



Snohomish County Animal Control Services

A Division of the Auditor's Office

New Year's Resolutions for Pet Owners

Pets can bring their owners unconditional love and happiness. With a new year, now is the perfect time to consider how to return the favor by helping your pet be safe and secure in 2017.

One of the easiest and most affordable ways to protect your pet is to license and microchip your pet. In Snohomish County, pet owners are required to license their pets, regardless if they are inside or outside pets. For a spayed/neutered and microchipped pet, an annual license is \$15. Seniors who are 62 years or older can receive reduced license fees. A license, combined with microchipping, is one of the best ways to ensure your pet's safe return if they are lost. It is also important once you license and chip your pet to keep your contact information up to date.

Snohomish County pet owners can license pets online at www.snoco.org, search for "pet license."



Responsible pet ownership also means helping your pet be a good citizen. Snohomish County's leash law requires any dog off the property of the owner to be under control of a responsible individual. To help keep your dog from roaming off your property, consider teaching your dog basic commands. Basic commands are a good way to stop problem behavior such as jumping up on strangers or bolting off your property every time something catches their attention. If you are committed to working on improving your own health, consider ways to involve your pet. Exercising your pet doesn't have to be just taking them for a walk. A spirited game of hide and seek, Frisbee or hiking can be a fun way to involve your furry friend in your quest for a healthier you. Training and exercising your pet is also a good way to stop problem behavior such as barking. A tired and content dog is less inclined to spend the day barking and potentially annoying the neighbors.