

# Registering Your Dog

## When do I need to register?

All dogs over three months old must be registered in July every year. Fees are discounted if paid by 31 July. Full fee applies from 1 August. The fee is reduced for puppies that reach the age of three months part way through the registration year.

There are currently just over 14,200 dogs registered in the District with 9,400 owners.

## Filling out the registration form

The Council's dog registration records form part of the National Dog Database. That means, in addition to details about your dog, we also need your full name, address, date of birth and telephone contact numbers. You can be penalised for providing false information.

You must be 16 years or older to register a dog. You cannot use the name of a company, farm, partnership or Trust.

If your dog is a mixture of breeds, list the predominant one first. The same goes for colour.

For your convenience most dog registration transactions can be done online at [waimakariri.govt.nz](http://waimakariri.govt.nz)

## Registration tags

Each dog registered in the district is issued with a numbered registration tag.

Please ensure your dog wears the licence tag at all times so we can let you know if your dog is found elsewhere.

## Special circumstances

### Transferring dogs to a new owner

It is important to tell us when you transfer a dog in or out of the district, and be sure to transfer the registration to the appropriate council.



If your dog is going to a new owner, that person must also advise their local council they now own the dog. It doesn't cost anything to swap the dog's registration tag for a new one at your new council, providing the dog is currently registered.

## Fees

This Council sets dog registration fees each year.

You pay less if your dog has been desexed. Two thirds of all registered dogs in the district have been neutered.

Working dogs must be kept solely for the purposes of one of the criteria of Section 2 of the Dog Control Act 1996. Visit our website or call Customer Services for more information.

A dog certified as a disability assist dog, including a guide dog for the blind, hearing dog for deaf people, assistance dogs or a dog certified by any of the organisations listed in Schedule 5 of the Dog Control Act 1996, is issued its registration tag by the Council free of charge.

## Refund of registration fees

If your dog dies during the registration year, you are entitled to a refund of the fee for the part of the year remaining once the Council receives an application for a refund. If you are getting a new pup, you may transfer the registration fee to the new dog, but you must get a new tag.

*Note: We need to have a certificate from the vet to confirm the dog has been neutered or spayed.*

*Please turn over*

## Licence to keep three or more dogs in residential areas

You need a licence to keep three or more dogs in a residential area. Application forms are available from Customer Services or on the Council's website. Once a licence is granted, it must be renewed annually and is not transferable.

## Microchips

From 1 July 2006 all new puppies and dogs registered for the first time need to have a microchip transponder implanted. When you register the dog, remember to bring in the microchipping certificate with you.

Dogs declared dangerous, menacing or that are impounded will also be required to have a microchip.

Microchipping is a permanent means of identification that links a dog to an owner.

Only working farm dogs are exempt from microchipping.

There are a number of dogs in the district classified as dangerous and menacing, which must be restrained and muzzled in public.

Refer to our website for details of Council reserves where you may exercise your dog, and for a summary of your obligations under the Dog Control Act 1996. The Council's Dog Control Bylaw is available online.

## Did you know?

Animal Management staff respond to over 2,500 complaints every year. More than half relate to roaming dogs.



Find out more at [waimakariri.govt.nz](http://waimakariri.govt.nz), or contact Customer Services on 0800 965 468.