



BREVARD County

BREVARD ANIMAL SERVICES AND ENFORCEMENT

Public Information Release

Brian Figueroa
PIO
Office: 321-633-2024
Brian.Figueroa@brevardcounty.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

08/06/2010

Brevard County Animal Services encourages dog/cat owners to purchase a county license for each of their pets. There are many compelling reasons to register your dog/cat with the county through an animal license:

1. If your dog/cat gets lost, a license on your dog/cats collar is the fastest way to reunite you and your pet. Particularly during natural disasters. (I.e. Hurricanes, Brush Fires etc.)
2. The fee you pay for your dog/cat license and license renewal keeps your county's animal shelters going.
3. Your dog/cat license shows that you are a responsible owner.
4. It's the law.

As a responsible pet owner, it is your duty to license your family pet in Brevard County. Licensing your dog/cat benefits the animal population as a whole, as well as your pet in particular, and yourself. It also increases public safety and awareness. With hurricane season upon us this is also a very important time to register your family pet.

When you get your dog or cat licensed, you will have to pay a small fee. All of the money collected through licensing fees goes directly into your local county animal services agency. Therefore, by licensing your dog/cat, you are not only protecting your own pet, but also strays and other pets in your area. The registration fee varies from \$10.00 to \$16.00 depending on whether or not the dog or cat is spayed/neutered. Renewal is every year, just like renewing the registration for your vehicle.

In addition to animal registration being the law, unlicensed dogs/cats create a serious financial impact on the operation of the shelter. The animal shelter relies on fees generated by license sales to pay for the many services provided to the community, including lost animals and adoption services. Owners with licensed dogs and cats are contributing their fair share toward funding the shelter, while unclaimed unlicensed dogs/cats cost the county money to feed, house, provide medical treatment for and to place in new homes.

In sharp contrast, lost dogs/cats wearing a current animal license may never actually visit the shelter at all. Licensing your dog or cat is important for their safety. When you get an animal license, you also get a tag to put on your pet's collar. That tag illustrates our department phone number as well as a unique identification number which links your contact information to your pet, should they be lost. Animal Control officers responding to reports of stray animals can simply check the tag number in our database to look up the owner's name and address and return the dog directly to the owner, saving the county the trouble and expense of housing the dog at the shelter. As well as reducing the risk of exposing your pets to other stray animals that may not be current on their vaccinations. People who find your dog/cat can contact us as well, who in turn can attempt to reunite you with your lost pet.

In many areas, you can get your animal license at your local veterinarian, both county shelters and our main office. Please feel free to contact our main office at 321-633-2024 for specific locations or check the veterinarian listings on our website at www.brevardanimalservices.com.