



Information Sheet

Prescribed collar for regulated dogs

In January 2016 Sunshine Coast Council amended the local law to require all regulated dogs to wear a prescribed collar. The collar is designed to clearly identify these dogs as regulated and alert community members that the dog has been classed as dangerous, menacing or restricted under the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*.

The collars are currently in use in a number of other states including Western Australia, New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania for dogs which have been regulated as dangerous, menacing or restricted under the relevant state laws.

What does the collar look like?

The collar is red and yellow striped made of fluorescent and durable material. This collar is not designed to be used as a tethering collar on your dog. **Do not** attach a lead to it. It is only meant to show that the dog is a regulated dog.



Why does my dog have to wear a collar?

Dogs which have been declared dangerous, menacing or restricted under the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*, or equivalent legislation in another state, have been identified as being a higher risk to the community. The *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* puts a number of control measures in place to ensure that the risk these dogs pose to the community is minimised by the use of extra containment requirements and control measures.

Council has made the decision to enhance these measures so that community members can easily identify these dogs. One of the key benefits is for circumstances where a regulated dog is outside the control of its owner, community members can keep themselves and their animals safe until the dog can be safely contained by council or its owner without getting too close.

The decision was made to add the collars as an identification measure after incidents where regulated dogs had escaped their containment, or the control of their owner, and community members had interacted with them (or attempted to interact with them) to contain them for council collection. Fortunately in these occasions there were no injuries, but it did highlight to council that the community need a way to quickly and easily identify a regulated dog without having to read a small tag.

When does my dog have to wear the collar?

Your regulated dog is required to wear the collar at all times.

What if my dog is not wearing its collar?

Under *Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011, section 9A (Collar to be worn by regulated dog)* if your regulated dog is not wearing its prescribed collar you will receive an on-the-spot fine of \$609.

Ongoing failure to ensure your dog is wearing its prescribed collar may result in prosecution through the Magistrate's Court where the maximum penalty is \$6,095 (50 penalty units).

How do I get a collar?

As part of your dog registration with Sunshine Coast Council will provide you with a prescribed collar. If your collar is lost or damaged you can contact council to request a replacement.

Can other dogs wear this collar?

To ensure that the collars act as a safety alert for regulated dogs if your dog is **not** a regulated dog it is an offence for it to wear the prescribed collar under *Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011, section 9A (Collar to be worn by regulated dog)*.

If your dog is **not** a regulated dog and is found to be wearing the prescribed collar you may receive an on-the-spot fine of \$241.

What else has changed?

There are no other changes to the requirements for keeping a regulated dog.

Please contact Response Services at Sunshine Coast Council on 07 5475 7272 immediately if you are unsure of any of the conditions for keeping your regulated dog.

Sunshine Coast Council
www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
mail@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
T 07 5475 7272 F 07 5475 7277
Locked Bag 72 Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Qld 4560