

Shire of Broome
PO Box 44, Broome WA 6725
Phone: 08 9191 3456
Fax: 08 9191 3455

MEDIA RELEASE



13 November 2015

For immediate release

Amnesty encourages responsible pet ownership

The Shire of Broome has extended the deadline on dog and cat registration and microchipping until the end of November in a bid to encourage more pet owners to do the right thing.

From 1 November 2015 the *Dog Act 1976* required all dogs in WA over three months of age to be registered and microchipped. The *Cat Act 2011* requires all cats over six months of age to be registered, microchipped and desexed.

Shire of Broome Manager Health, Emergency and Rangers, Ty Matson, said annual registration for cats and dogs was due by the end of October, but in an effort to encourage more pet owners to take the step they were providing an amnesty until 30 November.

“We had a reasonable response to our campaign on pet ownership during October, which included Rangers going door-to-door in key areas to check that cats and dogs were registered and microchipped, fencing was adequate, and no more than two dogs were being kept without a permit,” Mr Matson said.

“Registration and microchipping allows the Shire to identify straying pets and return them to their owners, and is an important step in tackling issues such as dogs and cats roaming, abandoned animals, illegal breeding and the number of dogs and cats breeding in the community.”

The Shire of Broome provides a 60 per cent discount on annual registration fees for dogs that are desexed, and subsidises 50 per cent of the cost of desexing dogs and cats for residents with a current Health Care Card or Pension Card. Full details are online at www.broome.wa.gov.au.

ENDS