

Information relating to dog registration

Under the Dog Control Act 1996

For the purposes of the Dog Control Act 1996 (the Act), you are the owner of a dog if:

- (a) you own the dog; or
- (b) you have the dog in your possession (unless you have the dog for less than 72 hours to prevent the dog causing injury, damage or distress or to return a lost dog to its owner); or
- (c) you are the parent or guardian of a person under 16 years who is the owner of the dog and who is a member of your household living with and dependent on you. A person aged under 16 years cannot be the registered owner of a dog.

All dogs ordinarily kept in the Auckland region must be registered with Auckland Council before they reach three months of age.

It is an offence to keep a dog older than three months that is unregistered; the dog may be seized and impounded. On conviction, a court may impose a fine of up to \$3,000 or the council may issue an infringement notice with a fee (fine) of \$300.

It is an offence, when applying for the registration of a dog, to make any written statement knowing that statement to be false. On conviction, a court may impose a fine of up to \$3,000 or the council may issue an infringement notice with a fee (fine) of \$750.

Microchipping your dog: section 36A, Dog Control Act 1996

Dog registration and dog microchipping are separate processes. Microchipping your dog identifies it but does not register it. If your dog is microchipped, please make sure you or your vet send us your dog's 15 digit microchip number.

Dogs which must be microchipped are:

- dogs registered in New Zealand for the first time on or after 1 July 2006 - unless the dog is kept solely or principally to herd or drive stock
- dogs classified as 'menacing' or 'dangerous' after 1 December 2003
- unregistered dogs impounded after 1 July 2006 and registered dogs impounded twice after 1 July 2006.

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1. Dogs that are less than three months of age or are imported into New Zealand on or after 02 August and registered for the first time, pay the prorated fee based on the number of complete months remaining in the current registration year.
 2. To qualify for 'Responsible Dog Owner Licence (RDOL) & desexed dog' fees, you must hold a current RDOL prior to making your application and send council a valid veterinary certificate as proof your dog has been de-sexed prior to or with your application. You only need to send the certificate once.
 3. To qualify for 'Responsible Dog Owner Licence (RDOL)' fees, you must hold a current RDOL prior to making your application.
 4. To qualify for 'Desexed dog' fees, you must send council a valid veterinary certificate as proof your dog has been de-sexed prior to or with your application. You only need to send the certificate once.
 5. To qualify for 'SuperGold Community Services (CSC) combo card' fees, you must have a valid SuperGold/CSC combo card. The first time you apply for SuperGold Community Services (CSC) combo card fees, please bring your SuperGold/CSC combo card, payment and 'Application to re-register a dog(s)' to one of our service centres. For more details about SuperGold/CSC combo card, please visit www.supergold.govt.nz or phone 0800 25 45 65.
 6. To qualify for 'Special category dog' fees, the dog(s) must be used as a Disability Assist dog as defined in section 2 of the Dog Control Act 1996 or for or by Police, or Department of State, Aviation Security Service, Civil Defence, or any other relevant agency as defined in section 2 of the Dog Control Act 1996 under the term Working Dog. Special category dog fees do not apply to dog(s) kept solely or principally to herd or drive stock or by security guards.
 7. To qualify for 'Working dog' fees, the owner must sign a declaration that the dog is kept solely or principally to herd or drive stock and if requested demonstrate the dog's ability to herd or drive stock to council's satisfaction.

8. Replacement tags may be obtained from Auckland Council if the current tag has been lost or stolen. Any dog not wearing a collar having a current registration strap or disc attached will, until the contrary is proved, be treated as unregistered.
9. On change of ownership of any registered dog, both the previous owner and the new owner must, within 14 days, give written notice to Auckland Council and any other relevant council of the change of ownership and the residential address of the new owner and the address where the dog will be kept. It is an offence not to comply with this requirement. On conviction, a court may impose a fine of up to \$500 or the council may issue an infringement notice with a fine (fee) of \$100.
10. If the owner's address is changed within the district, the owner must, within 14 days, give written notice of the change to Auckland Council. It is an offence not to comply with this requirement. On conviction, a court may impose a fine of up to \$500 or the council may issue an infringement notice with a fine (fee) of \$100.
11. If any dog is transferred to and kept in the district of another territorial authority, other than the one in which it has been kept for one month or more the owner must, within six weeks of the transfer, give written notice of the transfer to both territorial authorities, setting out the address where the dog will be kept. It is an offence not to comply with this requirement. On conviction, a court may impose a fine of up to \$500 or the council may issue an infringement notice with a fine (fee) of \$100.
12. If the fee for the registration of a dog is paid and that dog dies, a refund will be made on request, as follows:
 - where the dog dies before the commencement of the current registration year, the full fee will be refunded
 - where the dog dies during the year, one-twelfth of the annual fee for each complete month remaining in the current registration year after the date of request for a refund has been received by the council will be refunded.
13. The registration fees include goods and services tax.
14. If any dog over the age of three months is found not wearing a collar with a current registration strap or disc attached, on land or premises other than its owner's land or premises, or in any public place, the dog may be seized and impounded.

15. Control of dogs, Sections 52, 53 and 54A, Dog Control Act 1996

The owner of a dog must keep the dog under control at all times and, when in a public place with the dog, must use or carry a leash at all times.

A dog will be treated as not being under control if:

- it is found at large on any land or premises other than a public place or a private way without the consent (express or implied) of the occupier or person in charge of the land or the premises; or
- it is found at large in any public place or in any private way in contravention of any regulations or bylaw.

You will commit an offence and be liable on conviction to a fine of up to \$ 3,000 if you fail to comply with this provision, or you may be issued an infringement notice with a fee (fine) of up to \$300. In addition, a dog control officer or dog ranger may seize and impound the dog

16. Obligations of dog owner generally, Section 54, Dog Control Act 1996

The owner of a dog must:

- ensure that the dog receives proper care and attention and is supplied with proper and sufficient food, water and shelter
- ensure that the dog receives adequate exercise.

You will commit an offence and be liable on conviction to imprisonment for up to three months or to a fine of up to \$5,000 if you fail to comply with this provision, or you may be issued an infringement notice with a fee (fine) of \$300.

17. Obligations of dog owner on owner's property, Section 52A, Dog Control Act

When a dog is on land or premises occupied by the owner, the owner of the dog must ensure that:

- the dog is under the direct control of a person; or
- the dog is confined within the land or premises in such a way that it cannot freely leave the land or premises.

You will commit an offence and be liable on conviction to a fine of up to \$3,000 if you fail to comply with this provision, or you may be issued an infringement notice with a fee (fine) of \$200. In addition, a dog control officer or dog ranger may seize and impound the dog.