

Cat Management Legislation in Tasmania

The Cat Management Act 2009 is the principal legislation for managing domestic and stray cats in Tasmania.

Tasmanian cat owners are required to:

- Desex and microchip cats 4 months and older
- Keep no more than four cats aged 4 months or older unless you have a Multiple Cat Permit
- Ensure any cats sold or given away are at least 8 weeks old and have been desexed, microchipped, wormed, flea-treated, and vaccinated
- Rehome or take cats they can no longer care for to a Cat Management Facility, such as Ten Lives Cat Centre



We are Here to Help

For more information or assistance:



Sorell Council –

03 6269 0000 or sorell.council@sorell.tas.gov.au

- Responsible cat ownership
- Roaming and nuisance cats



Ten Lives Cat Centre –

03 6278 2111 or reception@tenlives.com.au

- Rehoming cats / kittens
- Unplanned litters / found kittens
- Providing food assistance for your cat/kitten in times of financial hardship



**Keeping our Cats,
Communities and
Wildlife Safe**



A 2019 Australian survey of 5,385 cat owners found that 66% had lost at least one cat to roaming. The leading cause was car accidents, but many cats simply never came home (Elliott et al. 2019).

Benefits of Responsible Cat Ownership

Responsible cat ownership goes beyond simply feeding and caring for your cat. One of the key messages we promote is containment for happier, healthier cats.

Examples of containment include keeping cats indoors, using cat-safe fences, providing outdoor enclosures (either free-standing or attached to the house), or walking them with a harness and lead.

Benefits of keeping your cat contained include:

- Keeping your cat safe from cars, traffic, and dogs
- Protecting your cat from harm – unfortunately, some individuals can be cruel
- Preventing accidental poisoning from chemicals, ticks, snakes, or plants
- Keeping your neighbours happy – not everyone welcomes roaming cats
- Reducing the risk of your cat getting lost, trapped, or stolen
- Protecting Tasmania's unique native wildlife from being hunted by cats
- Avoiding cat fights, which can lead to wounds, abscesses, Feline AIDS, and costly vet trips

Benefits of Desexing

Desexed cats typically live longer, healthier lives and often become more affectionate.

Key benefits include:

- Reduced roaming, injury, and fighting
- Less undesirable behaviors like spraying and yowling
- Lower risk of health issues, such as mammary cancer
- Preventing accidental litters and reducing unplanned pets

Desexing helps decrease the number of unwanted cats and kittens in our community.



Other Ways you can Help to Manage Stray and Roaming Cats

Stray cats are those without an owner, often found in cities and towns, and may visit multiple households.

To help manage stray cats, you can:

- Avoid feeding them: While it may seem helpful, feeding stray cats can make the problem worse. Most stray cats are not desexed and will quickly reproduce.
- Take them to a Cat Management Facility: You can arrange to take the stray cat to a Cat Management Facility such as Ten Lives Cat Centre.