Dear neighbour,

Recently a cat with the following description has been wandering into my property:

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It appears to be wandering at the following times:

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If this cat belongs to your household, it would be appreciated if you could please contain the cat to your property and not allow it to wander.

Cardinia Shire Council requires owners to contain cats to their property at all times. Wandering cats may be trapped and handed over to Council, and the owner may be liable for an infringement.

I would appreciate it if you could please address this issue, so that I do not need to make a formal complaint to Council.

I have included some more information (provided by Council) that may be helpful to you.

Thank you,

Your neighbour

# How to keep your cat from wandering

Cats, even when domesticated, will still often want to wander and hunt outdoors.

Desexing your cat helps a lot with this behaviour, but will not completely stop them from wandering.

Here are some ideas for helping to keep your cat indoors or on your property:

* Keep your cat exclusively indoors from the time it is young. Kittens who are kept indoors are usually happy to stay there as they grow up
* Install cat fence toppers on your fences at a 45 degree angle to stop your cat from climbing or jumping your boundary fences
* Build or buy a “catio” or similar enclosure
* Enclose your outdoor patio area and install a cat door using wire mesh or material netting
* Put an indoor perch by a sunny window
* Train your cat to walk on a leash with a harness.
* Install netting over your backyard. , this can be done by attaching netting to your gutters and across to your boundary fencing.
* Play a lot with your cat. This will stop them from getting bored and wanting to wander. Toys should be switched from time to time so they are more interesting for your cat.
* For more tips on keeping your cat happy and safe at home visit the [**Safe Cat, Safe Wildlife website**](http://www.safecat.org.au/cat-hacks.html) at [www.safecat.org.au](http://www.safecat.org.au)