

Animal Licenses/Dog Park Pass Application Forms

Livingston Health Officer, Louis Anello, is informing animal owners that their 2012 licenses for their pets are due by January 31. This week more than 1,300 computerized animal license applications were mailed to Livingston animal owners.

Owners of currently licensed animals will receive their application in the mail with all the information preprinted on the licensing form. The owner should verify the information and return **ALL** copies of the license and any necessary documentation needed to process the application. Directions are pre-printed on the backside of the application and can be also downloaded from the township web site at www.livingstonnj.org or www.livingstondogpark.com

This licensing application allows licensed pet owners to obtain a Dog Park Pass for the Livingston Dog Park as well. The same application can now be used to obtain both the required dog license and the optional Dog Park Pass, which is necessary for entrance into the Dog Park. **The License also makes available for cat owners to license their cats. Unlicensed cats maybe subjected to removal from another persons property if not properly identified. Licensing your cat will provide proper identification and eliminate concerns for feral cat habitats.**

The Township requires that every dog seven months old be licensed and immunized against rabies. Proof of immunization is required either at the initial licensing or when the dog's current rabies inoculation expires. Documentation of a rabies certificate is needed to show that the animal is inoculated thorough the entire licensing year or at least ten months through the year. This means that before a license can be issued to a dog owner their pet must be vaccinated thorough October 31, 2012. Any rabies vaccine that expires prior to this time must be revaccinated before a license is issued.

Only currently licensed dogs will receive their application in the mail. An animal owner who does not receive an application can obtain the forms at the Health Department. State laws require the owner of non-neutered or non-spayed dogs pay an additional fee of \$500. Proof that the dog has been spayed or neutered must accompany the application when the dog is first licensed or when a dog is relicensed after a spaying or neutering operation. Once this proof is on file at the Health Department, no further documentation needs to be submitted for the life of the dog. The applications are self-explanatory and the individual should follow the directions carefully when completing

the form. All copies of the form, should be returned completed with a self addressed stamped envelope with a check or cash for the correct amount of the licensing fee.

The fee for a non-neutered or non-spayed dog is \$20.00 A licensed for a neutered or spayed dog cost \$15.00 There is also a \$5.00 late fee for those owners who neglect to obtain a license for their dog prior to March 1st of that licensing year. **The same fee structure applies to licensing cats.**

The cost of a Livingston Dog Park Pass is \$10.00 for Livingston residents and \$20.00 for non-residents with proof of a current license from their respected community.

The Health Department is located in the Senior Community Center, 204 Hillside Avenue. Anello adds that it is essential that we have full compliance for all animal owners to have their pets immunized and licensed. Those dog owners who do not obtain current licenses for their pets are liable for a summons and a possible court appearance and fines.