ensure the welfare of animals. Copies of Codes of Practices can be obtained by contacting the Moorabool Shire Council's Compliance Department.



Moorabool Shire Council

Cat Management

Promoting Responsible
Pet Ownership

Moorabool Shire Council
PO Box 18
Ballan, 3342

Office locations:

15 Stead Street, Ballan 3342

197 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh 3340

Phone: (03) 5366 7100
Fax: (03) 5368 1757

Email: info@moorabool.vic.gov.au
Website: www.moorabool.vic.gov.au



Moorabool Shire Council

Moorabool Shire Council

Version.1



Moorabool Shire Council Cat Control Policy

Council's Aim

- Encourage owners to ensure their cats are desexed, immunized, kept free of parasites and are fed/watered and provided with adequate shelter and prevented from roaming.
- Raise community awareness to be responsible cat owners;
- Increase Council Awareness;
- Address cat welfare issues;
- To provide a Hire Service of cat trapping cages to the public to reduce colonies of wild / feral cats around the Shire; and
- Provide residents with the opportunity to microchip their cats at a reduced fee at the Council's Annual Microchipping Day.

Council's Goals

- To protect the welfare of cats;
- Reduce the predation by cats on native wildlife;
- Reduce the incidence of public nuisance by uncontrolled cats; and
- Reduce the transfer of disease.

Desexing

Due to the number of cats not being able to be rehoused, thousands of healthy cats are euthanised each year throughout Victoria. This is because not enough homes can be found for them. Many cats are bred by accident due to owners not having their cats desexed. Cats can safely be desexed from three months of age. Desexing at a younger age can be less stressful for kittens than it would be for older cats, and they may recover more quickly.

Although Moorabool Shire Council has not introduced compulsory cat desexing, residents are strongly encouraged to have their cats desexed. Benefits of desexing cats include;

- Decrease in unplanned and unnecessary breeding;
- Decrease in the likelihood of aggressive behavior, predominantly in males; and
- Reduction in the amount of roaming cats. By Improving the cats temperament it may be less likely to yowl at night or spray strong smelling urine.



Wandering Cats

Cats need to be under the effective control of their owners at all times.

A growing stray cat population (currently there are over 500,000 stray cats in Victoria) creates a public health risk and public nuisance in terms of disease if the cats are not vaccinated and desexed.

Feeding and harbouring stray and feral cats can cause over population, with diseased and aggressive animals becoming a nuisance for neighbouring properties.

Records show that cats that are kept enclosed at night generally live four times longer than those that are left to roam.

Wandering Cats Cont..

Cats that are outside at night have a tendency to roam from their home and are at greater risk of sustaining injury through being hit by a car, from fighting with other cats and are more at risk of contracting a disease, such as Feline AIDS or Enteritis (both which are not dangerous to humans).

Keeping your cat inside at night, will also minimise the amount of hunting your cat does, as most of a cat's hunting is done at night. This hunting generally causes a reduction in numbers of various native animal species. Council recommends residents to buy or build a "cat enclosure" or to install "cat proof fencing".

If you can't keep your cat

Circumstances may arise when an owner is no longer able to keep their cat. In this case, owners must find an appropriate new home for the cat, surrender the cat to Council or have a veterinarian euthanise the cat. When a cat is surrendered to Council, it is assessed for re-housing suitability.

Moorabool Shire Council

Moorabool Shire Council
PO Box 18
Ballan, 3342

Phone: (03) 5366 7100
Fax: (03) 5368 1757

Email: info@moorabool.vic.gov.au