



Press Release

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CHANGES TO ANIMAL ORDINANCE TAKE EFFECT MARCH 15

(KILLEEN, TEXAS): All cats and dogs more than four months of age living within the city limits are now required to be spayed or neutered and microchipped. Enforcement begins March 15.

In an effort to prevent pets from being at large, to reunite lost pets with their owners and to control animal overpopulation, Killeen City Council adopted changes to the city's animal ordinance in November that established these new requirements.

There are limited exceptions to the ordinance. Animals with a current breeding permit may be exempted from spaying and neutering but must have a veterinarian health statement that verifies a microchip with number. Competition animals may be exempted with from sterilization and microchipping with proper documentation. Medical reasons documented by a veterinarian may also exempt an animal from the new requirements.

All dogs and cats that are processed through or held at the Killeen Animal Shelter will now be microchipped, if not already, before being released. A microchip fee will be added to impoundment or redemption fees.

When redeeming a pet, the owner must provide proof that that the animal has been spayed or neutered. If the pet is not sterilized, the owner must sign an agreement to have the animal sterilized within a specified period of time.

Veterinarians offer spay, neuter and microchip services. Low-cost options can be found in local business listings.

Please visit the Animal Services webpage at www.killeentexas.gov/animals for more information.

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