



Pets of Port Phillip

The City of Port Phillip values pets in our community and considers animals as part of the family. We encourage responsible pet ownership through registration, microchipping and desexing of your pets. Here's what you need to know about your responsibilities as a pet owner.

Registration and microchipping

Dogs and cats must be registered with your local council, and you must renew your registration by 10 April each year. This is a legal requirement under the Domestic Animals Act 1994.

It is important to note that pet registration is not the same as microchip registration. It is the responsibility of the pet owner to apply to register each new pet with Council.

To register your pets please visit portphillip.vic.gov.au/animal_registration.htm. You will need your pet's microchip number to register.

Council offers a significant reduction in annual registration fees for desexed pets and for Victorian Concession card holders.

All dogs and cats must be microchipped before they are registered. A microchip is a device around the size of a grain of rice that is injected under the animal's skin between the shoulder blades. A microchip scanner is used to check if an animal is microchipped. This will detect the microchip which is generally a 15-digit number.

If an authorised officer requests to scan your pet's microchip, you must allow them to do so.



Note sure if your pet is registered?

 **ASSIST 9209 6777**

Registration tags



Once your pet is registered you will receive a registration tag that your pet must wear when it is outside your property.

If your registration tag is missing or damaged, you can request a free replacement tag at any time.

Dog litter



As a dog owner, you need to clean up after your dog. Dogs produce tonnes of dog poo each day across Victoria which can pollute our footpaths and waterways.

You also risk being fined if you don't pick up after your pooch. Also, make sure you take a dog litter bag with you whenever you take your dog out. Not only will you be prepared, but you will also help improve the public perception of dog owners in our City.

Off-leash areas

City of Port Phillip provides designated off-leash areas for dog owners to exercise and socialise their dogs.

Outside of these areas, dogs must be on their leashes in all other public places, including parks, walkways and beaches.

Your dog must be under effective control and dog owners must carry a leash at all times, even in off-leash areas.

Effective control means:

- the dog will return to you on command
- the dog does not bother, attack, worry or interfere with other people or animals
- the owner retains a clear and unobstructed view of the dog.

Dogs can be exercised on most beaches across Port Phillip for the majority of the year. Summer restrictions are from 1 November to 31 March each year.



During these times, dogs may be prohibited on some beaches. Always check the signs before entering a beach. You may receive a fine for entering prohibited areas with your dog, or for walking your dog off-leash when in an area that isn't designated off-leash.



Greyhounds

Under the Domestic Animals Act 1994, greyhounds must be leashed at all times in public, including designated off-leash areas. Greyhounds are no longer legally required to wear a muzzle in public.

Cat trespass

The City of Port Phillip understands cats are adventurous animals that can roam far distances from their property.

Roaming cats in our neighbourhood are a huge concern to the community. Cats can prey on wildlife, get hit by cars or be attacked by other animals.

If your cat is found wandering off your property and is not identified it can be seized and impounded. You may have to pay a release fee to reclaim your cat.

While there is no cat curfew in Port Phillip areas, legally your cat cannot wander onto other people's property without their permission.



Dealing with barking dogs

If you're having an issue with a neighbour's barking dog, it is worth considering that the owner may not know that their dog is barking.

The first step is to reach out to the dog owner to let them know.

Pick up a copy of the Barking Dog Management Kit at any of Council's town halls.

You can also download at portphillip.vic.gov.au/barking_dogs.htm



**Do you have any questions regarding pets in Port Phillip?
Contact Council's Animal Management Unit**

☎ ASSIST 9209 6777

🌐 portphillip.vic.gov.au