



## **CITY OF FLORENCE PET ORDINANCE Frequently Asked Questions**

### ***1. Why should I purchase a pet license?***

The license tag number will identify you as your pet's owner should your furry friend become lost or wander away from home. Statistics show that animals with a license tag that become lost are reunited with their owner almost 90% of the time. Animals without such identification have just a 10% chance of getting back home.

### ***2. How will the funds collected from the license fees be used?***

Monies from the license fees will be used to provide financial assistance to low income citizens so they can have their pet spayed or neutered. Additionally, these funds will help cover the spay/neuter costs for stray animals coming into the Florence/Lauderdale Animal Shelter.

### ***3. Do I need to purchase a license for animals other than dogs or cats that reside in my home?***

No. The Florence City licensing ordinance only pertains to dogs and cats.

### ***4. I recently adopted a puppy. Do I need to purchase a pet license for such a young animal?***

All dogs and cats, six months of age and older, are required to have a license tag affixed to their collar.

### ***5. If I live outside of Florence, but still reside in Lauderdale County, am I required to purchase a license for my dog(s) or cat(s)?***

Only citizens living in the Florence city limits are required to purchase a license tag for their pets.

### ***6. Where can I purchase a pet license?***

You may purchase your pet license at the City Clerk's office, located in the Municipal Building, in downtown Florence and at the Florence/Lauderdale Animal Shelter, located on East College Street in Florence.

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### ***7. Why must I show proof of a current rabies vaccination when I purchase a Florence pet license?***

An annual rabies vaccination protects your pet from this deadly disease, and is part of the Alabama state law.

### ***8. I want to have my pet altered (spayed/neutered) in order to qualify for the reduced license fee. However, the cost to get my animal fixed is more than I can afford. Is financial assistance available?***

If you are receiving government assistance or living on a fixed income, you may qualify to receive financial help to get your pet altered. Contact the Florence/Lauderdale Animal Shelter for more information 256-760-6676.

### ***9. I am a senior citizen living on a fixed income. Can I purchase the license tag for my pet at a reduced cost?***

Yes. Florence pet owners, age 65 and older and receiving government assistance, can receive financial help to have their pet altered. With an altered pet, seniors can purchase a one year pet license for \$2 or a lifetime license for \$7.

### ***10. Are there exceptions to the requirement that all owners of dogs and cats living in Florence city limits purchase a license?***

Yes, there are exceptions to the licensing requirement. These exceptions include registered rescue dogs, certified service dogs, dogs owned by law enforcement agencies such as K-9 animals, and dogs and cats being fostered through public animal shelters or recognized rescue organizations.