

## Cat law

The *Cat Act 2011* is about responsible pet ownership; reducing the number of unwanted cats in the community and reducing the number that are euthanised each year.

Sterilisation and vaccination will help ensure your cat is healthy, while microchipping and registration will ensure your cat is returned to you if it becomes lost.

The Cat Act gives local governments the power to administer and enforce the legislation.

## Responsible cat ownership checklist

- Register your cat with your local council
- Microchip your cat
- Sterilise your cat
- Vaccinate your cat
- Ensure your cat is easily identifiable with a collar, name tag and current registration tag
- Keep your cat safe by confining to your property, particularly at night
- Ensure your cat has a cosy sleeping area with food, water, and a litter tray.

For further information contact your local council



Town of Cambridge:  
9347 6000



Town of Claremont:  
9285 4300



Town of Cottesloe:  
9285 5000



Town of Mosman Park:  
9384 1633



City of Nedlands:  
9273 3500



Shire of Peppermint Grove:  
9286 8600



City of Subiaco:  
9237 9222



A Western Suburbs  
Regional Organisation  
of Councils (WESROC)  
initiative supported by  
Cat Haven (9442 3600)

# Responsible Cat Ownership





## What age should a cat be sterilised?

Under the Cat Act, all cats must be sterilised/desexed before they reach six months. For maximum health and social benefits, all kittens should be sterilised before they reach sexual maturity around three months.

Kittens can be sterilised from eight weeks of age. We encourage cat owners to arrange this as early as possible.

Unsterilised females face increased risk of life-threatening uterine infections as well as uterine, ovarian and mammary cancer.

Unsterilised males can become aggressive towards their owners and towards other males as they search for females. Frequent fights can cause your cat infectious diseases and abscesses, which will ultimately result in higher vet bills and a shorter lifespan.

## Benefits of cat sterilisation include

- Less chance of your pet developing certain types of cancers and infections
- Lifespan of a sterilised cat is 15 years compared to only three years unsterilised
- A less temperamental and easier to manage pet
- Reduced risk of loss or injury from cats escaping to mate
- Reduced registration and vet fees; and
- No unwanted litters

## Registration

Registration is the key mechanism to ensure compliance with the legislation through the requirements for cat owners to provide evidence to a local government that the cat is microchipped and sterilised.

## Registration Fees

Registration	1 Year	3 Year	Lifetime
Full Fee	\$20	\$42.50	\$100
Pension/ Concession	\$10	\$21.25	\$50



Photo Credit: Alma Sarhan



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## Adopt a homeless cat or kitten

Cat Haven has hundreds of cats and kittens looking for a loving, long term home. They have cats or kittens to suit all households and lifestyles, from an older, sedate lap cat to a fun, playful kitten.

If you are looking for a gorgeous cat to turn into your family friend, head to **Cat Haven**, 23 Lemnos Street, Shenton Park or call 9442 3600 .

Cat Haven offers concession card holders a discount on sterilising and microchipping your cat.

## Feral Animals in the Western Suburbs

Domestic cat predation on native wildlife is widely debated especially without evidence. WESROC received a feral animal monitoring and control report in May 2016 that focused on rabbits and foxes.

The report revealed cats to be a significant problem affecting bushland habitats in the western suburbs. 38 motion sensor cameras captured cats on 73 occasions, rabbits on 35 and foxes on only five.