

Pet License Fees*

The DuPont Pet Owners Guide is intended to provide useful information for pet owners and their neighbors. This guide contains only highlights of DuPont City Ordinance No. 98-619 (DuPont Municipal Code Title 7) and 03-732 relating to household pets. Pet owners are advised to obtain and read the full ordinance available at City Hall or on our website at www.ci.dupont.wa.us (link to Municipal Codes - Title 7 Household Pets).

Contact **Lakewood Animal Control** at (253) 830-5010 for animal control enforcement. Call 911 for emergencies only (i.e. dog attack/biting occurring at that moment).

HOUSEHOLD PETS

Household pet means dogs, cats, domesticated caged birds, fish, rabbits, and other small animals normally kept inside the residence. **Animals prohibited as household pets** include livestock and other farm animals and fowl, and wild animals including wild and dangerous and poisonous snakes and reptiles.

Dogs may not be kept in DuPont in such a manner as to disturb neighbors by habitual yelping or howling. Dogs are highly social animals. When left outside for long periods, they get lonely and bored. They make noise for something to do and in hopes of getting some company. Dogs can be trained so as to be welcome inside a home. Invest the time. It will make you, your dog, and your neighbors much happier.

- Spayed/neutered dogs \$20.00
- Spayed/neutered cats \$12.00
- Unaltered cats and dogs \$60.00

If a new pet license, documentation of vaccinations are required. Documentation of spay/neutering required for spay/neuter fee.

An owner presenting a written statement from a veterinarian that the spay/neuter surgery would be harmful to their pet, may purchase a license at the spay/neuter fee.

Pet License tags expire December 31st and must be renewed by January 31st. After January 31st: License fee plus Late fee: \$10.00 (30-59 days), \$20.00 (60+ days). Renew Early!

Owners of unlicensed cats and dogs are subject to a \$25 civil fine, plus the license and late fees.

*New license fees effective May 1, 2010

DuPont Municipal Code Chapter 7.05

states: It is not permitted for any household pet to be at large during any hour of the day or night in the City of DuPont.

Publication of this guide is required by Ordinance No. 98-619 adopted unanimously by the DuPont City Council on December 8, 1998. This guide was produced by citizen volunteers and DuPont staff.

February 2003

Revised May 2010

DuPont Pet Owners Guide



Together we can build a community of responsible pet owners, good neighbors, and compliance with the law.

Licensing

All dogs and cats age three months or older must be licensed. Tags must be attached to a pet's collar or harness. New residents and new pet owners have 30 days in which to purchase a license for their pet.

A license tag in a drawer does not help a lost pet get home. Don't forget to put your dog's collar back on immediately after its bath. A bath makes a dog frisky and more apt to "get out."

Worried about putting a collar on your cat? Safety all-stretch nylon collars are available at The Humane Society in Tacoma and at many pet stores.

Leash & Scoop

Dog walkers take note! **Your dog must be on a leash and you must carry and use equipment to remove your pet's fecal matter** from trails, yards, sidewalks, parking strips, village greens and parks. It's called being a good citizen and neighbor.

Problems with a neighbor's pet?

It does no good to curse an animal. It doesn't understand. Talk to the pet's owner. Explain your concerns, ask for help in finding a solution. Responsible pet owners care about being good neighbors.

Spaying and Neutering

Spaying and neutering prevents a lot of problems and unwanted litters. Female pets in heat must be kept safely confined. Puppies and kittens and other pets may not be given away or sold in public places. People who go to the store for milk and come home with a pet have not made a thoughtful adoption. Animal shelters are full of "teenage" pets - victims of impulse adoptions as puppies and kittens.

Any pet at large posing a public safety risk, being a public nuisance, or at risk of injury is subject to impoundment.

In a matter of minutes, the temperature in a car on a warm day can rise high enough to cause a pet's death - even with the windows cracked. A quick run into a store can turn out to be a couple of minutes too long. Confining a pet in a motor vehicle in a manner that places the pet in a life or health threatening!

DOG BITES ARE A SERIOUS MATTER

Owners, protect your dog from situations which may cause fear-biting. Spay and neuter early - a male dog on the scent of a female can be aggressive and a mother dog with pups will be protective.

Parents, teach your children to ask before petting an unfamiliar dog. Children need to know not to tease or bother a dog eating or sleeping.

Dog bites to humans or other pets should be reported to Lakewood Animal Control at (253) 830-5010 or the DuPont Police Department at (253) 964-7060.

A WORD ABOUT BATS AND COYOTES

The forested areas around DuPont provide habitat for bats, the only identified source of rabies in Washington. A sick bat flopping on the ground will be of interest to dogs and cats, that's why along with distemper and feline leukemia, pets must also be vaccinated against rabies. Vaccinated dogs and cats are a buffer between you, your children, and this deadly disease.

The number one urban predator of "outside" cats is the automobile. In DuPont, your pet may also become prey for coyotes. Make sure your cat is safe at home at night. For guilt free information see www.hsus.org/programs/companion/cats/indoor.html for "inside only" cats.