

Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE **Animal Causing Nuisance**

The Shire Rangers have recently received a number of complaints about wandering cats, chickens, roosters and ducks causing nuisance in residential areas of Home Island and West Island.

The Shire is reminding residents that animal owners are responsible for their animals. This includes making sure animals are registered where required, properly identified, securely contained and managed so they do not cause problems for neighbours or the wider community.

CATS

Under the *Cat Act 2011 (WA) (CKI)*, cats from six months of age are required to be registered and identified with a registration tag. Owners are also responsible for keeping their cats appropriately contained in accordance with the requirements.

The Shire will be increasing its compliance activities. Infringement action may be taken where cats are found not to meet the applicable requirements, including registration.

The Shire Ranger has also recommenced the trapping and management of unowned, stray and feral cats on Home Island and West Island. Cats that are found wandering and cannot be identified or linked to an owner may be managed as unowned or stray cats in accordance with the Shire's procedures.

To help prevent your cat from being mistaken for an unowned or stray cat, owners are encouraged to:

- Register your cat with the Shire.
- Make sure your cat is wearing its registration tag.
- Keep your cat appropriately contained on your property.

POULTRY – CHICKENS, ROOSTERS AND DUCKS

Poultry owners are responsible for making sure their chickens, roosters and ducks are securely contained on their property and do not wander onto neighbouring properties, roads or public areas.

Owners should make sure that:

- Poultry do not cause a nuisance to neighbours.
- Roosters are appropriately managed, particularly where ongoing or excessive crowing is causing a noise nuisance.
- Poultry are kept in an enclosure suitable for the number and size of birds.
- Enclosures are secure and maintained so birds cannot escape.
- Poultry enclosures are located at least one metre from the property boundary fence and away from roads and local government property.
- Poultry do not regularly wander onto neighbouring properties or public areas.

The Shire Ranger has also recommenced the control program for wandering and uncontained poultry. This will continue regularly where it is safe and practicable to do so.

Owners are encouraged to take action now to secure their poultry and prevent ongoing complaints or possible compliance action.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

All animal owners are reminded to make sure their animals are registered where required, properly identified, securely contained and responsibly managed.

The Shire may carry out inspections and take further compliance action where ongoing animal nuisance or non-compliance is identified.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the Shire Rangers on (08) 9162 6649 or via email jamil.ibram@cocos.wa.gov.au.

Shire Ranger

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