

RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP AND YOU

We all love our fur babies and they love us. The companionship and wellbeing they give us is a privilege that comes with the duty of being a Responsible Dog Owner.

BEING RESPONSIBLE WHILE YOU ARE OUT AND ABOUT WITH YOUR POOCH

We want you and your furry friend to get out and about together for exercise and to enjoy each other's company but it is important that you do the right thing as a responsible dog owner.

Break O'Day Council and Parks and Wildlife have tried to find a balance between dog ownership and our native wildlife by declaring certain areas suitable for dogs on and off leash while trying to protect our threatened shore birds – These areas are called the Dog Management Zones (scan the QR Code below to see these areas).

While you are out and about in our beautiful environment with your dog we ask you remember these two things:

1. Clean Up after your Dog. – You will find that some areas where dogs are allowed will provide doggy doo bags but it is always recommended that you have some with you at all times. No one likes stepping in dog poo and as the owner, it is expected that you will clean up after your dog.
2. Obey the Dog restrictions at various locations – Because of the native animals and threatened birds in our area we have tried to ensure that there is a balance between where people can walk their dogs both on and off lead as well as protecting threatened and vulnerable species.



THREATENED AND VULNERABLE BIRDS:

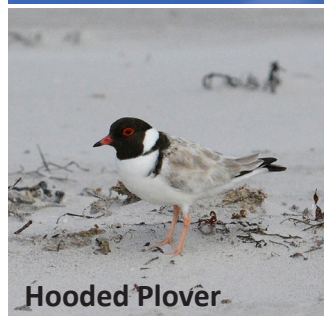
Hooded plovers, penguins, pied oystercatchers and fairy terns are some of the threatened and migratory birds that rely on our beaches as safe habitat for feeding, nesting and breeding areas. Populations of many of these birds are small and some travel tens of thousands of kilometres each year to rest and nest on our shores. An estimated 7% of all the hooded plovers in the world depend on our beaches to nest, raise their young and survive as a species. Not only can dogs kill these birds but even if they get within 20-100 metres of them they can scare them off their nests leading them to abandon eggs or chicks.



Fairy Tern



Pied Oystercatcher



Hooded Plover



Little Penguin

Images courtesy of ©Eric J Woehler, BirdLife Tasmania

REGISTERING AND MICROCHIPPING – IT'S THE LAW

Did you know that it is a legal requirement to register and micro-chip your dog? If you are looking for information on registering your dog, we have a range of frequently asked questions on our website under My Property/Dogs. This includes information on what to do if you move house, give your dog to someone else or if your dog passes away. On this page you will also find information on what happens if your dog is lost or impounded.