

ANIMAL CONTROL

COMMUNITY SAFETY
KEEPING YOU INFORMED.



www.whitecourt.ca

TOWN OF WHITECOURT DOG LICENCES

Bylaw 1414 requires all dogs within the Town of Whitecourt to be licenced. Dog licences are valid from January 1 to December 31 of the current year, and dog owners have until January 31 of each year to renew licences for their pet.

The Town of Whitecourt has made it easier for residents to licence their pets by implementing lifetime dog tags. One tag is good for the lifetime of your dog, and the tag number will remain the same each year. The licence will still require renewal each year in order to keep information current, but that can be done online from the comfort of your home.

Lifetime Dog Tags can be purchased at the Town Office.

- Dog Licence Fee: \$30
- Dog Licence Fee for spayed/neutered pets: \$15 (Owners are required to provide proof of spaying/neutering before a discounted lifetime dog tag can be issued for new pets.)
- If you get a dog after June 30 of the current year, dog licences are discounted by 50% for the current year.
- If your dog loses its tag, a replacement tag can be purchased for \$2.00.

For a complete copy of Bylaw 1414, visit www.whitecourt.ca and search "Animal Control".

PETS RUNNING AT LARGE

All domestic pets must be kept on your property, or under your control when off your property, at all times. As a pet owner, you are responsible for your pet if it is found running at large.

The Town of Whitecourt employs Animal Control Personnel to monitor animals running at large. All animals found on public property running at large will be picked up. Animal Control Personnel will not enter private property to catch an animal unless permission has been granted by the property owner.

ANIMAL WASTE

Waste collection bags are available in park areas for your convenience. When you are out walking your pet, it is considered littering if you do not pick up any waste they may leave behind. Fines for not cleaning up after your pet are as follows (within a 24 month period):

- First Offence: \$100
- Second Offence: \$175
- Third Offence: \$250

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I need to get a licence for my cat?

Whitecourt does not require your cat to be licenced under the Domestic Animal Bylaw. However, you are required to keep your pet on your property. Cats that wander on to neighbouring properties or public property can be picked up by Animal Control Personnel and put in the Pound.

How many dogs and cats is one household permitted to own?

Per Town Bylaws, a household is limited to owning two dogs and two cats each.

My neighbour's dog is kept outside and it barks all night. What should I do to resolve this problem?

If you do not feel comfortable talking to your neighbour in person, call the Town Office and lodge a formal complaint. You will be required to provide your name; however, your identity will be kept confidential. Once a complaint has been made, the Community Peace Officer will send a letter to the dog's owner informing them of the complaint and information on Bylaw 1414. A letter will also be sent to the complainant stating that the dog owner has been informed. If the dog continues to howl or otherwise disturb the neighbourhood, the complainant will be required to fill out a 'Record of Disturbance' and the Community Peace Officer may fine the dog owner. (Fines range from \$100 to \$250.)

If you see a dog running at large, please contact the Town Office. Animal Control Personnel will investigate and pick up the animal if required.

The Whitecourt Pound will not accept animals directly from members of the public.

If you witness cruelty or neglect to animals, please contact the SPCA at 1-800-455-9033 or the local RCMP at 780-778-5454.

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WHITECOURT POUND

The Whitecourt Pound is operated by the Whitecourt Veterinary Clinic. If your pet is missing, contact the Clinic at 780-778-5767 or the Town Office at 780-778-2273 to see if your pet has been picked up and put in the Pound. If your pet is in the Pound, you must visit the Town Office to pay the impoundment fines prior to picking up your pet. Animals are kept in the pound for three working days only.

Running at large fines for dogs and cats (within a 24 month period):

First Offence: \$75

Second Offence: \$125

Third Offence: \$200

Thereafter: \$250

A feeding fee of \$14 per day will be charged for both cats and dogs in the Pound.

If your dog is unlicensed and is picked up and sent to the Pound, you will be charged a fine for harbouring an unlicensed pet - plus the cost of a dog licence, in addition to the impound fine and daily feeding fee. Discounts for licence purchases do not apply in this situation as this is an involuntary purchase.

PETS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACE AREAS

The Town of Whitecourt makes every effort to balance and accommodate the needs of all park users. We ask that dog owners respect park and playground areas, and that the following guidelines be followed while out walking your pet.

- You must have your pet under your control at all times, either on a leash or under other means of physical control.
- Dogs are only allowed on designated trails and pathways in Rotary Park. While there, dogs must be on a leash or under other means of physical control. Dogs are not allowed in the Whitecourt River Slides, Whitecourt Splash Park, or Rotary Park pond.
- Dogs are not permitted on playgrounds, park areas or sport fields. Signs are posted at park and playground entrances to remind pet owners of this restriction.
- Pets are not allowed on private property without the owner's consent.

OFF LEASH DOG PARK AT ROTARY PARK

An Off Leash Dog Park is located on the north-east boundary of Rotary Park. Your four-legged friend can take part in special off leash privileges while you enjoy the outdoors. The Park features a fenced, secure area where well-mannered dogs can enjoy a good run, or socialize with other dogs, while under the supervision of their owner. Please follow the rules below while enjoying the Off Leash Dog Park.

- Dogs are only allowed off leash within the boundaries of the designated Off Leash Dog Park.
- Limit aggressive dog behaviour - immediately leash and check your dog if it acts hostile toward people, dogs or wildlife.
- Pick up after your pet! Bag dispensers are conveniently located near the Park to help keep the area clean for everyone to enjoy.
- Make sure your dog gets regular vaccinations to not only keep it healthy, but also to help stop the spread of infectious diseases to other dogs and wildlife.



TOWN OF WHITECOURT - COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT

5004 52 Avenue, Box 509, Whitecourt Alberta T7S 1N6

Phone: 780.778.2273 Fax: 780.778.2062 Email: administration@whitecourt.ca

www.whitecourt.ca

Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Closed between 12:00 noon and 12:30 p.m.)