



# Dog Ownership

### **Katherine Town Council Enforces Local By-Laws in Order to Maintain Responsible Dog Ownership**

#### **Dog Registration**

It is compulsory in Katherine to register all dogs over 3 months. Registration is 12 months from 1 July to 30 June. Reduced rates apply for desexed dogs. If the dog is lost or impounded while wearing a registration tag the owner will be notified. Replacement tags are available at a cost of \$3.00. A maximum of 2 dogs per household is permitted as per Katherine Town Council By-Laws.

#### **Dogs Causing a Nuisance**

Lonely or bored dogs are usually the worst barking offenders. Information packages to assist owners with dog barking problems are available from Council.

#### **Dogs at Large**

It is the responsibility of the owner to maintain the dog under effective control. Dogs wandering the street outside of owner's property may attract an infringement (fine) of \$100-\$200. NOTE: DOGS MUST BE WALKED ON LEADS in public streets and parks. Failure to do so may attract an infringement.

#### **Dog Attack**

A dog attack is established and defined in relation to the actions of a dog, means the action of a dog that involves the dog rushing at, biting, chasing, menacing, or worrying a person or another animal and in doing so, the dog actually touches the person or animal, or the clothing or other property in the immediate possession or under the immediate control of the person, whether or not any injury or damage occurs to the person, animal or property, as per Katherine Town Council By laws. This can result in fines up to \$600. Plus other costs associated with the occurrence.

#### **Dog Menace**

A dog menace is an action that creates a reasonable apprehension in a person that the dog is likely to attack the person, another person or an animal owned or in the control of the person, and includes a reasonable apprehension that the dog may escape, or be released from restraint, to attack a person or animal. This can result in fines of up to \$300.

#### **Working Together With Council**

Council prefers to work with owners to solve problems rather than force owners to part with their pets. Each complaint is considered an opportunity for Council to provide assistance to the community and the dog owner. You are welcome to contact Council Rangers on 8972 5500.