



Your Dog





Public Spaces

If a dog is in a public space that is not a permitted dog exercise area it must be on a leash.

Permitted Areas:

Dogs are permitted to run free on all parks and reserves which are not prohibited or restricted provided they are under effective control (this means the dog will come back when called at all times).

A dog must be on a leash in a permitted area when:

- The permitted area is on a reserve which has a sporting activity in progress
- The dog is on a pathway

All dogs are prohibited from playgrounds

- Dogs in Restricted areas must be on a leash at all times.
- Dogs must wear a collar in public places.
- Permitting your dog to excrete on a street or public place and failing to remove it constitutes an offence.
- Dogs must be under effective control at all times either by a lead or will return when called at all times.

Dogs found wandering in public places may be impounded at the City's animal management facility. Fees will apply to release the animal.

On the Spot Fines

Below are some of the offences which can incur on the spot infringements or penalties, view a full list of offences on the Cities website:

- Unregistered Dog
- Failure to remove dog excreta
- Dog causing a nuisance (e.g. barking)
- · Dog Attack or chase, with or without injury
- Dog not held by a leash in public places (e.g. streets)
- Failure to give notice of new owner/s
- · Keeping more than two dogs per property
- Failure to control dog in exercise areas
- · Dog/s on property without consent

Nuisance Barking

The City of Melville appreciates that a barking dog can severely disrupt people's lives.

If a dog barks continually without reason, the cause may be lack of training, insufficient exercise, loneliness, inadequate shelter, ill health or deliberate or unintentional provocation by people or roaming dogs.

Residents are encouraged to try to improve the barking situation by:

- Politely speaking to the dog owner and advising them that their dog is causing a nuisance. If you are not comfortable speaking directly with your neighbour, an anonymous <u>Bark Card</u> can be dropped in their mailbox.
- If you have contacted the dog owner and are getting no results, contact us by phoning customer service on 1300 635 845, or by report the barking dog <u>online</u>. Anonymous Barking Dog complaints cannot be actioned by the City.

You will be asked to provide evidence in the form of a 'Barking Diary'. These diaries need to be as accurate as possible, covering a period of 14 days.

Attacks

We encourage the reporting of all dog incidents and or attacks. You can call the council office during business hours on 1300 635 845 or after hours on 0418 943 219. You can also complete a Dog Attack Statement Form.

A dog does not have to inflict a wound for it be classed as an attack. Our rangers investigate each report, even if an injury has not occurred, to provide the dog owner with information to prevent any future incidents or attacks. If you report an attack, our rangers may get in contact to ask you some questions about the incident.

If a dog attacks a person or an animal the owner or person in control at the time may be held responsible. The number and severity of reported dog attacks is constantly monitored.

Please note: City Rangers are unable to assist in any recovery of costs associated with a dog attack. Customers may pursue this issue as a civil action between the parties involved.

Fencing Requirements

Persons wishing to register a dog must make a declaration to certify that the fences and gates at the premises where the dog is kept are capable of confining the dog within those premises. Gates must have effective self-closing, self-latching and a mechanism that enables the gate to be securely locked.

