

Schertz Animal Services

Mandatory Microchipping

Why Mandatory Microchipping

- Microchips last for your pet's lifetime. Metal tags can fall off or can be switched between animals.
- Microchips result in a higher rate of animals being returned to their owners, which we have personally experienced.
- Research shows that shelters housing lost pets with a microchip were able to find their owners in almost three out of four cases.

Benefits

- If your pet is stolen or ends up in a shelter, it can be easily identified.
- It provides proof of ownership of the animal.
- Ability to return animals to their owners much quicker.
- Minimizes operating cost to the city by being able to shorten the length of stay, subsequently lowering shelter population.
- Officers can identify animals in the field and return an animal directly to their home.

Cost

- Schertz Animal Services currently microchips animals for \$15.00 and provides the service to all customers.
- Microchipping at a local Veterinarian office averages between \$45.00 to \$85.00. Some require an exam, others don't.
- Most microchips are registered for the life of the animal. The customer can decide to purchase additional services provided by the chip vendors.
- There are free registry options available, such as “Free Pet Registry” or “Michelson Found Animals”. Each microchip vendor has a set number set, which helps in identifying the chip vendor

Implementation

- The intent is to help the animals find their homes and families.
- Upon passing this ordinance, we will have a 180 day grace period, which will be used to educate the community on microchips and the ordinance.
- We will continue to provide low cost (\$15.00) microchipping at the shelter and community events.
- We will not be proactively stopping pet owners to check for microchips.

Questions?