

**Forsyth County Code
Section 6-10**

Registration of Dogs and Cats Required

The owner of any dog or cat must obtain a registration for such animals within sixty (60) days after the dog or cat is acquired. New residents have sixty (60) days to register any dog or cat.

Initial applications for licensing can be made in person at the Animal Services Division or by mail with all required paperwork included.

A valid rabies certificate from a veterinarian or clinic and proof of spay/neuter (if applicable) must be provided with the initial license application. The annual registration fee may be waived, one time only, for the first 12 month period a dog or cat is registered as spayed or neutered.

Yearly registrations fees are:

\$5 for animals which are spayed/neutered

\$25 for animals which are not spayed/neutered

\$100 for dogs declared to be Dangerous Dogs by Animal Services

(see FAQ section for exemptions)

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Do I get a new tag every year?

A. You will receive a tag initially when you license your pet. This will be your “forever tag.” You will renew the tag each year but will not receive a new tag.

Q. What if I lose my pet’s tag?

A. We can replace a tag once at no charge. You may request a replacement tag when you renew your license or when you discover the tag is lost either by mail or in person. For any subsequent replacement tags, a fee may be charged.

Q. Does my pet have to wear the license tag?

A. Dogs are required to wear their license tag along with their current rabies tag on their collars. Cats are not required to wear the license tags, but cat owners are required to have the registration tag within their possession.

Q. If my dog is found can you look up my information using my tag?

A. Yes, provided your dog is wearing the tag when he or she is found and your information is current in our system.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can I pay my renewal online or by phone?

A. At this time, we do not have the capability to accept payments online or by phone. You can pay by mail or in person.

Q. Doesn’t my vet send you my rabies certificate?

A. Many local vets do send us timely information but we always recommend sending in your information yourself to ensure it is received.

Q. Can you switch the registration from my spouse/friend/family member into my name?

A. In order to switch registration from one person to another we would need to hear from both parties approving the transfer. You can both come to our facility together or you may submit a written statement signed by both parties.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Are there any exceptions to the fees?

A. Yes, the following exemptions apply:

Hunting dogs may receive a reduced fee of \$5.00 upon the owner furnishing a valid hunting license.

Show dogs may receive a reduced fee of \$5.00 upon providing three (3) recognized show event registrations per animal per year.

Fertile animals **unable to be sterilized** for health reasons may receive a reduced fee of \$5.00 providing a veterinarian provides a written statement explaining the animals condition.

Animals in the care of a **non-profit 501C3 animal welfare organization** or animals that are working members of a **public safety agency** are exempt from fees.

Service dogs may have the fee waived provided the dog is sterilized. A service animal is defined by the ADA as “dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person’s disability. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.”

To license your pet, please send the following information:

Owners name
Address
City, state, and zip
Phone number

For each pet you need to license include:

Pet name
Breed
Color
Age
Whether the pet is spayed or neutered

Submit current rabies certificate and proof of spay/neuter if applicable (if the rabies certificate lists the animal as spayed or neutered that is sufficient).
Documents must accompany exemption requests.

Please make check payable to:

Office of the Sheriff

Mail to:

5570 Sturmer Park Circle
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Or deliver in person
Tuesday - Saturday 10 am to 6 pm

PET LICENSING



**Forsyth County Sheriff's Office
Animal Services Division**

**5570 Sturmer Park Circle
Winston-Salem, NC 27105**

Phone (336) 703-2480

Fax (336) 661-6414

Email: animalservices@fcso.us