

What are Council Rules Around Cats?

1. How many cats am I allowed?

Marlborough District Council Bylaw 2017 allows you to keep four cats over the age of three months. If you want to keep more than four cats, you will need to get a multiple cat licence.

To apply, complete the application form and send to Council's Compliance Department. Form can be found here

<https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/dogs-and-other-animals/cats>

2. In Considering whether to grant a licence, the following will be taken into account:

- The suitability of the land on which the cats will be kept
- The effect of the additional cats on the surrounding neighbourhood
- The likelihood of the cats becoming a nuisance
- Health issues
- Housing and location of property boundary
- Cat waste

The fee for a multiple cat licence is \$75.00.

3. How to combat nuisance from cats

Using a variety of sprays and granules purchased from local DIY stores or using:

- Bird netting
- Rubber spikes

4. Digging

Cats tend to defecate in places where they can dig, like sand or garden soil. To keep cats from walking in those areas, here are some deterrents which can be used:

- Prickly rubber mats
- Chicken wire
- Bird netting
- Sharp mulch

5. Motion activated sprinklers

When triggered, the sprinklers will spray streams of water, startling and irritating the cat.

When they come back, they'll be sprayed again, and they'll begin to associate your yard with water.

6. Scent repellents

Cats don't like many common household smells, such as:

- Peppermint oil, lavender oil, citrus peels or coffee grounds, eucalyptus and cayenne pepper along your fence or the border of your garden.

Or make up your own DIY cat deterrent, using: Geraniums (Pelargonium), Scaredy cat plant (Coleus canina, Pennyroyal (Mentha pulegium), Common Ruse (Ruta graveolens, Rosemary, Curry Plant, Citronella, Lemongrass (Cymbopogon), Catnip (Nepeta cataria), Lemon thyme, Pennyroyal, Geraniums

7. Ultrasonic cat deterrent

These devices are triggered by motion sensors and emit an ultrasonic alarm. This sound does not hurt cats but instead startles them and sends them running. Humans can't hear the sound, so this won't be an annoyance for you.

8. Feral cats

If you catch a feral cat, you are responsible for disposing of it humanely. This can be done by your vet (for a fee).

Feral cats are a danger to: Native Birds, lizards, frog's invertebrates, bats and rabbits



9. If you find Abandoned, Sick or Injured Domestic Cats or animals

Please contact one of the agencies which can be found online or in the phone book who may be able to assist. Council does not have the resources or facilities to deal with this type of issue.

- *Microchip data base for pets*
- *NZ Companion Lost Register*

Lost animal website

<http://www.lostpet.co.nz>

11. Legislation

Other Animal Bylaw

<https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/dogs-and-other-animals>

10. Other Agencies where you can register your microchipped cat

NZ Companions Animals Register

• <https://www.animalregister.co.nz>

