

Trespassing Cats



What to do if you have a wandering
cat entering your property

What to Do?

What are your options for dealing with a wandering or trespassing cat when it enters your property?

1. First you need to establish whether the cat has an owner or if it is a stray/ ownerless cat. You might like to observe the cat and try to establish where it resides or make enquiries with your neighbours to help identify where the cat comes from.

HINT: Owned cats are usually friendly. Stray cats that are ownerless tend to be timid and afraid of human interaction and are often unapproachable. When trapped they can become aggressive.

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
 - (b) If the owner is unapproachable or you are not comfortable approaching them, try placing the "Dear Neighbour" letter on the back page into their letter box
3. If you cannot find the cat's owner, you may:
 - (a) For Friendly Cats - Try approaching the cat if it's tame and secure the cat in a suitable box or cage and take to the Council Pound;
 - (b) For Unfriendly Cats - Hire a trap from the Council Pound to trap the cat and take it to the Pound;
4. All impounded cats are scanned for a microchip in an attempt to identify and contact the owner.



Wyndham City Pound

253-255 Old Geelong Rd, Hoppers Crossing

Monday to Friday, 8am - 4.30pm

Phone: 9742 0958

Information About Trespassing Cats

The domestic cat in our community

Cats are highly valued pets in Australia; around 23% of households own them. They adapt well to our life styles, and can provide great companionship for people. However, problems can occur if cats are allowed to roam outdoors, especially between dusk & dawn.

Cat Curfew

Wyndham City has a cat curfew. The curfew requires cats to be confined to the owner's premises between 10pm and 6am. The cat curfew is not about keeping your cat inside your house but confining your cat to your property boundary. However, cats that are not confined during the day (non-curfew hours) can still be trapped if a resident objects to the cat being on their property. If your cat is trapped outside your property by a member of the public or a Council Ranger, attempts will be made to reunite it with you provided the cat is currently microchipped or wearing a Council registration tag.

For more information on Wyndham's Cat Curfew and the best way to confine your cat to your property, visit: www.wyndham.vic.gov.au

Did you know...

- Approximately 80% of accidents involving cats happen at night
- Roaming cats can get hit by cars, injured in fights, infected with diseases (e.g. feline AIDS) or become disorientated and not find their way home
- Cats kept inside generally live at least three times longer than cats allowed to roam
- The hours between dusk and dawn are also when cats are most likely to kill native wildlife; even well fed cats will hunt
- Cats can annoy neighbours by spraying, fighting, yowling and digging in gardens
- Owners of cats found trespassing more than once, may receive a Notice of Objection, and in some cases an infringement
- The handling and trapping of cats must be undertaken according to the Domestic Animal Act and the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

Remember: if it is your cat, it is your responsibility.

Date: _____

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 it would be appreciated if you could please contain the cat to your property and not allow it to trespass or wander into surrounding properties.

As you may be aware Wyndham Council encourages owners to contain cats at all times. Wandering / trespassing cats can be trapped and handed over to Council.

I would appreciate your co-operation in resolving this issue.

Additional information provided by Council is printed on the back of this letter and may be of assistance to you.

Thank you,

Your Neighbour