



# Dog Licenses: The Law and the Benefits

Washoe County Code requires that all dogs over 4 months old that live in the congested areas of Washoe County be licensed by Washoe County Regional Animal Services.

## Licenses benefit you and your dog and your community in many ways:

- Dogs get lost. Dog licenses enable Animal Services staff to quickly identify and reunite lost dogs with their owners. Officers will make every reasonable effort to return licensed dogs to their owners before bringing them into the shelter, saving you time and money.
- A license is proof of ownership in case your dog is stolen (we also recommend a microchip).
- Licensing fees help support over 12,000 lost and homeless animals brought into the shelter every year.
- Dog licensing is one way to ensure that all dogs who share our community receive rabies vaccinations.
- Owners who maintain a current license tag for their dog will never receive a citation and fine for failure to license.



Dog Licensing







## How To License Your Dog

You can license your dog online @ [www.WashoeCounty.us/animal](http://www.WashoeCounty.us/animal), by mail, or by coming into the shelter during open hours.  
*A current rabies certificate is required to license your dog.*

## Once You've Licensed Your Dog

You can add a picture of your dog in our licensing database. Should your dog become lost and you submit a lost report, we can quickly upload a picture to our website for you. All you need to do is email a jpeg picture to [pets@washoecounty.us](mailto:pets@washoecounty.us). Enter the license tag number in the subject line and include a description and name of the dog in the text.

## For Changes To Licensed Dogs

To change your address and/or contact information, advise that your dog is deceased or has changed owners, or any other licensing request changes, email [pets@washoecounty.us](mailto:pets@washoecounty.us) with the change information, license tag number, name of dog, and owner's name.

