



Shire of Dardanup

**Responsible Pet  
Ownership**

*Information Brochure*





## Introduction

Dogs and Cats have a special place in the hearts of millions of Australians. Owning a pet is a responsibility that requires you to give understanding, affection, shelter and sustenance, and in return you will receive loving companionship.

Research studies have shown that owning a pet can have measurable health benefits for pet owners including a lower risk of heart attack, have lower cholesterol, lower blood pressure and lower triglyceride fats in their blood than non-pet owners.

### The Dog Act 1976

The Dog Act 1976 addresses the control and registration of dogs, the ownership and keeping of dogs; and the obligations and rights of people, both as dog owners and non-dog owners.

The Dog Act 1976 states:

- That all dogs in townsites must be held on a lead
- That only people over 18 years of age are permitted to have a dog registered in their name
- It is your responsibility to ensure your dog is currently microchipped and registered

### The Cat Act 2011

On 1 November 2013 the Cat Act 2011 came into effect. The Act requires the identification, sterilisation and registration of domestic cats and allows local governments the power to administer and enforce legislation relating to cats.

The purpose of the Act is to address some of the unwanted impacts of cats on the community and the environment and to encourage responsible cat ownership.



## Your Responsibilities

### Who is responsible for a dog?

Apart from the owner of the dog, the occupier of any premises where the dog is ordinarily kept or permitted to live, or a person who for the time being has the dog in his or her possession or control.

If you own a dog, you have a legal responsibility to keep it under control, either within a fenced area on your property or on a lead in public.

### Barking dogs

You are responsible for ensuring that your dog is not a public nuisance from barking. Anyone who believes that a dog is creating a nuisance from barking may contact the Shire Rangers who will provide you with the relevant information in regards to their rights.

They will also request that the complainant complete a "Nuisance Barking Diary" for a period of 7-14 consecutive days. This information supports rangers as evidence of the barking dog so rangers can address the problems with the offending dog owner. This information will remain confidential and the Shire or the Ranger will not divulge any details regarding the complaints to the dog owner.

### Removal of dog excreta (droppings)

Dog excreta is a source of annoyance to other users of footpaths and recreation areas. The Shire of Dardanup Local Laws require the person in charge of a dog in a public place remove their dog's excreta and adequately dispose of it. Penalties may apply for failing to do this.



## Microchip Details & Maintenance

Under the Dog Act 1976, as a responsible pet owner you must ensure that your pet's registration and microchip details are kept up to date. If you move house, change your phone number, ownership of your pet changes or your pet has passed away, you must contact the local government where your pet is registered within 28 days, and also the microchip database company within 7 days where your pet's microchip details have been recorded, to notify them of these changes.

Details of the Microchip companies are as follows:

1. **Central Animal Records (Aust.)**  
Ph: 03 9706 3187  
Email: [info@car.com.au](mailto:info@car.com.au)
2. **Australian Animal Registry**  
Ph: 02 9704 1450  
Email: [help@aar.org.au](mailto:help@aar.org.au)
3. **HomeSafeID**  
Ph: 1300 537 140  
Email: [registrations@homesafeid.com](mailto:registrations@homesafeid.com)
4. **Global Microchip Registry**  
Ph: 02 8338 9063  
Email: [contact@globalmicro.com.au](mailto:contact@globalmicro.com.au)
5. **PetSafe**  
Ph: 02 8850 6800  
Email: [info@petsafe.com.au](mailto:info@petsafe.com.au)





## Registration Fees

Registration day for dogs and cats is 1 November each year and can be registered at the Shire of Dardanup Administration Centre, Eaton or Dardanup office. You will be issued with a tag which must be worn on the collar. Unless registered for life, you will be issued with a reminder early September of the coming renewal of your pet's registration which must be paid before 31 October. Penalties may apply for non compliance.

Registration is effective throughout Western Australia and can be transferred between Local Governments. Should you move, you are required to contact the Local Government you now reside in to transfer the registration.

### Dog Registration

Under the Dog Act 1976, all dogs over 3 months of age are required to be microchipped and registered. The Dog Act 1976 allows up to a maximum of two dogs to be kept on any property within townsites and up to four dogs on premises outside of a townsite - unless it is a registered kennel or an exemption is granted by Council.

### Cat Registration

Under the Cat Act 2011, all domestic cats over 6 months of age are required to be microchipped, sterilised and registered. The Cat Act 2011 allows up to a maximum of two cats be kept on any property - unless it is a registered cattery or an exemption is granted by Council.

Dog	1 Year	3 Years	Lifetime	Pension
Unsterilised	\$50	\$120	\$250	50% off
Sterilised	\$20	\$42.50	\$100	50% off
Cat	1 Year	3 Years	Lifetime	Pension
Sterilised	\$20	\$42.50	\$100	50% off

## Penalties and Fees

The Shire of Dardanup is responsible for administering and enforcing the Dog Act 1976, Cat Act 2011 and their associated regulations and Local Laws within its Shire boundaries. Penalties apply for non-compliance with the legislation.

Residents must apply to the Shire if they wish to establish a Kennel, Cat Management Facility, Application to Breed Cats, Application to keep more than the specified amount (Cats/Dogs).

If your pet is in breach of either the Dog Act 1976 or Cat Act 2011, your pet may be impounded. Fees for the impounding, sustenance and maintenance while at the pound are applicable on the return of your pet.

Fees applied for these can be found on the Shire of Dardanup website "Fees and Charges" by scanning the following QR Code.



### Legislative Infringements (Penalties)

Below is an example of common infringements that may be issued for non-compliance.

Dog attack causing injury	\$400
Dog attack not causing injury	\$200
Dog not confined to property	\$200
Unregistered Dog/Cat	\$200
Dog Wandering	\$200
Dog/Cat not Microchipped	\$200
Microchip details not updated	\$200
Cat not sterilised	\$200



## Dog Attack

### What is a Dog Attack?

A dog attack is defined as if a dog attacks or chases any person or animal either causing physical injury or no injury to the person or animal that is attacked or chased, every person liable for the control of the dog commits an offence against the Dog Act 1976.

A dog attack can take different forms which includes the following examples:

- Attempting to attack or behaving in a manner that would cause fear of physical injury
- Aggressively rushing at or harassing any person or animal
- Biting or causing physical injury to a person or animal
- Tearing clothing on or causing damage to the property of any person attacked

### Prevention of Dog Attacks

The Shire's Ranger Services conduct regular patrols of parks, reserves, local streets and rural areas to ensure that dog owners are leashing their dogs in public and effectively controlling them in dog exercise areas.

It is the responsibility of the owners to ensure that their dogs are effectively contained, have adequate fencing and are under effective control by an adult in a public place. Penalties may apply for owners who ignore their responsibilities as a responsible pet owner.

### Reporting a Dog Attack

If you or your dog are attacked by another dog (either causing injury or not) on private or public property the Shire encourages you to report the incident as soon as possible by contacting Ranger Services on 9724 0307. Ranger Services will then provide you with further information on the investigation process.



## Dog Attack Evidence

If you or your pet is engaged in a dog attack and you report the event to Ranger Services, you will be required to supply details and evidence of the incident so Rangers can investigate and take appropriate action. Examples of evidence include:

- Full details of the attack as it happened (time, date, location)
- Full description of the attacking dog (breed, colour, sex, distinguishing features etc)
- Victim/s details
- Witness details, their record of the event and any photographic evidence if available
- Any doctors/vet report of any injuries and treatment to the affected person or animal

All information supplied to Shire Rangers and Council remains confidential.

### Outcome of a Dog Attack

All presented evidence will be assessed by the Shire Rangers and once a thorough investigation has been carried out, Rangers may prosecute with some of the following measures dependant on the severity and evidence supplied.

- Verbal and written warnings
- Voluntary surrender of offending dog for euthanasia
- Issue of infringements
- Declaring the offending dog 'dangerous' (imposing additional control requirements, both on private property and in public)
- Court Action with possible penalties up to \$10,000 or 12 months imprisonment and/or request for an order of destruction of a dog (only a magistrate can order this)



## Dangerous Dogs

If your dog displays aggressive behaviour, it is important you address this behaviour quickly with appropriate training. Local Governments may declare a dog "dangerous" if it attacks, shows a tendency to threaten to attack a person, animal or vehicle, whether or not any injury or damage is caused.

The following dogs are listed as Dangerous Dogs (Restricted Breed) under the Dog Act 1976, Dog Regulations 2013 - Regulation 4; Pit Bull Terriers, American Pit Bull Terriers, Dogo Argentino, Fila Brasileiro, Japanese Tosa, Perro de presa Canario or presa Canario and crosses of any of these breeds.

Restrictions are imposed in Western Australia for the keeping of dangerous dogs, in accordance with the Dog Act 1976 - Division 2 - Dangerous Dogs. For further information regarding these restrictions, please contact the Shire of Dardanup.

## Animal Welfare

The Shire of Dardanup Ranger Services are not Welfare Officers to enforce the Animal Welfare Act. Should you witness any mistreatment or cruelty please report the cruelty to the RSPCA by phoning 1300 CRUELTY (1300 278 3589).

For further information please see their website [www.rspcawa.org.au](http://www.rspcawa.org.au) or scan the below QR Code to access the "Online Cruelty report".



## Dog Exercise Areas



### Exercising Your Dog

Every dog, regardless of breed and age should be walked every day. Several reserve areas throughout the Shire of Dardanup have been set aside for dog exercise.

Dogs can be exercised off lead in dog exercise areas however, they must respond to commands given by the owner or the person under care and control and remain under effective control at all times.

There are some exercise areas that are shared with sporting facilities. Sporting activities taking place at these areas always take precedence over a dog being exercised. In all other public places your dog must be kept on a lead at all times. This is for the protection of the general community as well as the protection of your dog from harm.

### Dog Exercise Areas

Under the Dog Act 1976 s. 31(5), the locations identified in the enclosed maps have been made designated dog exercise areas by the Shire of Dardanup and can ONLY be exercised off lead at the identified locations. Penalties may apply to off lead in unauthorised areas.

In conjunction with the following off lead areas, dogs are not permitted to be off lead in a playground or BBQ area. Dogs must also remain out of bushland and the Possum Sanctuary on Leicester Reserve and Watson Street Reserve Eaton.





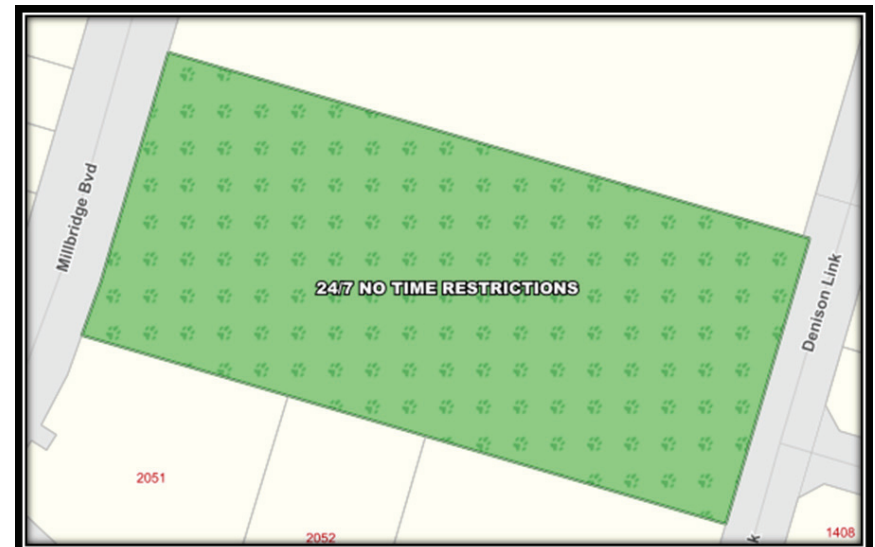
# Eaton & Millbridge



- Watson Street Reserve - 24hr no time restrictions.
  - Leicester Reserve - 24hr no time restrictions.
- NOTE: Possum Sanctuary - Dogs are Prohibited at all times. (Located in Red)

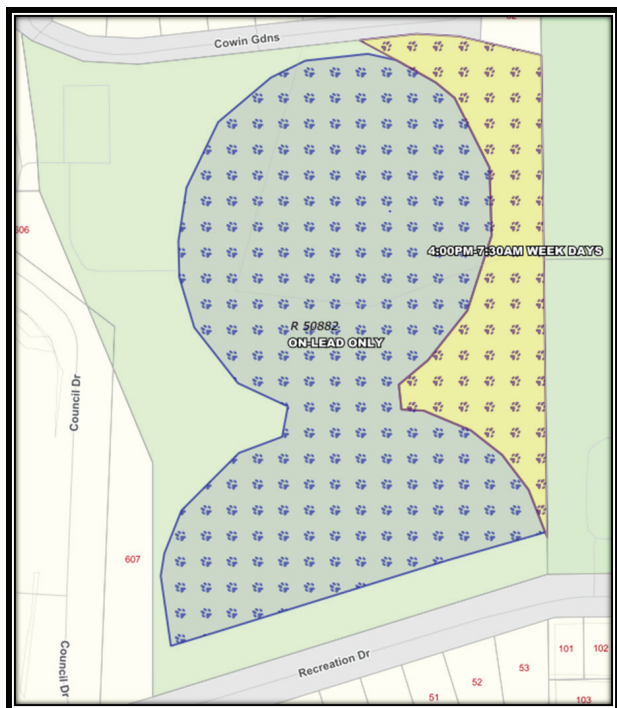


- Eaton Foreshore Reserve (Collie River Bridge to Boat Ramp Carpark (West) - 24hr no time restrictions.
- Eaton Foreshore Reserve (Boat Ramp Carpark (West) to Graham Street - 24hr no time restrictions.

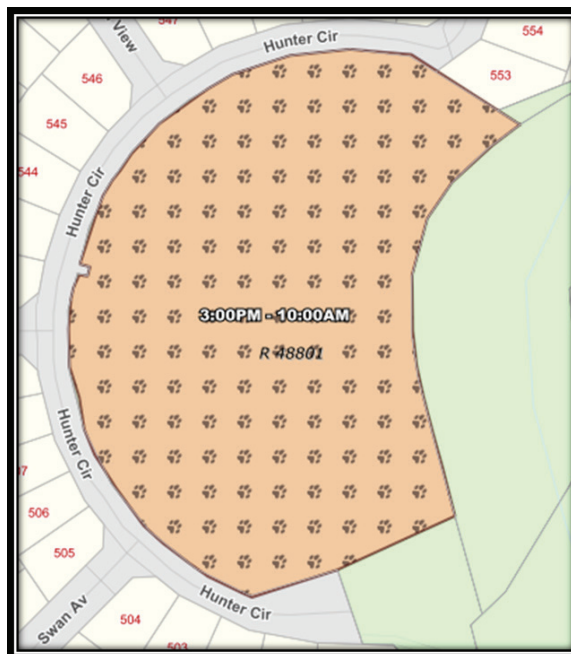


- Millbridge Reserve - 24hr no time restrictions.

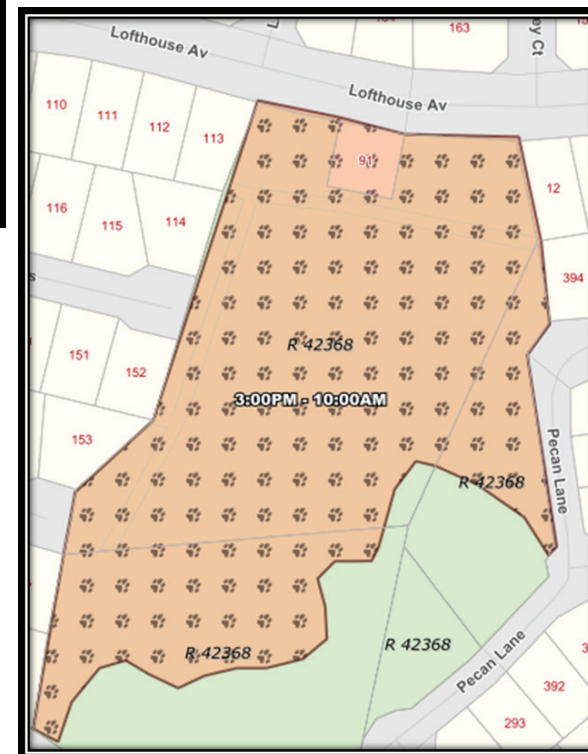




- Glenhuon Reserve (Oval) - ON LEAD ONLY and only when there are no sporting teams using the fields.
- Glenhuon Reserve (Grassed Area) - Only between 4:00pm and 7:30am weekdays only.



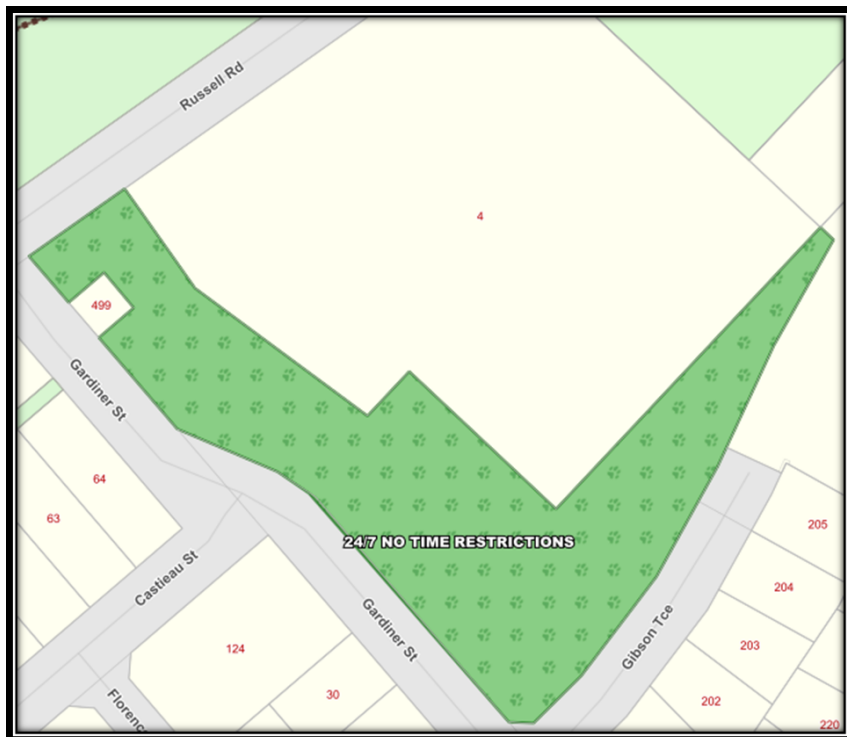
- Hunter Park - Off lead during 3:00pm and 10:00am daily only.



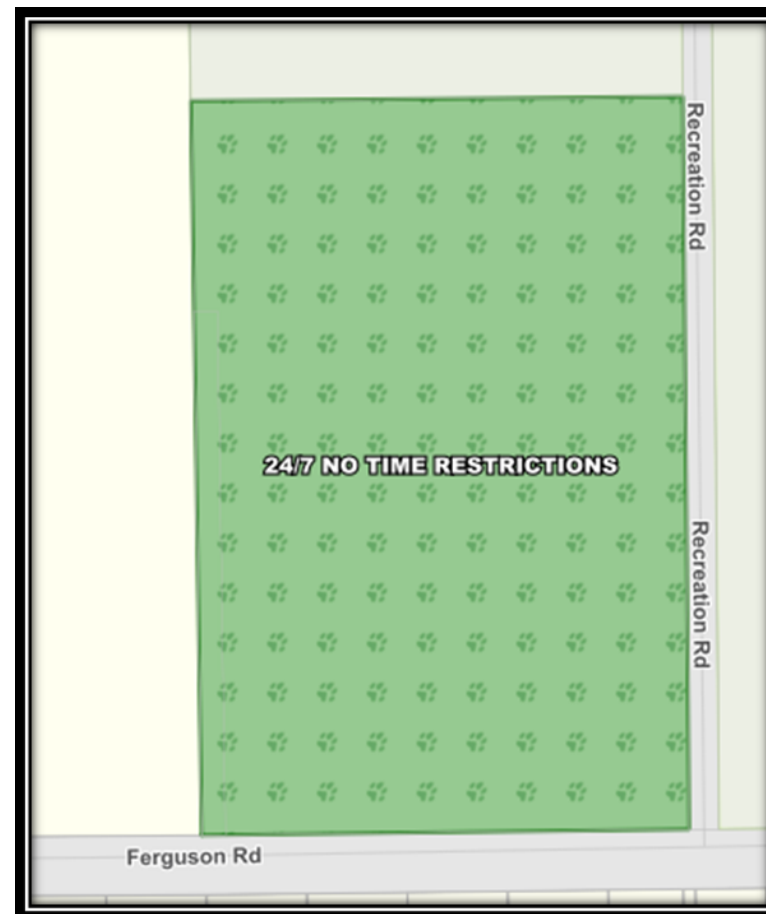
- Lofthouse Park - Only between 3:00pm and 10:00am Daily.



# Burekup & Dardanup



- Burekup Reserve - 24/7 no time restrictions



- Wells Recreation, Dardanup - 24/7 no time restrictions

## Lost Dogs & Cats

Dogs and Cats do get lost. You can help prevent this by making sure your pet always wears a collar and identification tag with your telephone number. If your pet is lost, check with your neighbours, your local veterinary clinic, local animal shelters, surrounding local governments and Ranger Services. Ranger Services keep a Lost Animal register and will be able to reunite you with your pet when they are located.

Rangers can seize dogs found in public places and not held on a lead. Rangers may also enter private property to seize a dog which has been wandering at large if they have the permission of the owner or occupier, or a warrant from a Justice of the Peace.

## Sterilisation Program - Cats

The Shire of Dardanup has introduced a Cat Sterilisation Program for all residents of the Shire to assist with having their cat sterilised as per the requirements of the Cat Act 2011 section 18.

The Shire of Dardanup has a limited number of vouchers available which may be utilised to offset some of the costs of sterilisation and you are encouraged to contact Ranger Services with any enquiries in this regard.

Veterinary Clinics that are part of the program include the following:

### Eaton Vet Clinic

6 Cassowary Bend, Eaton: 9725 0399

### Eaton Pet Vet

5/7 Millard St, Eaton: 9725 2008

### Dardanup Veterinary Clinic

2 Charlotte Street, Dardanup: 9728 0132







1 Council Drive  
PO Box 7016  
Eaton WA 6232

Email: [records@dardanup.wa.gov.au](mailto:records@dardanup.wa.gov.au)  
Telephone: 9724 0000

Ranger Services: 9724 0307

[www.dardanup.wa.gov.au](http://www.dardanup.wa.gov.au)



The logo for the Shire of Dardanup features a stylized white line drawing of a mountain range with three peaks. Below the graphic, the words "Shire of Dardanup" are written in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

Shire of Dardanup