

Wandering cats

What to do if you see an unknown cat on your property



Mornington
Peninsula Shire

**Community
Animal
Shelter**

What to do?

What are your options for dealing with a wandering cat on your property?

1 Establish whether the cat has an owner

Check with neighbours to help identify the cat. Pet cats are usually friendly and approachable. Stray cats are often less approachable and can become aggressive when trapped.

2 If you find the cat's owner, you may:

(a) Approach the cat's owner and explain the problem. The owner may not be aware of the situation; or

(b) If the owner is unapproachable or you are not comfortable approaching them, try placing the "Dear neighbour" letter (found in this brochure) into their letter box.

3 If these options don't resolve your concern:

You can contact the Regulatory Services Unit during business hours to request an officer-assisted cat trap.

Cat trap conditions of use:

- The trap is provided for up to 2 weeks to help contain the cat.
- Traps may only be set from Sunday evening to Thursday evening, because no collection service is available on Saturday and Sunday
- Under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986* and relevant Codes of Practice, the person setting the trap is responsible for the cat's care and handling while with them.

To request a cat trap, please contact:
customerservice@mornpen.vic.gov.au
5950 1434

Trap collection and return

Monday – Friday, 9am–5pm
Community Animal Shelter and Pound,
130 Watt Road, Mornington
5950 1838

All impounded cats are scanned for a microchip in an attempt to identify and contact the owner.



Dear neighbour

Recently a cat with the following description has been wandering into my property.

Description of cat:

If this cat belongs to your household, your help keeping the cat contained would be much appreciated. On the Mornington Peninsula all cats are required to be kept on the owners property.

Please find additional information that may be of help from on the back of this letter.

Thank you,
Your neighbour



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The life of a cat

Cats are highly valued pets in Australia; around 34 per cent of households own them. They adapt well to our lifestyles and can provide great companionship. However, problems can occur if cats are allowed to roam outdoors.

Cat curfew

Mornington Peninsula Shire has a cat curfew. The curfew requires cats to be confined to the owner's premises at all times.

The curfew is to keep your cat within your property boundary. If your cat is trapped outside your property by a member of the public or a Shire officer, the officer will try to reunite you provided the cat is currently registered and microchipped.

If your cat is lost, check the Shire website or contact the community animal shelter:

mornpen.vic.gov.au/lostpets
5950 1838

For more information on the cat curfew and the best way to keep your cat on your property, visit **[mornpen.vic.gov.au/wandering cats](http://mornpen.vic.gov.au/wandering_cats)**

Did you know...



80 per cent of accidents involving cats happen at night.



Cats can be hit by cars, get into fights, be infected with diseases (FIV), lose their way.



Cats kept inside generally live 3 times longer than cats allowed to roam outside.



Cats are most likely to kill native wildlife during dusk and dawn, even well-fed cats.



Cats can be a nuisance by disturbing other pets, yowling, digging



Infringements may be issued to owners if cats are found wandering more than once.



Trapping cats must comply with:
Domestic Animals Act 1994 and
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.



Contact us

Community Animal Shelter and Pound
130 Watt Road, Mornington, VIC 3931

5950 1838

casgroup@mornpen.vic.gov.au

TTY: 133 677 TIS: 131 450

customerservice@mornpen.vic.gov.au

Private Bag 1000, Rosebud, VIC 3939

