



## Legal responsibilities

Cat owners have responsibilities under the *Companion Animal Act 1998*.

- Cats must be micro chipped by 12 weeks of age and registered with Council by six months of age.
- Cats must have a collar and tag with the cat's name and owner's phone number.
- Cats are prohibited to go into wildlife protection areas or public food preparation and consumption areas.
- Cats cannot inconvenience any other person on another property or premises.
- A cat cannot repeatedly damage anything outside the property where it lives.

## Desexing

A desexed cat costs less to register.  
Desexing:

- Prevents unwanted litters
- Reduces cat fights
- Reduces wandering and the risk of injury
- If you are on a pension, Hunter Animal Watch, 4961 6133, may be able to assist with desexing costs.

If you are on a pension, Hunter Animal Watch 4961 6133 may be able to assist with desexing costs.

## For more information

**Lake Macquarie City Council**  
4921 0333  
lakemac.com.au

**Catnip Enclosures**  
catnip.com.au  
1800 639 998

**Cat Max Enclosures**  
catmax.com.au  
1300 306 605

**Hunter Animal Watch**  
4961 6133

**Native Animal Trust Fund**  
0418 628 483

**Your local veterinarian**

### A project of the Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance.

Get involved in a local project, meet your neighbours and learn new skills.



[sustainableneighbourhoods.org.au](http://sustainableneighbourhoods.org.au)

[admin@sustainableneighbourhoods.org.au](mailto:admin@sustainableneighbourhoods.org.au)

📞 4921 0117

📌 SustainableNeighbourhoodsLakeMacquarie



Sustainable Neighbourhoods is an initiative of Lake Macquarie City Council

# Do you know where your cat is?

Important information on responsible cat care





## Wildlife

- Cats hunt and kill instinctively.
- Cats kill hundreds of native animals each year.
- Even the best fed cat will hunt and kill if allowed. Cats don't discriminate between pests and native wildlife.

## Protect native wildlife

- Confine your cat, particularly at night.
- Put a bell or two on its collar.
- Keep birdbaths clear of cat hiding areas.
- Create refuge areas for wildlife to escape and hide in.

## Cat care is easy

Cats need:

- A balanced diet
- Fresh water
- Clean litter trays
- Toys and scratching post
- Micro chipped and registered with your local Council
- Collar with tag and bell
- Regular health checks with the vet including vaccinations and routine worming
- To be desexed (spayed or neutered)
- To be confined to your property, especially at night

## Confine your cat

Keeping your cat confined helps to prevent them:

- Being hit by a car
- Being stolen
- Getting lost
- Getting into fights with other cats, dogs and snakes
- Contracting Feline AIDS and Feline Leukemia
- Getting infections from puncture wounds
- Getting their collar caught on something
- Being mistreated, abused or poisoned
- Used for bait in dog fights
- Dying alone

