

Local Laws

Wandering Dogs

www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au



The Domestic Animals Act 1994 requires dogs to be securely confined to their owner's property. This ensures the safety of your pet and the safety of other people and animals.

Confinement to the property

To ensure your dog is properly confined, keep it in the backyard behind a locked gate. Your yard should have some security such as a closed gate or escape-proof fence that your dog can't jump, get under or through, or you should provide a secure run.

Legally, you must also ensure that visitors have safe access to your front door.

Dogs found wandering that are not registered, or do not have any identification, will be collected and impounded. Council may issue fines in relation to stray animals.

Socialisation and exercise

Any dog can become aggressive when defending its territory. Many dog attacks in public places occur on the footpath or road bordering the attacking dog's property. It is important that your dog is securely contained.

Confinement without socialisation or exercise, however, can lead to boredom, health issues or nuisance behaviour.

Socialisation means getting your dog used to behaving well when it is around other people and animals, and in different places. It is particularly important to socialise puppies.

Walking your dog is a key activity that allows them to get to know the local area, keeps your dog mentally and physically healthy and helps it bond with you.

If you see a wandering dog, phone the Local Laws team on 1300 368 333.

Local Laws

Yarra Ranges Council
PO Box 105, Lilydale, 3140
Tel: 1300 368 333