



ANIMAL MANAGEMENT IF YOU HAVE LOST A ANIMAL

The Dog Control Act 2000 states that all dogs in Tasmania are to be kept under effective control and that they do not cause a nuisance. Under this law an owner or the person in charge of a dog can be held responsible for the actions of a dog in their care.

What to do if your dog is lost?

- Search your local area.
- Contact your local Veterinarians.

If your dog has been in an accident it may have been taken to the Vet. Many Vets keep a lost dog register and will contact you if someone reports finding a dog like yours.

- Contact the Lost Dogs Home.

Your dog may have been rescued by an Animal Management Officer and taken to the pound for safe keeping. Pound staff may know the whereabouts of your dog if it has been found by some other person. If your dog is not at the pound leave a clear description of the dog and your details so that if the dog is found shelter staff can contact you.

- Contact your council.
- Advertise in the paper, on the radio, at shopping centres.
- Do not just wait for it to come back.

Your dog may be injured, may enter premises where it is not allowed to be, or it may have been taken to the pound.

If your dog is at the Lost Dogs Home let the pound know when you are going to collect the dog. Pick the dog up as soon as possible. This not only assists pound staff it also reduces the stress on your dog from being confined in a strange place and minimizes the cost to have your dog released to you.

The Tasmanian Canine Defence League operates a Dog Pound on behalf of Glenorchy, Hobart, Clarence and Brighton Councils.

Dogs may be collected from the pound between the hours of 10.00a.m. and 5.00p.m. seven days a week.

It is important that residents are aware that the operations of the pound and the Dogs' Home are separate even though both operate from the same premises. Councils do not get involved in matters concerning the Dogs' Home. Similarly Dogs' Home staff must comply with the law and Council policies when acting as pound keepers for the respective Councils.

Whilst Council acknowledges that having to collect your pet from the pound can be a stressful and emotional time, owners are reminded that the use of abusive language or threats to staff will not be tolerated. Any person that persists in this type of behaviour may face legal action.

How much will it cost to get my dog back from the pound?

This depends on how long the dog has been in the care of the pound, whether or not the dog is registered, and how many times the dog has been at the pound in the past.

The Dog Control Act 2000 requires the owner of an impounded dog to pay the following fees before the dog is released.

If it is the dog's first visit to the pound the fees are:

- A \$35 release fee.
- A daily maintenance fee of up to \$20 a day.
- The current registration fee if the dog is not currently registered.
- Any other fees or charges relating to the dog that ought to have been paid under the *Dog Control Act 2000*. This can include any unpaid fines if you have been prosecuted by the Courts.

If it is the second or a subsequent visit by the dog the fees are:

- the same except for the release fee which rises to \$50.

Please note that under no circumstances will unregistered dogs be released from the pound. You will need to provide evidence of the dog's current registration and that you are entitled to have possession of that dog.

How do I find out why my dog was impounded?

Contact Animal Management Staff at your Local Council. The impounding officer will give you details of where and why your pet was impounded. This information may help you in determining how the dog is escaping from your property and ways to prevent it happening again.

Useful Contacts:

Tasmanian Canine Defence League.
101 Scotts Road, Risdon Vale.
☎ 6243 5177 between 10.00 am and 5.00pm.
This is a busy phone so please keep trying.
www.dogshomesoftas.com.au

Montrose Veterinary Centre
488 Main Road, Montrose.
☎ 6272 3599.

Springfield Veterinary Centre
31 Springfield Avenue, West Moonah.
☎ 6272 9090.

Other Vets are listed in the Yellow Pages under Veterinary Surgeons.

You could also contact the RSPCA Centre on:
☎ 6244 3033 for other types of lost animals.
www.rspca.tas.org.au