

## PENALTIES

If any dog is found within a dog prohibited area Council Rangers or the Police may issue you with an on-the-spot penalty notice of up to \$330.00 or alternatively may take you to court.

If a dog is unleashed in a beach area which requires a dog to be leashed, Council Rangers or the Police may issue you with an on-the-spot penalty notice of up to \$220.00 or alternatively may take you to court.

Any dog found on any beach area which is unattended will be impounded.

### Other Offences

Dog owners must clean up their dog droppings from beach areas. A \$275.00 on-the-spot fine can be issued where this is not done.

Dog owners are required to carry a plastic bag to pick up dog droppings. Community acceptance and public health will be enhanced as a result of this responsible action.

If you have repeatedly ignored your responsibilities under the Companion Animals Act 1998 and have been twice convicted of an offence under the Companion Animals Act, 1998 a Local Court has the power to disqualify you from owning a dog for up to two years.

If you deliberately set your dog onto another person and cause injury, very serious penalties apply under the Crimes Act.

You may be sentenced to imprisonment for up to 7 years and/or fined up to \$100,000.00.

## Need more information?

If you would like to know more about animal related services offered by Port Macquarie-Hastings Council, contact the Ranger Services section on (02) 6581 8111.

For more information on Council's Dogs In Public Open Spaces Policy and the Companion Animals Act, 1998 can be obtained by contacting Council on:

Port Macquarie office (02) 6581 8111

Wauchope office (02) 6589 6500

Laurieton office (02) 6559 9958



### Have you found an animal?

If you find an animal and cannot find its owner within a short period of time, contact Council's Ranger Section on (02) 6581 8111.

After hours contact (02) 6583 2225.

For more information visit Council's website at [www.pmhc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.pmhc.nsw.gov.au)



# DOGS IN PUBLIC OPEN SPACES POLICY

Rules regarding dogs on beaches



PORT MACQUARIE  
HASTINGS

## Aim of Council's Policy

The aim of the new policy is to minimise the conflict between dogs and beach users by prohibiting dogs on certain popular beach areas whilst allowing access, under certain conditions, on other beach areas.

## How The Policy Works

The basis of the Policy is that each beach area has been categorised into one of 3 categories. These categories are:

- Dogs Prohibited - Dogs are NOT permitted on these beach areas at ANY TIME.
- Dog Permitted (leashed) - Dogs ARE permitted on these beach areas at ANY TIME however they MUST be leashed, and under effective control at all times.
- Dog Permitted (unleashed) - Dogs ARE permitted on these beach areas at any time however they do NOT have to be leashed. BUT must be under effective control at all times.

## Where the Policy Applies

Generally the Policy applies to all beach areas within the boundaries of the Hastings Local Government area but excludes beach areas which are administered or regulated by other statutory authorities such as the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). This Policy does not apply to any area other than beaches such as beachside reserves and foreshore areas.

Specifically, the Policy applies to the following beach areas:

### Prohibited Areas

Dogs are prohibited on the following beach areas:

- North Shore Beach adjacent to Corilla Estate residences.
- Town Beach - Port Macquarie.

- Flynns Beach - Port Macquarie.
- Shelley Beach - Port Macquarie.
- Miners Beach - Port Macquarie (NPWS control).
- Lighthouse Beach - Port Macquarie (from Tacking Point to Watonga Rocks).
- Cathie Beach - Lake Cathie (from Dirah Street beach access to Molong Street beach access).
- Rainbow Beach - Bonny Hills
- Bartletts Beach - Bonny Hills
- Grants Beach - North Haven (from northern end of Surf Club carpark to breakwall).
- Pilots Beach – Dunbogan
- Dunbogan Beach south of Beach Street access point.

### Permitted Areas - Leashed

Dogs are permitted on the following beach areas whilst under the effective control of a competent person by way of a leash, cord or chain:

- Oxley Beach - Port Macquarie.
- Cathie Beach, Lake Cathie - Molong Street beach access point to Middle Rock.
- Rainbow Beach, Bonny Hills – from leash-free access point north to Duchess Creek.
- Grants Beach, North Haven - from Surf Club carpark north for a distance of 200m.
- Dunbogan Beach, Dunbogan - from Camden Head to Seaview Avenue beach access point.

### Permitted Areas - Unleashed

Dogs are permitted on these beaches unleashed at any time:

- Nobby's Beach - Port Macquarie.
- North Shore Beach - from southern end of Corilla housing estate south to the northern breakwall.
- North Shore Beach – from northern end of Corilla housing estate north to Queens Head 4WD access point.
- Lighthouse Beach - from Watonga Rock south to Dirah Street access, Lake Cathie
- Rainbow Beach, Bonny Hills – from Duchess Creek north to Middle Rock.
- North Haven - from 200m north of surf club car park to Grants Head.
- Dunbogan Beach - from Seaview Avenue beach access point south to Beach St access point.
- Washhouse Beach, Dunbogan – from breakwall to boundary of Katang Nature Reserve.

Council encourages unleashed activities in the above areas however it is important that dog owners using these areas comply with the following requirements:

- Dogs MUST be under control and supervised at all times when in leashfree areas.
- Children should be accompanied by an adult.
- Female dogs on heat should be left at home.

Note: Guide Dogs can be exercised unleashed on any dog permitted area at any time.

Beach areas managed by NPWS are dog prohibited areas and carry a \$330 on-the-spot fine. For information contact NPWS on (02) 6584 2203.