



pawprint 2011

non registered dogs are expensive dogs!

One of the most common infringement fees we issue is to owners who haven't registered their dogs. The fine for an unregistered dog is \$300, plus the registration fee of \$156. This means that by not registering your dog, you could end up paying \$456! Make sure you pay your dog registration by 31 July to avoid penalties.

Ruby – 1st place winner in the dog photo competition



replacement tags

Has your beloved pet lost or chewed off its registration tag? Never fear, a replacement is here! Call into any Council office to buy a replacement tag for \$2.

moving house?

Are you moving soon? Don't forget to let us know your new address within 14 days of moving so that we can update our database.

This is also important if you've sold or bought a dog. You must let us know the address of the new owner and the address where the dog is kept. If you don't do this you could be facing a \$100 fine.



Louie – 2nd place winner in the dog photo competition

dog facts

- Raw bones strengthen and clean your dog's teeth (even if they don't make its breath smell fresh!).
- Puppies sleep 90% of the day for their first few weeks.
- All dogs are identical in anatomy – 321 bones and 42 permanent teeth.
- Greyhounds are the fastest dogs on earth, with speeds of up to 72km per hour.
- There are over 700 breeds of purebred dogs.
- The largest breed of dog is the Irish Wolfhound, the smallest is the Chihuahua, the heaviest is the St Bernard.
- Dalmatian puppies are born completely white.
- Many common household and garden plants can be poisonous to dogs, including lantana, rhubarb leaves, azalea, daffodil bulbs and hydrangea.

why should I register my dog?

It's important to register your dog and put its tag on so it can be identified if it gets lost, injured, killed or impounded. A dog that is registered but is not wearing its registration tag will be treated as unregistered until proven otherwise.

But what if my dog slips its collar?

This is where having your dog microchipped is useful. All dogs registered for the first time must be microchipped. Microchipping is a simple, lifelong way of identifying dogs and linking them to their owner.

Is there a fine for not registering my dog?

Yes there is. If you choose not to register your dog

you may find yourself with an infringement fine of \$300.

When should I register my dog?

All puppies need to be registered from three months old – NOT six months old as many people believe.

If you have any questions call Customer Services on 0800 746 467.



Highly commended dog photo competition entry

animal control anytime day or night

Council has two Animal Control Officers, Steve Carney and Lisa Dellow, it's their job to make sure people control their animals, are meeting laws and regulations, and don't create problems for others.

Animal Control Officers are available to help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. So if your dog goes missing all you need to do is ring Council on 0800 746 467 and leave your details with us, along with a description of your dog, where it was last seen, your address and who to contact if we find it.

Informing Council as soon as your dog goes missing is the best way to help us reunite you with your dog. If a wandering dog is found wearing its tag or it has been microchipped, the Animal Control Officer will

know who to contact first, without having to impound the dog.

Both Animal Control Officers are always out and about in the community – so if you ever need them, they won't be far away.

If you've got any animal control queries, call Customer Services on 0800 746 467 and they'll get Steve or Lisa on the job.



Zinny – 3rd place winner in the dog photo competition



What do you get if you cross a farm dog with a rose?

A collie-flower

Highly commended dog photo competition entry



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dog exercise areas

Did you know there are areas in the Matamata-Piako District where your dog can exercise without a leash? And that there are also areas where your dog is not allowed?

Areas you can exercise your dog without a leash:

Matamata

- Furness Reserve
- Centennial Drive – from Tainui Street to Broadway
- Tom Grant Drive – from Rawhiti Ave to Tawari Street.

Morrinsville

- Murray Oaks Reserve – State Highway 26
- Morrinsville Recreation Ground Polo Field area (only when there is no horse activity).

Te Aroha

- The area adjacent to the Waihou River (known as the Te Aroha boat ramp).

Areas where you can exercise your dog on a leash:

- The urban area, not including areas mentioned in the out of bounds section below
- Out of bounds areas after 6pm
- The Te Aroha Domain track network
- Te Miro Forest and Water Catchment Reserve (off waterworks Rd, Morrinsville Ward)

- The Matamata, Maukoro, Piako and Te Aroha Cemeteries
- Matamata Aerodrome

Areas that are out of bounds for your dog:

There are some areas of the district where you can't take your dog.

These include:

- Within 15m of any children's playground or play equipment
- The central business districts of Morrinsville, Te Aroha and Matamata between 8am and 6pm
- Firth Tower Museum and Reserve (Matamata)
- Herries Memorial Park (Te Aroha)
- Hawes Bush (off Walker and Mills Streets, Waharoa)



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registration fees

Dog registration fees reflect our policy of funding 80% of the cost of dog control through user charges ('user pays') and 20% through rates.

Rebates and bonuses are used to reward responsible dog owners.

Rebates and bonuses for this year are:

No complaints bonus – \$36 rebate: every owner will automatically be eligible for this bonus unless we have received a genuine complaint about a dog you own, a dog you own has been impounded during the previous registration year, or you do not pay your registration fees on time.

Desexed/working/New Zealand Kennel Club registered breeding dogs – total \$31 rebate: this is aimed at reducing the number of unwanted dogs and reducing costs for owners of dogs that cause the least amount of problems.

Only one of the desexed/working/breeding dog rebates can be claimed. To claim this rebate you must provide a copy of a vet certificate for the desexed dog rebate, complete a Working Dog Declaration form for a working dog rebate, or provide New Zealand Kennel Club registration papers for the breeding dog rebate.

Responsible Owner's Licence – \$15 rebate: if you already have a Responsible Owner's Licence you will automatically be eligible for this rebate unless we have received a genuine complaint about a dog you own, a dog you own has been impounded during the previous registration

year, or you do not pay your registration fee before 31 July.

If you don't have a Responsible Owner's Licence you can get one by dropping into any Council office and signing the terms and conditions form, completing a short test and have your property inspected by one of our Animal Control Officers.



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dog registration fees

Category	Rebate	Fee
Full registration		\$104
No complaints bonus	\$36	\$68
No complaints bonus and Responsible Owner's Licence	\$51	\$53
No complaints bonus and desexed/working/breeding dog	\$67	\$37
No complaints bonus, Responsible Owner's Licence and desexed/working/breeding dog	\$82	\$22
Desexed/working/breeding dog with complaints	\$31	\$73

An additional 50% penalty will apply if not paid by 31 July 2011

simple tricks to teach your dog

The key to teaching your dog tricks is a lot of repetition and rewards. Rewards don't have to be treats – pats and praise are just as effective. Only practice tricks for a few minutes at a time so your dog doesn't get bored or frustrated. Here are a few simple tricks you can teach your dog:

Shake hands: This is an easy trick to teach. Tell your dog to sit, then simply reach out your hand and pick up your dog's paw while saying "shake". After a while all you'll have to do is hold out your hand and say "shake", and your dog will put its paw in your hand.

Roll over: Tell your dog to lie down. Kneel beside it, and gently grasp both the front and back leg, then roll it over while saying "roll over". Now let go of its legs and let it get up and give it lots of pats and praise. Some dogs don't like rolling over because

they don't like exposing their bellies, so if your dog isn't happy about this, don't force it.

Spin: Stand in front of your dog and show it a treat. Use the treat to lead the dog in a circle while saying "spin". After the dog has completed the spin, give it the treat. After a couple of training sessions, try it without a treat, just using your finger and positive praise. After a while all you will need is the command "spin".



Highly commended dog photo competition entry

most popular dog names in our district

Name	No. of dogs
Max	68
Sam	59
Bella	56
Molly	55
Jess	52
Jack	51
Jake	48
Meg	37
Tess	33
Poppy	31
Missy	31
Toby	30

how to house train your puppy

Dogs are creatures of habit, so it's best to start house training your puppy as early as possible so it doesn't develop bad habits. Here are some helpful tips to help house train your new pup:

1. When you get your puppy home, start house training it immediately. Give it a drink of water then take it outside to relieve itself.
2. Set up a schedule for your dog and stick to it. Feeding your dog the same amount of food at the same times of day will make house training easier for both of you. Always take your dog outside within 15-20 minutes of meals.
3. Give your puppy its own space. Set up a space that the puppy can't escape from – like a pen, a crate or a kennel; then put the puppy in this space when you go out. Most dogs will not go to the toilet in their own space, so when you come home make sure you immediately take him/her outside so they don't have an 'accident' in the house.
4. Whenever your puppy goes to the toilet outside, praise it excitedly then let it back inside.

5. Have a designated area for your puppy "to go". Taking it back to the same spot, and reinforcing good behaviour will help it learn where the "right place" to go is.

6. If the puppy goes to the toilet in the house, try catching and growling it while it's "in the act", rather than afterwards. Punishing your dog after the bad behaviour has occurred can confuse it.

7. Clean up any accidents quickly and thoroughly. Hard floors should be wiped clean and sprayed with disinfectant, and carpets will need to be cleaned with a carpet cleaner. This is important because dogs have a strong sense of smell; if they can still smell the urine they will continue to urinate in the same spot. Note that you shouldn't use ammonia based cleaners, as these smell like urine to your dog!

Remember that dogs will have a greater need to go when they are active, after they eat, and when they wake up. Puppies have less control over when they need to go and will have to be taken out more often – taking a puppy out to go every hour is not uncommon. If you stick to a routine and reinforce good behaviour, your puppy should be house trained within two to three weeks.

treats - the good and the bad

Whether it's for training or just a special treat, healthy snacks are a great way to connect with your dog.

Good treats – There are lots of dog treats available on the market but some are better than others. To get the best treats for your dog, ask your vet what they would recommend – most vets even sell treats on site.

Bad treats – Here are some items to avoid:

- chocolate – this can be dangerous for dogs

- dairy products – many dogs are lactose intolerant
- human biscuits – high in fat and low in nutrients, our biscuits and snacks are not good for dogs
- fresh meat – uncooked meat has the same risks for dogs as it does for people
- cooked bones – cooked bones are bad as they can break into shards that could do internal damage.



the dog's dictionary

Leash: A strap that attaches to your collar, enabling you to lead your owner where you want him or her to go.

Dog bed: Any soft, clean surface, such as a white bedspread, newly upholstered couch or the clean washing.

Drool: What you do when your owners have food and you don't. To do this properly, sit as close as you can, look sad and let the drool fall to the floor, or better yet, on their laps.

Sniff: A social custom to use when you greet other dogs or those people that sometimes smell like dogs.

Rubbish bin: A container your neighbours put out weekly to test your ingenuity. Stand on your hind legs and push the lid off with your nose. If you do it right, you are rewarded with food wrappers to shred, beef bones to consume, and delicious mouldy tit-bits.

Bicycles: Two-wheeled exercise machines, invented for dogs to control body fat. To get maximum aerobic benefit, you must hide behind a bush and dash out, bark loudly and

run alongside for a few yards. The rider swerves and falls into the bushes, and you prance away.

Thunder: A signal the world is coming to an end. Humans remain amazingly calm during thunderstorms, so it is necessary to warn them of the danger by trembling, panting, rolling your eyes wildly and following at their heels.

Sofas: Are to dogs like napkins are to people. After eating it is polite to run up and down the front of the sofa and wipe your whiskers clean. If there are people sitting on the couch just include them as a handy wipe.

Bath: A process owners use to clean you, drench the floor, walls and themselves. You can help by shaking vigorously and frequently.

Lean: Every good dog's response to the command "sit," especially if your owner is dressed for an evening out. Incredibly effective before black-tie events.

Love: A feeling of intense affection, given freely and without restriction, shared by you and your owner. Show it by wagging your tail.