



CAT FACTS

Predators by nature, cats will go looking for mates, defend territory and hunt wildlife. They are however, highly adaptable and flexible and fit into domestic life and routines easily and comfortably. Cats do not have to roam. Provided their basic needs are met, cats can enjoy longer and healthier lives when safely contained.





Cats can enrich peoples' lives and provide companionship and joy to many,

BUT







in the Australian bush they are an environmental disaster.

Make your cat safe and protect wildlife by keeping it inside your house or an enclosure.

Did you know that:

-  Predation by feral cats is the principal factor that is contributing to the decline of small native mammals, reptiles and birds in Australia.
-  Feral cats can be found in residential and rural areas.
-  Feral cats transfer diseases such as feline AIDS to domestic cats,
-  Feral cats fight and mate with unrestrained pet cats.

Do you know the laws?

-  The *Domestic Animals Act 1994* requires the owner of any cat of 3 months of age or over to be registered with the Council in which the pet is kept.
-  All cats over the age of three months must also be microchipped.
-  Pet cats that are three months of age and older, but less than 10 years, must be de-sexed.
-  The *Domestic Animals Act 1994* requires that if a cat is found at large outside the premises of the owner or not securely confined to the owner's premises between sunrise and sunset, the owner is guilty of an offence.
-  The *Mornington Peninsula and Cardinia Shires and the City of Casey* require all cats to be contained within the owner's property at all times, **day and night.**
-  Penalties apply for a breach of any of these laws.

Further information

- ◆ <http://www.abc.net.au/environment/articles/2014/10/13/4104768.htm>
- ◆ <http://invasives.org.au/blog/invasive-species-greatest-threats-australias-endemic-terrestrial-mammals/>
- ◆ <http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/pets/cats/cat-confinement-enclosures-and-fencing>
- ◆ <http://www.casey.vic.gov.au>
- ◆ <http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au>
- ◆ <http://www.frankston.vic.gov.au>
- ◆ <http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au>
- ◆ <http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au>



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