

Article 59: Cat Registration

To adopt a bylaw requiring the registration of pet cats in Concord.

Registration Fees

- A registration fee of \$10 shall be collected per household / residence vs. collecting a fee for each cat living on said premises;
- A \$40 registration fee per household / residence will be applied if any cat(s) are not neutered or spayed;
- Cat breeders identified on Town records are exempt from the fee.

Registration Data

- Registration data will include the owners name & address, along with a description of the cats: sex, age, coloring, breed & unique markings.
- Evidence of rabies vaccination, along with information on spaying/neutering
 - *both of the above can be waived when presented with a signed statement from a veterinarian warranting such action.*

Discounts & Fines

- Cat owners 70 years of age or older will have a special registration rate of \$5 for spayed or neutered cats, and \$30 for cats not spayed or not neutered;
- a violation of the rabies vaccine law may be fined up to a maximum of \$100

How is this different from last year's petition?

- Recognizing the fact that pet owners often have more than one pet, the registration fee for cats is *PER HOUSEHOLD*, so if an owner has multiple cats, be it 2, 3 or 1, the \$10 fee remains the same.

How is this different from last year's petition?

- No license tags will be distributed; the cats will not be required to wear a collar and tag. Instead, we encourage micro chipping of cats. Descriptive data on each registered cat will be entered into the Town's database, which will be regularly updated and referenced should someone ever lose their cats or if someone's cat is found.

*A lot of cats look the same.
How will you find the right cat?*

- We are making the assumption that similar cats (i.e., all tabby female cats) that might be residing in the same area would not all be lost at the very same time. The database will have that information available to the ACO, who will know what kind of cat to look for in which area.

The goal for everyone is to have the right cat returned to the proper owner as soon as possible.

How does this benefit the town?

- While recognizing and honoring a resident's pet, the town benefits in providing a public service, for the public health and safety, while at the same time ensuring that residents are complying with MA law and vaccinating their pet cats.

Concord, MA
Public Hearing March 4, 2013



Thank you!