



# RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP

## Lost and found animals

### Animal Holding Pens

Found animals can be housed in one of our holding pens at Merrimac or Stapylton. These pens are not suitable for surrendered, sick or injured animals.

To provide details about the found animal in the holding pen, please contact Animal Management on 07 5667 5990 during business hours.

It is an offence to keep a found animal.

### Have you lost an animal?

Search the City's lost and found animals register [cityofgoldcoast.com.au/lostandfoundanimals](http://cityofgoldcoast.com.au/lostandfoundanimals)

Contact the City Pound on 07 5581 7600.

Contact the RSPCA or the Animal Welfare League of Queensland, local vets or other nearby councils.



### City Pounds

#### Coomababah City Pound

Shelter Road, Coombabah ..... 07 5581 7600  
 Monday to Saturday ..... 8am – 4:30pm  
 Sunday and public holidays ..... Closed



#### Stapylton Pound

Rossmans Road, Stapylton ..... 07 3807 0580  
 Monday to Friday ..... 8am – 12:30pm  
 Weekends and public holidays ..... Closed



## Responsible dog ownership

Owning a dog can be very rewarding. As a responsible pet owner, you have an obligation to care for the health and wellbeing of your pet, as well as a duty to ensure their activities don't interfere with your neighbours or the environment.

### Identify your dog

Increase the chance of being reunited with your dog by ensuring it's registered, microchipped and identified by a name tag with your phone number. It's that simple!

### Microchipping

As a dog owner, you must ensure your dog is microchipped before it is 12 weeks of age. Microchipping is another form of identification separate to registration. Both microchipping and registration are mandatory under state legislation.

You must provide the city with these details to avoid any on-the-spot fines. Remember to let City of Gold Coast and the microchip registry know if your contact details have changed.

## Replacement tags

Dogs must wear a lifetime registration tag at all times when outside their place of residence.

If you lose your registration tag or it is damaged, please let us know. We will supply a new tag free of charge. You can order a replacement tag online, in person or by post.

## Update your dog's details

Let us know about the following changes:

- contact details - your address, postal address and phone number
- the address where the dog is kept
- microchip number
- registration cancellation because:
  - your dog has passed away
  - you no longer own the dog
  - you have moved away from the Gold Coast
  - you have surrendered the dog to a dog rescue organisation.

## Senior or veteran fee relief for registration

Owners of desexed dogs may apply for fee relief for dog registrations if the owner is 60 years of age or over, or a veteran (conditions apply).

For more details of all concessions, fee discounts or to complete a form online, visit [cityofgoldcoast.com.au/dogregistration](http://cityofgoldcoast.com.au/dogregistration)

## Switch to online

Make the switch to email delivery for a more secure and environmentally friendly way to receive your registration renewal notices.

Visit [cityofgoldcoast.com.au/dogdetails](http://cityofgoldcoast.com.au/dogdetails)



## Requirements and responsibilities

### Walk your dog on a leash

Dog attacks often occur when dogs are not on a leash or under effective control.

For public safety, a dog in a public place must be kept on a leash at all times and it is the dog owner's responsibility to carry a supply of dog waste bags and pick up after their dog when exercising.

### Know where you can take your dog

The City's off leash areas are for everyone to enjoy, where dogs of all breeds, sizes and ages can play in a safe environment under the supervision of their owners.

Please follow the rules in these areas to keep everyone safe. It's important to check designated signs once you arrive at an off leash area to make sure you are within the boundaries.

Use our interactive map to find an animal control area across the city, including off leash exercise areas, restricted areas and prohibited areas for dogs. Visit [cityofgoldcoast.com.au/dogparks](http://cityofgoldcoast.com.au/dogparks)

## Socialise your dog

It's important to exercise and socialise your dog regularly. Providing your dog with positive experiences will help it develop confidence and learn how to behave around people and other dogs.

## Manage barking dogs

As a dog owner, you are responsible for managing your dog's barking. Barking is a natural behaviour and is one of the ways they communicate. However, if the barking becomes excessive, occurs for extended periods of time, whether too frequently or at inappropriate times of the day or night, it can cause distress to neighbours and be determined as a noise nuisance.

## Excess permits

Keeping an appropriate number of animals provides a safe and happy environment for both your pets and your neighbours. As a dog owner, you are required to keep no more than two (2) dogs on your property. You must apply for a permit if you intend to keep additional animals.

## Contain your dog safely on your property

All dog owners have a duty to provide proper fencing and enclosures (excluding electronic containment systems) to prevent their dogs from wandering.

Some dogs can become overly protective of their property and display aggressive behaviour at the fence. Such behaviour can be frightening to people, especially children and elderly. It is important to regularly check your fencing or other measures to prevent your dog escaping or fence rushing.

**TOUGH PENALTIES APPLY FOR DOGS FOUND WANDERING OFF THEIR PROPERTY AND NOT UNDER EFFECTIVE CONTROL.**

## Dog safety for children

Safety tips to be pet smart:

- always supervise children around dogs
- recognise the warning signs
- be calm, respectful and gentle around dogs.

## Koalas and dogs

To help keep koalas safe, all dog owners must prevent their dog from contacting and causing harm to a koala.

If you live in a designated koala area, there are specific requirements to provide a koala-friendly backyard.

To find out if your property is in a koala area, visit [cityofgoldcoast.com.au/helpsavekoalas](http://cityofgoldcoast.com.au/helpsavekoalas)

## Proactive Programs

We run a number of proactive community education programs to build an understanding of:

- how to safely interact with pets
- how to reduce and manage problem behaviours
- the importance of responsible pet ownership.

Visit [cityofgoldcoast.com.au/peteducation](http://cityofgoldcoast.com.au/peteducation) to learn more about your pets and the programs on offer.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

**P** 07 5667 5990

**W** [cityofgoldcoast.com.au/animals](http://cityofgoldcoast.com.au/animals)

CITY OF  
**GOLDCOAST.**