

Fact Sheet



Post Adoption Animal Care

Bringing home an adopted animal is an exciting time, especially if it's a first time pet! There's a lot to learn about responsible pet ownership. This fact sheet gives some basic pointers on basic animal care and your obligations as a pet owner.

Training

Young dogs in particular need to learn about what behaviour is and is not acceptable in your house and in public.

Even for pet owners who have previously had dogs, puppy school will help to settle your pet into its new environment and learn how to socialise with other dogs. Puppy school is strongly encouraged for households where there are kids – children will also benefit from attending puppy school to learn about good handling and care of animals.



Feeding

As with humans, a balanced, age-appropriate diet will help to make sure your pet is receiving its nutritional needs.

Pet food is made specifically for different age groups to meet different nutritional needs. It is important to follow the guidelines on the packaging to ensure the right amount is given. Overfeeding is a common problem – don't be fooled by begging or cute faces!

Packaged pet food may be supplemented with fresh food (such as fresh meat) when appropriate for the age of your pet.

Animal treats should be exactly that – treats used to reward good behaviour or where encouragement is needed. Animal treats should never be used as a substitute for more wholesome food.

Exercise

Dogs and cats need lots of exercise, especially when younger. Walking your dog should become part of your daily routine. There are also 'off lead' areas where dogs can run free, however you must still be able to control the dog by calling its name or making a similar command. Information about on-lead and off-lead spaces is available on Council's website.

While cats are generally more self-sufficient for exercise in a house, they can be provided with climbing poles and structures for stimulation.

It's important to remember that all dogs and cats must be confined to your property at all times and not wander off alone in the street.

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Vaccination

Vaccination is important for ensuring your pet does not become susceptible to a range of diseases, some of which may be fatal.

All adopted animals from the Campaspe Animal Shelter are vaccinated against common diseases, and a vaccination certificate will be supplied.

Your pet should generally be re-vaccinated on an annual basis by visiting your local veterinary clinic.

Parasites

Fleas, mites, ticks and worms are some common parasites that can be picked up by animals, and these should be controlled for the sake of your pet's health and your own health.

These days, common parasites can be effectively managed by oral or topical medications. Staff at the Campaspe Animal Shelter can provide you with initial advice on parasite prevention, and you should follow this up with a regular program of treatment as advised by your vet.

Desexing

An oversupply of dogs and cats through uncontrolled breeding is unfortunately one of the main reasons that animal shelters exist.

All dogs and cats adopted through the Campaspe Animal Shelter have been desexed to prevent unwanted pregnancy. Campaspe Shire Council encourages pet owners to speak to their vet about desexing animals that are not yet neutered.

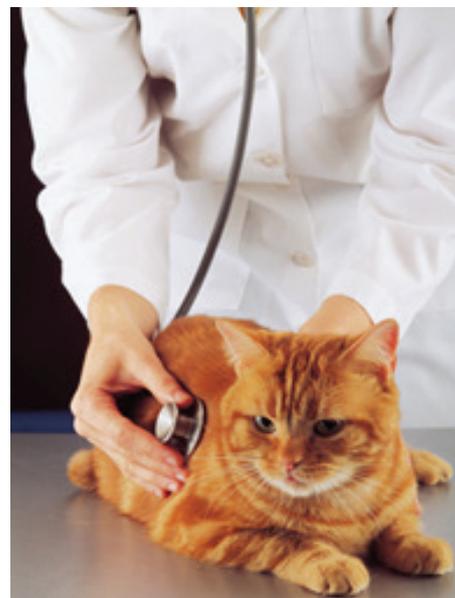
Microchipping and registration

Microchipping helps to make sure that lost pets can be reunited with their owners. All dogs and cats that leave the Campaspe Animal Shelter have been microchipped. Owners should ensure that details are kept up to date online if relocating, to ensure that contact can be made if your pet becomes lost.

Dogs and cats must be registered with Council by 10 April each year. Pet owners whose cats and dogs are registered in Campaspe will receive a registration pack in March. You can also download a registration form from Council's website or pick one up from the Shelter or a Campaspe customer service centre.

Veterinary care

Further advice on animal care can be obtained from your veterinarian. Regular (annual) check-ups from your vet are strongly encouraged to ensure your pet remains in good health.



Contact

All animals waiting for a new home can be found on the shelter website, or by visiting the shelter in person.

Location

530 McKenzie Road, Echuca
(part of the Echuca & District
Livestock Exchange site)

Adoption hours

By appointment

Monday – Friday	10am – 4pm
Saturday	10am – 12pm

Shelter hours

By appointment

Monday – Friday	10am – 4.30pm
Saturday	10am – 12pm

Good Friday	Closed
Christmas Day	Closed

Closed on public holidays that fall on a weekend

Contact

Phone

03 5480 3005

Website

campaspeanimalshelter.com.au