



Keeping your dog safely contained

As a dog owner, it's your responsibility to ensure that your dog is safely contained on your property.

Ensure your dog doesn't wander

All dog owners have a duty to provide an enclosure or suitable fencing to prevent their dog from wandering. A roaming dog is in danger of becoming lost, injured or killed in a road accident and can annoy neighbours by damaging gardens, destroying private property or fouling footpaths and lawns. At worst you may be held legally and/or financially liable if they threaten or attack people, other pets and wildlife, get attacked themselves or pose a traffic hazard.

Dogs are not permitted to roam in a public place, except for designated dog off leash exercise areas. If you bring your dog into a public place it must be on a suitable leash and under effective control so that it cannot cause nuisance or attack a person or another animal.

If your dog is found wandering in a public place or trespassing on private property, it may be impounded and you may also be issued with an on-the-spot fine.

TOUGH PENALTIES APPLY FOR WANDERING ANIMALS

Lost your dog?

If your dog goes missing, it is important to act quickly and contact:

- the City Pound on 07 5581 7600
- local vets, RSPCA, Animal Welfare League of Queensland
- your neighbours.

The City of Gold Coast (City) lost and found service helps minimise the risk to our pets and any adverse impact on the community and the environment, by keeping lost animals off the streets.

If a dog is registered with the City and wearing its registration tag, we can contact the owner. If the owner is unable to be contacted, the dog will be taken to the nearest pound.

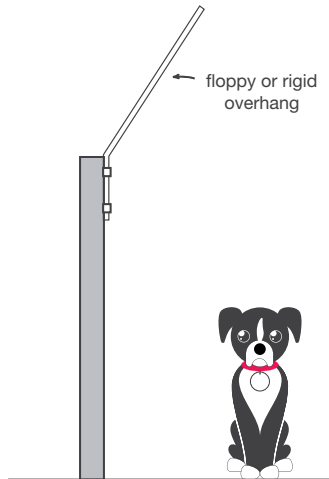
Registered, microchipped and identified dogs will be held for a period of five working days. Unregistered dogs are held for a period of three working days.

If the dog's owner has not been located at the end of these periods, the animal may be re-homed by the Animal Welfare League of Queensland.

Do you have a 'Houdini' hound?

Some dogs, to the frustration of their owners and neighbours, are great escape artists; tunnelling, climbing or jumping their way to mischief. You can make improvements to your fence using the following methods:

- Constructing a lean-to section inclined inwards on top of the fence generally deters jumpers and climbers (be sure to check building compliance first).
- Install a concrete seam under the fence in combination with tension wire a few centimetres above the ground. This is very effective in dealing with those dogs that prefer to excavate and tunnel. Alternatively, bury chicken wire horizontally at the base of the fence or construct a rock bed along the fence.
- Electronic containment systems are not a suitable barrier, i.e. electric fencing above or below the ground, electronic systems that operate by a radio or GPS signal, a device attached to an animal's collar giving an electric shock when near the boundary of the enclosure.



Suitable Fence

All dog owners must provide a proper enclosure to keep their pet safely contained.

Suitably fenced means:

- Constructed of strong materials to prevent the animal from escaping over, under or through the fence; and
- A height to prevent the animal jumping or climbing over the fence; and
- If the animal can dig - a barrier installed directly below the fence to prevent the animal from digging its way out; and
- If the animal can climb - design and construct to prevent the animal climbing.
- All gates are kept closed and latched except for immediate use entering or leaving the property.
- Authorised person requires fence to be designed or constructed to prevent the animal reaching over or through the fence to adjoining land or any public place.

Do you have a 'Fence-Rusher'?

Many people keep dogs for companionship and protection. However, some dogs can become overly protective of their property, leading to aggressive barking and fence-rushing whenever someone approaches or goes past the property.

Such behaviour can be frightening to people, especially children, the elderly and the infirm. Such behaviour can be frightening to people, especially children and elderly. It is an offence for a dog to rush at or approach a person in a manner as to cause or give cause for fear or alarm.

It is important to regularly check your fencing or other measures to prevent your dog wandering or fence rushing.

Some ways to solve fence-rushing:

- Keep the dog contained to the back yard only.
- Erect an inner fence in the front yard to prevent the dog gaining access to the front fence.
- A privacy fence may help as it removes the dog's chance of seeing beyond the fence. Exercise, exercise, and more exercise! Often, dogs develop fence aggression because they're bored. They need stimulation, so they entertain themselves by barking at everything that passes.
- Give the dog the chance to meet passers-by.
- Seek advice from your local dog obedience club, veterinarian or professional dog trainer.



YOUR FENCING IS A PHYSICAL BARRIER AND DOES NOT INCLUDE ELECTRONIC ANIMAL CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS.

For more information

P 07 5667 5990

W cityofgoldcoast.com.au/animals