

What is a 'nuisance cat'?

Under the Companion Animals Act 1998, a cat may be considered a nuisance if it:

- repeatedly makes noise that unreasonably interferes with the peace, comfort or convenience of another person
- repeatedly damages property outside the premises where it's usually kept.

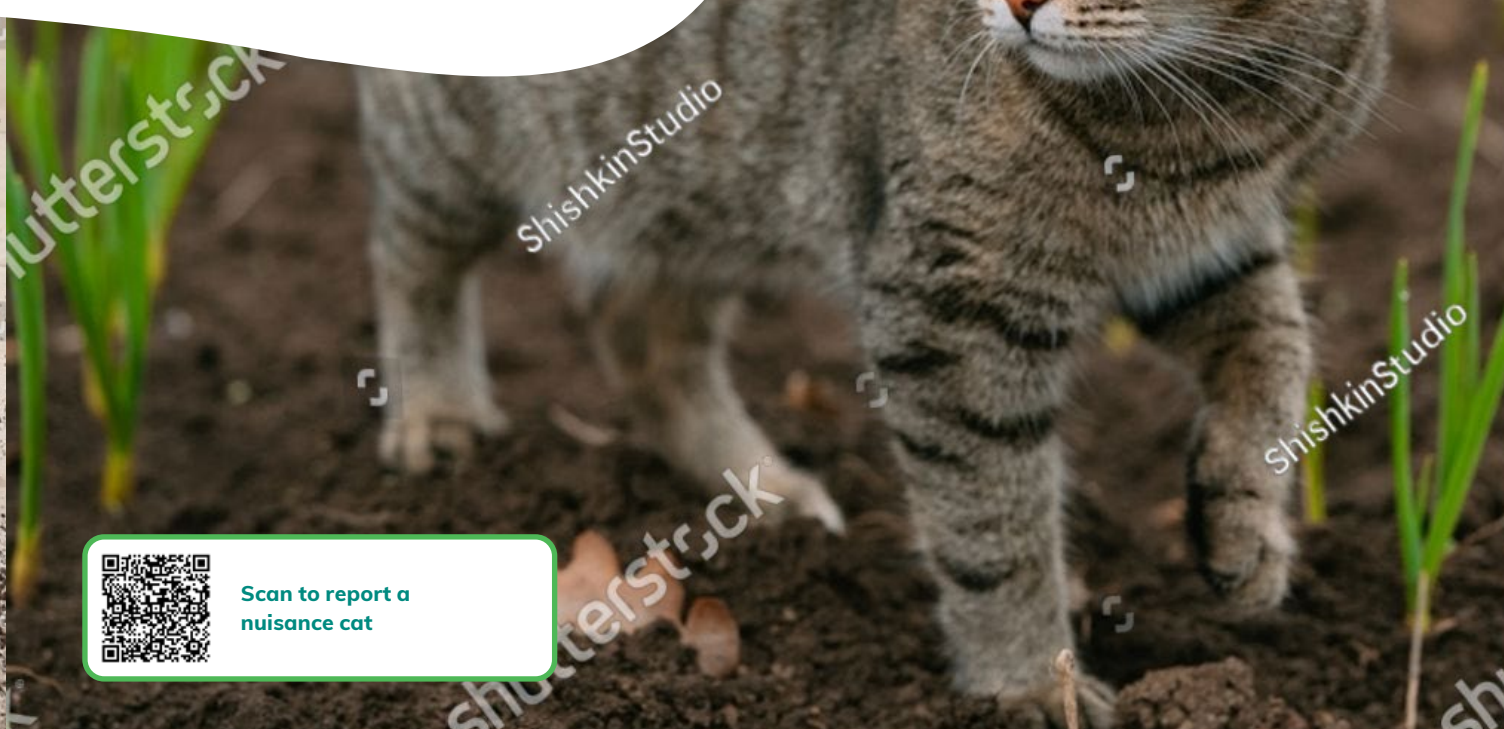


Feral cats and animal welfare concerns

Feral cats are managed separately under pest animal management frameworks.

For concerns about sick, injured, abandoned or welfare-related animal concerns you can contact:

- RSPCA Australia
- Local veterinary clinics
- Wildlife rescue organisations.



Scan to report a
nuisance cat

Nuisance cats

Responsible cat ownership

Under the Companion Animals Act 1998, all cats must be microchipped and registered. It's also important to know that cats that are not de-sexed, may also incur an additional annual permit fee.

We strongly encourage owners to keep cats indoors or within secure outdoor enclosures wherever possible.

This is because keeping cats contained:

- helps protect local wildlife
- reduces nuisance behaviours
- lowers the risk of injury, disease, theft and road trauma to cats.

As cats are legally permitted to roam, Council generally does not trap, seize or collect stray cats from private property.

Desexing your cat also removes the likely event of unwanted litters, which often end up in council pounds or as strays.

Experiencing issues with a cat

Speak with your neighbour

Speak calmly and respectfully with the cat's owner about your issue. Many owners may not be aware that their cat is causing a problem in the first place.

It can be helpful to suggest:

- keeping the cat indoors, particularly at night
- using a cat enclosure or cat-proof fencing
- providing additional activities or comfort at home to keep the cat occupied and content.

Deterring cats from your property

There are humane steps you can take to discourage cats from entering your property such as:

- removing food sources
- securing rubbish bins
- using motion-activated sprinklers
- using commercially available animal deterrents.

Don't feed roaming cats, as this will encourage them to return to your property.

Trapping cats

Council does not provide cat traps, seize nuisance cats or transport trapped cats.

If you choose to use a humane cat trap:

- the cat must be treated appropriately and not harmed
- any trapped cats must not be left without shelter or water
- the cat should be taken promptly to a veterinary clinic, an approved rehoming organization or an animal holding facility.

You should exercise caution when trapping cats and ensure you comply with all relevant animal welfare requirements.

Reporting a nuisance cat

If you believe a cat meets the definition of a 'nuisance cat', you can report it to Council by providing:

- evidence of nuisance behaviour such as photos, videos, diary records or statutory declarations
- the address where the cat is believed to reside
- details of the impacts incurred.