

Registration, Vaccination and Microchipping



- You must register your pet every year with Animal Services. This can be done at your veterinarian's office.
- If you are not a resident of the City of El Paso, but will have your pet in the city for more than 90 days, it has to be registered.
- You must vaccinate your pet against rabies if it is more than four months old.
- Your pet must have a microchip.
- If you are a new pet owner, or if your information changes, you must update your information with Animal Services within seven days. (This will help us find your pet if it's lost.)



- You must make sure your pet wears its registration tag at all times and replace it if it's lost or destroyed.
- You can't transfer the registration or certificate to someone else.

Standards of Care

- You must provide shelter and shade for your pet.
- You must make sure you give your pet the good food and fresh water it needs.
- You must make sure that any building or area where your pet lives is clean, safe and sanitary.
- You can't use something dangerous to restrain your pet or something that could hurt it or be cruel in any way. (We don't recommend chaining or tethering your pet as a way of restraining it.)
- If you take your dog outside, you must make sure it is on a leash and both dogs and cats must always be with someone who is in control.
- You can't neglect your pet or abandon it.
- You can't put your pet in danger by leaving it inside a vehicle.



Your Pet as Part of the Community



- You must keep your pet on your property at all times by means of physical restraint. It cannot roam into public or private property.
- Your pet cannot put others in danger.
- You must make sure to dispose of your pet's waste whether it is on your property or someone else's.
- You must make sure your pet does not cause offensive odors or create an unhealthy situation for other animals or people.

Litter Permits and Selling Pets

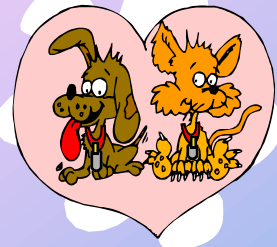


- Whether it was planned or not, you must get a litter permit if you have a dog or cat that is pregnant.
- You must get the litter permit within 14 days after the litter is born.

(More on Back)

Litter Permits and Selling Pets (Continued)

- A litter permit is good for a year and for one litter per year.
- You cannot sell, transfer or give away a puppy or a kitten that is less than 8-weeks-old.
- If you are selling or transferring a pet that is less than a year old and is not spayed or neutered, you can't charge more than \$50.00 unless you have proof that you spent more than this to take care of it.
- If you are selling or transferring a pet that is less than a year old and it has been spayed or neutered, you can't charge more than \$150.00 unless you have proof that you spent more than this to take care of it.
- No one is allowed to sell, trade, lease or display a pet for commercial reasons along any roadside, public right of way, commercial parking lot, flea market or festival.



Failure to comply with the City Ordinance could result in fines and penalties.

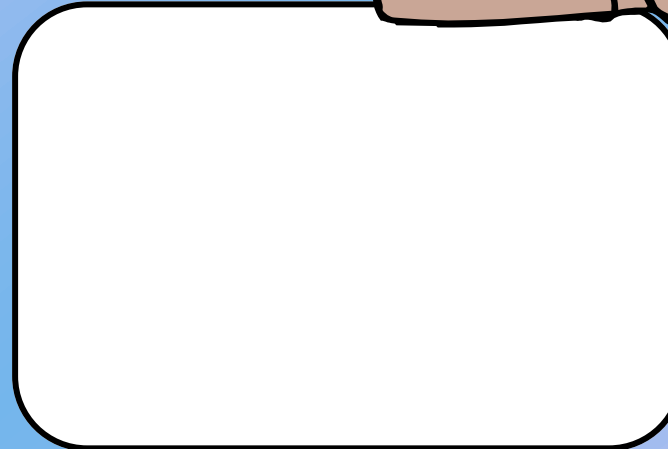
Don't Get Left Behind!

To learn more about the programs offered by Animal Services visit:
www.elpasotexas.gov/health



Owning a Pet in El Paso

What You Need to Know



City of El Paso
Department of Public Health
Animal Services Program
5001 Fred Wilson
El Paso, Texas
79906

Phone: 915-842-1000

Fax: 915-842-1008



Dedicated to Outstanding Customer Service for a Better Community

S E R V I C E S O L U T I O N S S U C C E S S

The following is a compilation of the items that have been added and/or changed to Title 7 regarding Animal Services which will take effect on January 1, 2011.



The Basics

- If you are a resident who has an animal for more than 30 days, you must have the animal registered with Animal Services.
- If you are not a resident, you cannot have unregistered animals within the city for more than 90 days.
- You must have current rabies vaccinations, a microchip and a registration certificate for your animal.
- You must update registration and microchip information within 7 days of a change in ownership.
- You can purchase replacement tags if they are lost or destroyed at Animal Services or at a participating veterinarian but you must show proof that they are replacements.
- You must have the animal vaccinated for rabies within ten days of getting the animal.
- You must pay for a litter permit within 14 days after the litter is born whether you intentionally or unintentionally breed a dog or cat, or own or have custody of a litter of puppies or kittens.

Selling or Transferring Animals

- You cannot sell or offer to sell or transfer puppies or kittens under eight weeks old, you can only transfer them to Animal Services or to an animal welfare organization.
- You must microchip and vaccinate against rabies all dogs, cats and ferrets that are four months of age or older before you transfer them.
- You cannot offer to sell or trade an animal if there is any evidence of mal-nutrition, sickness, unhealed injury, or if the animal is kept in unsanitary conditions-unless there is a written approval by a veterinarian who is providing care.
- You must maintain accurate records of all sales, transactions and transfers of animals and keep them for 2 years.

Owners of Dogs and Cats under One Year Old

- If you are selling a puppy or kitten that is less than four months old, you must include or display the litter permit number on any advertisements.
- You cannot charge more than \$50.00 when you sell a dog or cat that is not spayed/neutered unless you have proof that the expenses for the animal were more than this amount.
- You cannot charge more than \$150.00 when you sell an animal that is spayed/neutered unless you have proof that the expenses for the animal were more than this amount.
- You must provide a copy of all expenses including spay/neutering to the purchaser or the person who receives the animal from you.

Animal Welfare Organizations

- Animal Welfare organizations must spay or neuter all dogs and cats that are older than four months.
- You must check for a microchip and return the animal to its registered owner, or report the findings to Animals services before you transfer an animal to a new owner.

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- You must hold all dogs, cats and ferrets for three days after you take them in so that they can be reclaimed by their owner. You must hold dogs, cats and ferrets that are microchipped or that have a current vaccination and/or a registration tag for six days in case they are reclaimed.

Getting your Pets Back from Animal Services

- If you own a dog or cat that is impounded, you can get them back by paying an impoundment and daily handling fee. You must also make sure that the animal is vaccinated, registered and microchipped, and that they meet the spaying or neutering and other legal requirements.
- You must pay another fee for a dog or cat that is older than four months and that has not been spayed or neutered if it is impounded twice within a year, three times within two years or four times or more during the animal's life. The city will refund additional fees if you show evidence that the dog or cat was spayed or neutered within 30 days after you got it back. All requests for a refund must be submitted to Animal Services no later than 60 days after the dog or cat was spayed or neutered, and only one fee paid is eligible for a refund.
- Any animal impounded and not claimed by its owner may be euthanized after being held at least three days. Dogs, cats and ferrets that are found to be microchipped or displaying a current vaccination and/or registration tag will be held for six days. *(Litters of animals including the nursing mother, and unweaned animals without a mother may be transferred to an animal welfare organization immediately. Injured and ill animals may be transferred to an animal welfare organization immediately after or any time during impoundment upon the representation of by such animal welfare organization that it will seek immediate veterinary care for the animal.)*
- Animals with suspected cases of communicable disease or a suspected case of rabies, as determined by the veterinary officer, will be euthanized as soon as possible.
- If an owner releases an animal to the program in writing, it may be offered for adoption, transferred to an animal welfare organization or euthanized before the end of the required holding period.
- The owner of an animal that is impounded or quarantined and not redeemed within the required holding period is responsible for all fees (impoundment, daily handling, euthanasia) whether the animal is claimed or not.

Permits and Fees

- You will not be issued a permit for animals that are kept in violation of the City's zoning ordinances.
- The director or deputy director must make any and all inspections that they feel are necessary for the issuing of permits.
- The director may require you to take a basic training course that relates to animal care or breeding.
- You must renew and pay for all permits every year. This must be done by the last day of the month that you received the permit the year before. For example, if you register an animal on March 15, 2010, you must renew the registration by March 31, 2011.) You must also pay the fee unless you are an animal welfare organization.
- Breeder permits are good for three years.

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- Adult El Paso residents can borrow dog or cat traps for free. By borrowing a trap, you agree to:
 - Return all traps on or before the 5th day after you get them.
 - Pay for the full replacement cost of the trap if it is not returned in a timely manner.
 - Pay the established fee for any trap that may be delivered by the program.

Dog and Cat Breeders

- You must be 18 years or older to get a permit.
- Your annual application must include:
 - The animal or business location.
 - The acreage or square footage.
 - The number of animals or average number of animals you expect to hold.
 - The kind of enclosed spaces where the animals will be kept.
 - Information or evidence that you comply with the City's zoning ordinances for facilities, activities and operations.
- Breeding permits will be good for three years.
- You cannot transfer your permit to another person.
- If you advertise the sale or transfer of a qualified animal to another person, you must include or display your breeder permit number as well as the litter permit number in any advertisements.
- Applications for breeders permits must contain the following information:
 - The type of animal you are breeding and the organization or registry that the animal is qualified in.
 - A declaration that you will only breed the registered animal with the same type purebred and that the offspring will be eligible for registry with one or more additional registries and/or the same registry as the parents.
 - Whether or not the animal is being bred as a certified service animal or for use by law enforcement as a search and rescue animal.
 - A statement that you will not breed a qualified animal, other than a service animal for search and rescue or law enforcement, outside the age parameters as set by their official breed club or registry standards.
 - You agree to provide copies of documents showing your compliance with these requirements to Animal Services.
 - The names of the animal's primary caregivers and a statement as to whether or not ANY of them has ever been convicted or is in deferred adjudication for neglect, mistreatment, or cruelty to animals.
- Animal Services may inspect the animal's living area before or during any time of the permit. Animal Services will give 24 hours notice (in normal business hours) and you may be present or designate someone to represent you.
- A breeder's permit does not authorize you to sell puppies or kittens from a litter. You must obtain a litter permit and comply with all parts of this title including the regulations about advertising.

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Animal Establishments

- You cannot operate an animal establishment or groom, kennel, or board animals for profit without obtaining a valid permit for each purpose or activity.
- Your application for permits must include the fee payment as well as the following information:
 - The animal or business location.
 - The acreage or square footage.
 - The number of animals or average number of animals you expect to hold.
 - The kind of enclosed areas where you will keep the animals.
 - Information or evidence that you comply with the City’s zoning ordinances for facilities, activities and operations.
- You will not be issued a permit for animals that are not kept in accordance with the City’s zoning ordinances.
- The director or deputy director will make any and all inspections that they feel are necessary in order to issue permits.
- The director may require you to take a basic training course related to animal care or breeding as part of the requirements for getting a permit.
- You must renew and pay for all permits every year. This must be done by the last day of the month that you received the permit the year before. For example, if you register an animal on March 15, 2010, you must renew the registration by March 31, 2011.) You must also pay the fee unless you are an animal welfare organization.
- You cannot transfer a permit to another person.

Animal Welfare Organizations

For a permit application, you must:

- Submit the organizational structure of the group including names and addresses of members of the governing board.
- Submit proof that you are non-profit (if applicable) and evidence that your group is in good standing with the Texas comptroller of public accounts.
- If you are not a tax exempt non-profit group, you must submit a description of your organizational structure and how long you have been in existence.
- If your organization has never been given a permit by the city or you have never been approved as a rescue partner, you must submit a letter of recommendation from a permitted animal welfare organization or a veterinarian.
- Complete or update a previously complete rescue partner application as developed by the department and you must provide information as to how your organization will operate, how you will hold animals, plans for dealing with animals with behavior problems and medical/health problems; how you will provide veterinary care for animals when necessary, how you will train any employees or volunteers, and how you will find new homes for animals.
- Provide information as to the types of animals that your organization will work with and what you expect will be the maximum number of animals you will hold at any one time.
- Provide information regarding what percentage of work your organization will do regarding dogs and cats that have been abandoned, recovered or found within El Paso County, Texas, or a bordering county.

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- Explain your organization’s policies and procedures for accepting the return of any dog or cat that is less than one year of age when your organization transfers it to a new owner.
- Provide a copy of the most recent annual shelter inspection report required under Texas Health and Safety Code Section 823.003(d), or if your organization is foster-based, a letter from a veterinarian showing what they found regarding the health and welfare of the animals after inspecting some or all of the foster homes.

Please Note:

- Permits will be issued at no cost, are valid for 12 months, and are not transferable.
- You must make sure that the animals you hold do not violate the City’s zoning ordinances.
- Before a permit is issued, or at any time after, an inspector may look over your location. This will take place during normal business hours or at another agreed-upon time after you have received 24 hours notice. You or someone you designate can be present during the inspection.
- You may recover the cost of care, sheltering and feeding when transferring an animal, but must provide documentation of these costs.
- You may also receive donations consistent with your non-profit status.

Animal Services

- The City Manager or someone they designate will gather information about the number of animals impounded by the City and the outcome of each impoundment. They will provide the City Council with reports containing this information twice a year or when City Council directs them to provide it.
- Each report shall include the following specific information:
 - The number of animals euthanized and a comparison from one year to the next.
 - The type of animals that were impounded, released, microchipped and euthanized along with any information about the animal’s health and behavior.
 - The number of animals registered and a comparison from one year to the next.
 - The types and number of permits issued by the program.
 - Statistics about enforcement activities focusing on litter and breeder permits.
- The department will keep an accurate record of the characteristics of animals that are euthanized.
- An animal not claimed by its owner that does not have a microchip, vaccination and/or registration tag shall be held for at least 3 days before it is euthanized.
- An animal not claimed by its owner that does have a microchip, vaccination and/or registration tag shall be held for at least 6 days before it is euthanized.

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Fowl, Rabbits and Turtles

- You cannot keep a rabbit or fowl within the city without a permit except in a farm-ranch district or zoning district where a stockyard or stable is permitted or where fewer than six are kept as household pets.
- You cannot keep more than three roosters.
- Your application for a permit must state the location where the animals are kept, the acreage and square footage, and the number of animals, specifically the number of roosters, as well as the kind of enclosed area where they will be kept.
- You cannot sell, offer for sale, barter or give away baby chickens, ducks, or other fowl under three weeks old; rabbits under two months old; or viable turtle eggs and live turtles with a shell length of less than four inches except as permitted by federal law or regulation, as pets, toys, premiums, or novelties.

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Registros, Vacunación y Microchipping



- Hay que registrar su mascota cada año con Servicios de Animales. Esto se puede hacer en la oficina de su veterinario.
- Aunque no sea residente de la Ciudad de El Paso, si su mascota permanecerá dentro de la ciudad por mas de 90 días, se requiere que el animal sea registrado.
- Hay que vacunar a su mascota contra la rabia si tiene mas de 4 meses de edad.
- Su mascota debe tener un microchip.
- Si usted es un nuevo dueño de mascota, o si su información ha cambiado, se requiere que someta los cambios a Servicios de Animales dentro de siete días. (Esto nos ayudará encontrar a su mascota en caso de que se pierda.)
- Hay que asegurar que su mascota siempre tenga su collar de registro y si lo ha perdido o roto, se necesita reemplazar.

- No se permite transferar el registro a otra persona.



Los Estándares de Cuidado

- Debe proporcionar refugio y sombra para su mascota.
- Asegurese que su mascota tenga el alimento y agua fresco que necesita.
- Debe asegurar que cualquier edificio o área donde viva su mascota este limpia, segura y sanitaria.
- Usted no debe utilizar algo peligroso para restringir a su mascota, ni que cause dolor ni ser cruel de ninguna manera. (Nosotros no recomendamos encadenar ni atar a su mascota como manera de restringirlo).
- Si saca a su perro asegurese de llevarlo con una correa. Los perros y los gatos siempre deben de estar bajo control.
- No se permite descuidar a su mascota, ni abandonarlo.
- No debe poner su mascota en peligro, dejándolo encerrado en un vehículo.



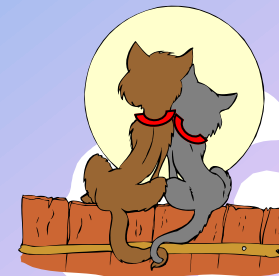
Su Mascota Siendo Parte de la Comunidad



- Su mascota siempre debe permanecer dentro de su propiedad por medio de restricción física. No debe vagar en público ni en propiedades privadas.
- Su mascota no debe poner en peligro a los demás.
- Debe recojer los desechos de su mascota si estan en su propiedad o en la propiedad de otra persona.
- Debe asegurarse que su mascota no cause malos olores o una situación poco saludable para otros animales o personas.

Permisos para Crías y la Venta de Mascotas

- Si fue planeado o no, usted debe obtener un permiso de cría, si usted tiene un perro o gato que está embarazada.
 - Debe obtener el permiso de la cría dentro de 14 días después de que la cría nazca.

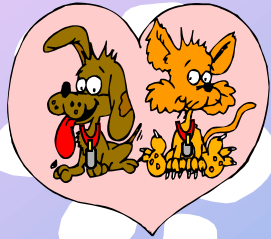


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Permisos para Crías y la Venta de Mascotas

(Continuación)

- El permiso de cría es válido por un año y por solo una cría por año.
- No se permita vender o transferir un perrito o un gatito menor de 8 semanas de edad.
- Si está vendiendo o transfiriendo una mascota que tenga menos de un año de edad y no está esterilizada o castrada, no debe cobrar más de \$50.00 a menos de que haya prueba de que ha gastado más que esto para cuidarla.
- Si está vendiendo o transfiriendo una mascota que tenga menos de un año de edad y si está esterilizada o castrada, no debe cobrar más de \$150.00 a menos de que haya prueba de que ha gastado más que esto para cuidarla.
- No se permite vender, alquilar o mostrar un animal por razones comerciales a lo largo de cualquier borde de carretera, vía pública, estacionamiento comercial, mercado o festival.



No cumplir con los requisitos de la Ordenanza de la Ciudad puede resultar en multas y sanciones.

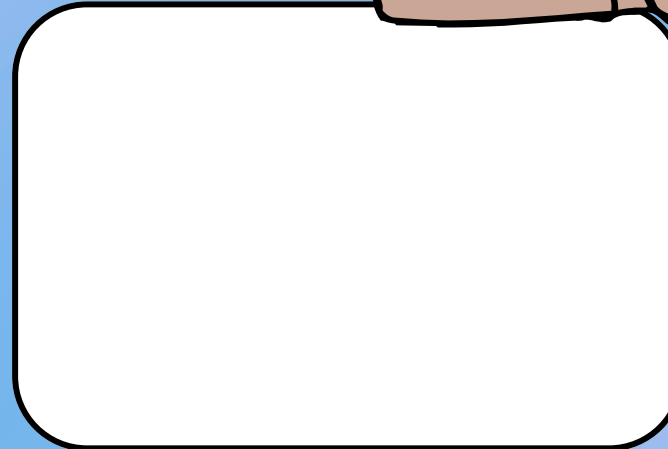
¡No se quede Atrás!

Para conocer más sobre los programas ofrecidos por los Servicios de Animales, visite nuestra página de internet en: www.elpasotexas.gov/health



Siendo Dueño de una Mascota en El Paso

Lo que Usted Necesita Saber



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Servicios de Animales
5001 Fred Wilson
El Paso, Texas
79906

Teléfono: 915-842-1000

Fax: 915-842-1008

