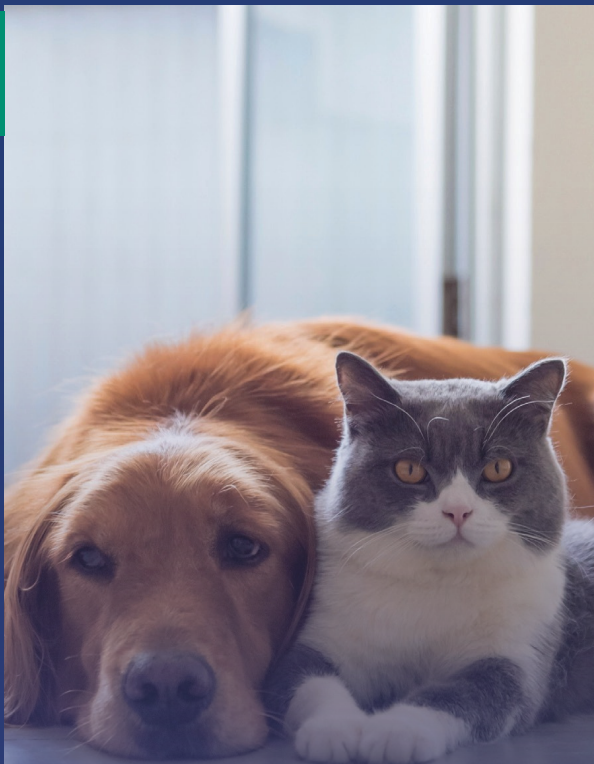
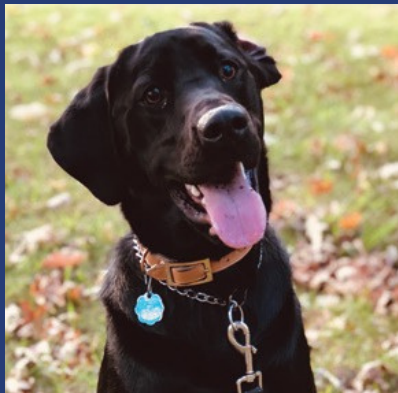




WHITEHORSE

Responsible Pet Ownership





Whitehorse City Council has a number of responsible pet ownership initiatives in place that aim to promote animal welfare, protect wildlife and the environment and to reunite lost pets with their owners.

Pet Registration

Dogs and cats must be microchipped and registered with Council by three months of age. Registrations are renewable every year by 10 April. You will be issued with a tag to place on your pet once it is registered to assist in its safe return should your pet go missing. Council provides lifetime tags. The tag you received previously will not be replaced unless you lose your pet's original tag or if it needs replacing due to wear and tear.

For more information, visit www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/living-working/pets/pet-ownership-whitehorse/register-pet or contact Council on 9262 6333.

Registration of Pups and Kittens

Council offers free first time pet registration to microchipped and desexed puppies and kittens aged under three months. Visit www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/living-working/pets/pet-ownership-whitehorse/register-pet to register online or contact Council on 9262 6333.

De-sexing your pet is a responsible choice for pet owners because it helps reduce the numbers of unwanted puppies and kittens and reduces the incidence of roaming, disease and aggression in dogs and cats.



Compulsory De-sexing of Cats

Cats being registered for the first time must also be de-sexed (see Whitehorse City Council website on responsible cat ownership and Order 8 on compulsory cat de-sexing) unless exempt. Animals currently registered with Whitehorse City Council, or any other council are exempt from the compulsory de-sexing requirement. There are some exemptions to de-sexing your cat, including Veterinary advice detailing how the de-sexing would be prejudicial to the cat's health.

Updating Your Contact Details

Up-to-date information is vital when trying to reunite pets with their owners. You should update Council whenever you change your address, email or phone number. This can be done online on our website.

You should also update your microchip registration company whenever you change phone numbers or address. Ensure you include the animal reference number.

Visit www.petaddress.com.au if you have forgotten or lost the information regarding which microchip registration company your pet is listed with.



Lost Pets

If your dog or cat goes missing contact Council on 9262 6333 with a description of your pet, where and when it went missing and your contact details as soon as possible.

If your pet has identification, it will help Council to reunite you in the shortest possible time.

If you are unable to be contacted, your pet may be taken to the Pound in Coldstream and you will be charged a release fee when you collect your pet.

The fee covers the costs incurred while caring for your pet.

Council fines may also apply and will be sent to you separately. Visit here to view Lost and Found information.



Dogs in Public Spaces

There are fabulous parks and reserves in Whitehorse for walking your dog. Parks are for the enjoyment and use of everyone so please be mindful to be respectful of other people when walking your dog.

A few simple acts can go a long way to ensure we can all enjoy our open space- -

- In all public places, except designated off-lead areas, the owner of a dog must keep their dog under effective control.
- Effective control means placing a leash, chain, cord or similar not exceeding 1.5 metres in length on a dog and held by the owner.

Designated Dog Prohibited Areas

There are also spaces within City of Whitehorse parks and reserves where dogs are not allowed at any time, either on or off a lead. These include -

- Dog prohibited sports fields
- Designated environmentally sensitive wetlands

Dogs are also not allowed within 2.5m of the perimeter of:

- any sports ground, field, court or similar during an organised sporting event
- any children's playspace
- a permanent barbeque or picnic area
- the principal location of an organised meeting.



There are 33 parks which have areas where you can exercise your dog off lead. Visit our website [here](#) to find more information about dogs in Public Spaces.



Dogs Prohibited from Wetland Areas

A wetland is a distinct eco system where vegetation or aquatic plants have adapted. Council has identified a number of environmentally significant wetlands, listed below, that require protection from dogs due to the potential damage they could cause in these sensitive environments. As a result, dogs are prohibited from entering these specified wetland areas.

Remember, you can still exercise your dogs in the reserves where these water bodies are located, but access to the wetlands is prohibited.

WATER BODY	
Blackburn Lake Sanctuary	80 Central Road, Blackburn
Kalang Park	11 Kalang Street, Blackburn
Box Hill Gardens	717-731 Station Street, Box Hill
Surrey Dive	354 Elgar Road, Box Hill
Yarran Dheran	95 Quarry Road, Mitcham
Miniature Railway	653-661 Elgar Road, Mont Albert North
Koonung Creek	42 Jackson Avenue, Mont Albert North
Buckanbe Park	78 Glenburnie Road, Vermont
Campbells Croft	105 Boronia Road, Vermont
Bellbird Dell	123A Terrara Road, Vermont
Morack Billabongs	Morack Road, Vermont South

Dog Poo

Owners are required to carry a bag to remove and dispose of dog droppings. Dog litter bags can be placed in Council's public litter bins or in your household rubbish bin.



Cat Curfew

Council has regulations in place that aim to provide a safer environment for pets and native wildlife. Cat owners are required to:

Ensure cats are confined to their property, either within the home or within a suitable escape-proof building or structure between the hours of 8pm-6am.

There are several options available to suit different circumstances including:

- Keeping your cat in your home with you
- Using a cat enclosure
- Enclosing your yard, veranda or section of the garden between the house and fence
- Prevent your cats from entering the following Council bushland reserves to ensure that local wildlife is protected from the threat of cats:

Blackburn Creeklands Between Middleborough and Blackburn Roads & Whitehorse and Canterbury Roads, Blackburn
Blackburn Lake Sanctuary – 80 Central Road, Blackburn
Cootamundra Walk – 35 Williams Road, Blackburn
Wandinong Sanctuary – 153-159 Canterbury Road, Blackburn
Joseph Street Reserve – 53A Joseph Street, Blackburn North
Antonio Park – 22-40 Deep Creek Road, Mitcham
Yarran Dheran – 95 Quarry Road, Mitcham
Bellbird Dell – 123A Terrara Road, Vermont
Koonung Creek Park Parklands – 42 Jackson Avenue, Mont Albert North
RE Gray Reserve – 9-23 Springvale Road, Nunawading
Campbells Croft – 105 Boronia Road, Vermont

This means that owners need to confine their cats so that they do not enter these bushland reserves at any time. If cats are not confined overnight or prevented from entering these reserves, owners may see their cats impounded and fines issued.

Brochures that explain how to build cat-proof fencing or cat enclosures are available at www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/living-working/pets/cats/confining-your-cat-your-property or Council's service centre.



Additional Animals or Pets

Council has a local law that allows residents to keep a maximum of three dogs or three cats and any combination of the two up to a total of four animals. Pet owners wishing to keep more than the permitted number of pets must obtain a permit from Council.

Subsidised Animal De-sexing Scheme

Council offers a de-sexing scheme for dogs and cats owned by pensioners. Vouchers are available for holders of valid and current pension concession cards at Council's service centre in Nunawading,

Registration Fees

Animal registration fees contribute to the cost of providing Council's animal management program including payments to the State Government, provision of an animal pound, an animal lost and found service, the management of nuisance animals and aggressive dogs. For annual fees, please visit www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/pet-registration-fees

Further Information

If you require additional information regarding responsible pet ownership, visit Council's website at [www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/living-working/pets/ pet-ownership-whitehorse](http://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/living-working/pets/pet-ownership-whitehorse) or call 9262 6333 or visit Agriculture Victoria at www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/pets





**WHITEHORSE
CITY COUNCIL**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Whitehorse City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional owners of the land. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

CONTACTING COUNCIL

Postal Address: **Whitehorse City Council**
Locked Bag 2
Nunawading VIC 3131
9262 6333
133 677 then quote 9262 6333
(Service for deaf or hearing impaired people)

Email: **customer.service@whitehorse.vic.gov.au**

Website: **www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au**

Service Centre: **Whitehorse Civic Centre**
379-399 Whitehorse Road,
Nunawading 3131