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## Chip your pet for cheap

South Australian pet owners are reminded to take advantage of \$10 microchipping events being held across the state, ahead of 1 July when microchipping will be mandatory.

From 1 July 2018, all dogs and cats in South Australia will need to be microchipped before three months of age or 28 days after purchase.

Dog and Cat Management Board Secretary Andrew Lamb said microchipping is a quick and easy process.

“Microchips are tiny and each has a unique number that permanently identifies your pet. This number, together with your contact details are stored in a registry,” said Mr Lamb.

“The microchip is inserted with a needle under the skin between your pet’s shoulder blades. This is no more painful than any other needle jab. Millions of Australian pets have been microchipped with almost zero aftereffects reported.”

The Dog and Cat Management Board is urging South Australian pet owners who haven’t had a chance, to microchip their pet before the 1 July deadline.

“Microchipping increases the likelihood of retuning your beloved lost cat or dog to you and also reduces the huge number of unwanted dogs and cats that languish in animal shelters,” Mr Lamb said.

“Microchipping is already compulsory for cats and dogs in ACT, New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia with great results. Mandatory microchipping is a fantastic step for South Australia in the right direction.

“Visit [www.chiplblitz.com/locations](http://www.chiplblitz.com/locations) to book your pet in for a \$10 microchip. There are around 30 events planned across metropolitan and regional South Australia.

“Some vets are offering discounted rates for microchipping too. So check in with your local vet.”

Mandatory microchipping is one of four major South Australian pet reforms starting 1 July 2018. The reforms also include mandatory desexing, new rules for dog and cat breeders and sellers and the introduction of a statewide database, Dogs and Cats Online. For more information visit the [Dog and Cat Management Board](http://www.dogandcatmanagementboard.com.au) website.

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