



## Cat Nuisances, Wandering and Traps

Domestic cats can be valued family members, however some cats can cause a nuisance in their neighborhoods. Often these cats are unregistered, not microchipped, unowned or wild.

The Richmond Shire Council encourages owners to comply with both State and Local Legislation, in the keeping of their domestic cat/s.

### Cat nuisances

A cat nuisance can be defined as:

- An animal that poses a significant risk to the health or safety of others.
- The animal creates a reasonable apprehension in the minds of others of a threat to their health and safety.
- Consistently roaming.
- Excessive noise.
- Defecating on private property or other property on which it is not ordinarily kept.
- Causes damage to property.

Requirements for keeping of a domestic cat:

- Any cat/s born after October 2008 are required to be microchipped.
- All kittens/cats must be microchipped by 12 weeks of age.
- All cat/s must be confined to their property, at all times.
- All cat/s must be under effective control at all times.

### Preventing your cat from being a nuisance

The best way to prevent your cat from becoming a nuisance is to keep it indoors or build a cat enclosure.

### Cat trapping

Property owners and occupiers have the right to seize or trap cats when unidentified cats trespass on their property. The Richmond Shire Council provide the below humane cat traps. Council does encourage people to speak to their neighbours (potential cat owner) about their concerns prior to resorting to the cat trapping option.

Council offers a cat trap hiring service to Richmond Shire residents to assist in the control of wandering and nuisance cats.

- Food, water and shelter must be provided especially in hot, cold or wet weather;
- The cat must not remain in the trap for more than 24 hours (traps should not be set on weekends) and
- Cages are provided in a clean working state and must be returned in the same condition to obtain the full deposit refund.



For any further information relating to this fact sheet, contact the Richmond Shire Council