

The Paw Print



Licensing your Pet

The City of Morgan Hill Animal Services holds the state-mandated responsibility for licensing dogs residing within the city limits of Morgan Hill, including ensuring that all dogs have current rabies vaccinations. Cat licensing is encouraged, but not mandatory. The City of Morgan Hill has partnered with PetData to provide two different options for licensing your pet - online or by mail.

To license online go to PetData.com

Microchipping

Traditional modes of identification, like pet tags or ID collars, need to be replaced regularly—and can slip off, be removed, or become hard to read – but microchips last for the life of the pet.

Your cat or dog’s microchip implant gives your pet the best chance of returning home to you if lost. However, a microchip must be registered along with your current contact information in order to identify you as your pet’s parent and contact. Remember as long as there are pets, even those belonging to the most responsible parents can go missing.

Tips for Welcoming Home Your Newly Adopted Dog

Be prepared: Before you adopt your dog, know which training method you’re going to use and read up on it so you can employ the philosophy from day one.

Do a little research to learn which breed matches your family’s lifestyle. Some breeds are naturally more aggressive or high-strung than others.

Make sure your family is ready for the changes a new pet will bring. A furry friend brings love and adventure, but he also brings new household chores. Some dogs—especially puppies—may need a lot of attention and training.

Confirm whether anyone in your family suffers from allergies. Even if a family member has allergies, it doesn’t necessarily mean you can’t adopt a pet.

Know that some animals and young children may not play well together. Young children may



Dog Park Do's & Don'ts

Do make sure your dog is up to date on his vaccinations and parasite control.

Do keep your dog on leash until he is in the designated enclosed off-leash area.

Do restrict your dog's play to size-appropriate areas.

Do keep unaltered dogs away from the park.

Do pick up your dog's poop.

Don't take a puppy to the dog park. Your puppy is not ready for the park – or any high-traffic areas – until he is at least 12 to 16 weeks of age and has had all his vaccinations.

Don't take young children, toddlers or babies to the dog park.

Don't get distracted. Keep your eye on your dog at ALL times.

Don't allow your dog to hump or mount other dogs.

Don't get in the middle of a dog fight.

unwittingly mishandle or hurt puppies and kittens, who are particularly vulnerable to being injured. On other hand, baby animals may have needle-sharp nails and teeth that can hurt children.

Teach your family and kids about pet parenting before you adopt. Learn about pet care, and explain to your children that walking a dog happens several times a day.

If you're getting a pet for your children, don't expect the kiddies to do all the work. No matter how mature your child is, he will need constant supervision and help handling the responsibility of a pet. Ultimately, the parent is responsible for the pet.

Make sure a pet suits your home and lifestyle. Family members may have their hearts set on a large, active dog, but that particular pooch may not be the best choice for your circumstances.

Stock up on supplies, food and toys before you bring a pet home. Make Fido feel welcome with all the comforts of home.

Create a schedule to share responsibility for caring for your pet. A schedule is a great way to get the family involved in your pet's care and ensure that no one forgets to walk the dog or feed them. It will also help foster relationships between your new furry friend and everyone in the house.

Large Animal Evacuation Services: <http://www.scclae.org/> Wildlife Resources: <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/vector/pests/Pages/wildlife.aspx>