



BROUGHT TO YOU BY NELSON CITY COUNCIL

DOG & BONE



2020

WELCOME TO THE 2020 EDITION OF DOG&BONE

NELSON CITY COUNCIL'S NEWSLETTER FOR DOG OWNERS



DOGS ONLINE

You can now register, pay and manage your dog registration online at my.nelson.govt.nz.

If you've already registered, we will have all your details so it will be a simple job to re-register your dog this year by logging in to the Dog Registration portal at my.nelson.govt.nz. You can also check that all of your details are up-to-date and make any changes you need to.

If you haven't already registered, you'll need to set up your account. Go to my.nelson.govt.nz and click on Dog Registration (under Animal Management) – then follow the prompts to create an account. You'll need your dog owner number, which you will find on the registration form you received with this newsletter, and your date of birth.

If you need any help with setting up an account, logging in or registering your dog, contact Council's Customer Service Centre and we can help. Just remember, however you do it, all dogs need to be registered by 1 July.

The Dogs Online system only accepts payment by credit card, so if you want to pay by internet banking go to nelson.govt.nz/online-payments and use your owner number as a reference. Alternatively, you can bring your registration form into Civic House and pay over the counter.

Please note: Council understands COVID-19 has added significant additional financial pressure to many, and we are actively looking at ways to help our community navigate the impacts of the pandemic. Council has extended the date where late penalties apply from 1 August to 1 September this year to assist dog owners in paying their registration fee as required by the Dog Control Act 1996.

2020 DOG REGISTRATIONS

It's time to renew your dog registration.

All dogs over three months of age on 1 July must have a current registration. As a dog owner, you're responsible for ensuring your dog is registered by the 1 July deadline.

Payment can be made online at my.nelson.govt.nz. Registration fees have increased this year to more accurately reflect the cost of staff time for dog registration processing, recovery and impounding of wandering dogs, attending dog related incidents and regular dog patrols.

Council's Long Term Plan requires 90% of the Dog Control budget to be met by fees, with 10% covered from the general rates. The new fees meet this criteria and will mean that most of the cost of Council's dog control services is funded by dog owners.

We have also, following public consultation, removed the Good Dog Owner Policy but retained the \$5 discount on registration fees for neutered dogs.

The Good Dog Owner Policy has been removed because it has a high administration cost and the requirements for the discount replicate those already legally required by the Dog Control Act. The removal of the policy will result in a more equitable fee structure for all dog owners, where those who infringe against the Dog Control Act will pay a greater share of the costs.

The new registration fees are outlined on the following page.





REGISTRATION FEES

Rural dogs (properties of 1 hectare or more)	53.50
All other urban dogs	95.80
All dogs classified as dangerous (standard registration fee, plus 50% surcharge as required by statute)	143.70
Community working dogs such as Police, seeing eye and hearing dogs	5.00
Replacement registration disc	5.00
Neutered dog registration discount (with proof from vet)	-5.00
First impounding	75.00
Second impounding	150.00
Third impounding	225.00
Daily charge (for each day following impounding)	15.00
After hours call out charge (outside normal working hours)	80.00
Install microchip to impounded dogs where required	38.00



HOME ALONE HOUNDS – HELP IS AT HAND

If you've headed back into your work routine after lockdown, your beloved pooch may be struggling with being left alone at home again after enjoying your continued company for weeks on end.

One common symptom of a distressed dog alone at home is excessive barking, and that's when Animal Control are often called. Many dogs will transition back to normal life at home alone quite easily, but sometimes a puppy or a dog adopted at the beginning of lockdown will find it hard to adjust to being home alone.

Here are a few tips to help your dog or puppy adjust to being home alone before it becomes a problem:

- Set the scene for your dog to experience small amounts of time alone each day.

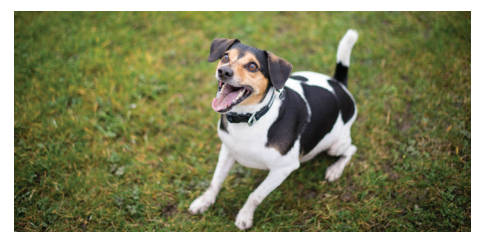
- Leave your pooch at home alone a couple of times a day for a few minutes.
- When you're at home together, put your dog into another room with the door open each day for some quiet time. Make the room comfortable and give him something to play with to make it a positive experience for him.
- If your dog struggles with being in a separate room from you, try a baby gate or barrier of some sort in the doorway, so that he can still see and hear you but can't access you. Use a crate if your puppy or dog is used to being crated.
- If you intend to leave your dog alone outside in your garden, make sure he also has time alone outside each day while you're at home and give him something to do out there to help create a positive experience.

- Build up the time that your puppy or dog is left alone.

Speak to your neighbours and let them know that you are being proactive with helping your dog to transition smoothly and keep in touch with them to see if they have heard any excessive barking.

Some dogs will bark excessively even if they aren't distressed, especially if they can see the outside world and people passing by. Seek help from a professional dog behaviour consultant if your dog's barking is a nuisance.

Thanks to Vikki Pickering from youandyourdog.co.nz for this article.



DID YOU KNOW?

5901

DOGS REGISTERED IN NELSON CURRENTLY

1672

DOG RELATED SERVICE CALLS RECEIVED 2019/20

270

DOGS WERE IMPOUNDED IN 2019/20

528

DOGS WERE FOUND ROAMING IN 2019/20