



How will our new cat laws affect microchip implanters?

As from 1 November 2013, all domestic cats in Western Australia, over six months of age, will need to be sterilised, microchipped and registered with their local government as the full *Cat Act 2011* comes into effect.

Who can microchip cats?

Vets, vet nurses or people with the following qualifications from a registered training provider:

- ACMMIC401A Implant microchip in cats and dogs; and
- A minimum of one of the following certificates:
 - Advanced Certificate in Veterinary Nursing
 - Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing
 - Certificate III in Animal Technology
 - Certificate III in Companion Animal Services
 - Certificate III in Local Government (Animal Management)
 - Certificate IV in Animal Control and Regulation
 - Certificate IV in Animal Welfare (Regulation)
 - Certificate IV in Captive Animals
 - Certificate IV in Companion Animal Services

What information does the microchip implanter need to record?

The microchip implanter needs to record:

- a) the microchip barcode information or sticker;
- b) the microchip number;

- c) the microchip implanter's full name;
- d) if the microchip implanter is a part of a company or organisation, the name of that company or organisation;
- e) full contact details for the microchip implanter's company or organisation (if applicable);
- f) the date the cat was microchipped;
- g) the cat owner's full name, residential address, contact numbers and email address;
- h) the address at which the cat is normally kept; and
- i) the cat's name, age, breed, colour, gender and sterilisation status of the cat.

Do the microchips used need to comply with any National Codes?

Yes, any microchip implanted must comply with one of the following National Codes:

- AS 5018 — 2001 Electronic Animal Identification — National coding scheme, published 29 June 2001; or
- AS 5019 — 2001 Electronic Animal Identification — Radiofrequency methods, published 7 June 2001.

The Australian Standards can be accessed for free from the State Library of Western Australia.

Microchip Implanter Fact Sheet: What do our new Cat Laws mean for you?



Who are the prescribed microchip database companies?

- Central Animal Records (Aust) Pty Ltd;
- HomeSafeID;
- Petsafe;
- Australasian Animal Registry; and
- National Pet Register.

When does this have to be done?

Within seven days of implanting the microchip.

Are there any penalties for the microchip implanters?

Yes, a maximum court-imposed fine of \$5,000 for failure to advise the microchip database company of the above information within seven days.

Where can I get more information?

For more information, refer to the Department of Local Government and Communities' Responsible Cat Ownership web page at:

<http://dlg.wa.gov.au/Content/Legislation/ResponsibleCatOwnership.aspx>

What is the purpose of the *Cat Act 2011*?

Our new cat laws are about encouraging responsible pet ownership and reducing the number of unwanted cats in the community and the number that are euthanised each year.

The full *Cat Act 2011* will take effect from **1 November 2013** and will require all cats that have reached six months of age to be:

- Microchipped;
- Sterilised; and
- Registered with the relevant local government.