

LOST OR STRAY DOGS



Ranger Services

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All dogs must be registered with Council from the age of three months.

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU LOSE YOUR DOG

- ◆ Don't just wait for it to come back. It may be at the pound, it may be injured, or it may be in someone else's property.
- ◆ Check around your neighbourhood. Go to places that the dog regularly visits, such as the park. Check the local shops and schools.
- ◆ Contact the Shire of Capel as soon as possible to see if the dog has been impounded.
- ◆ Check with the local veterinarians. The dog may have been injured and taken to one.
- ◆ Sunrise is a good time to look for your dog, as this is when it is more likely to be on the move.
- ◆ Dogs can and do wander a long way. Notify neighbouring Councils and veterinarians. If you have recently moved house it is possible that your dog may try to return to your old house.
- ◆ Keep looking for several weeks. Sometimes people find a dogs and don't to report it to Council straight away, as they are worried it may be destroyed.

IF YOUR DOG IS IMPOUNDED

Council is required to keep and maintain the dog for seventy-two hours before it is disposed of.

If your dog is impounded, you must collect it and pay poundage fees. If the dog is unregistered you must register it before it is released from the pound.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND A STRAY DOG

Notify the Shire of Capel. If the owner of the dog is looking for it he should have informed Ranger Services. Rangers may take the dog to the Pound.

IDENTIFICATION

Many lost dogs never find their home simply because they have no identification.

Your dog must have a current registration tag and must also have the name and address of the owner on its collar. On the spot fines of \$100 and \$50, respectively, apply.

Also, in the event of your dog being injured and taken to a veterinarian, the vet can make contact with you immediately if the dog is wearing the appropriate identification tags.

Some veterinarians may not treat an injured dog if they do not know who the owner is.

MICROCHIPS

Microchips are implanted under the dog's skin, between the shoulder blades. Microchips are a permanent means of identifying your dog.

However it must be remembered that Microchips are not a legally recognized method under the Dog Act and very few local governments own scanners.

Even if you do have your dog Microchipped you will still need to register the dog with your local Council