

c. Responsibilities of animal owners

A person who keeps an animal is, as its owner, responsible for it as a living being. While caring for the animal in a manner that is appropriate for its breed and habits and maintaining its health and safety, such person must also endeavor to ensure that the animal does not harm people nor cause trouble for others (for example, with its feces, urine, fur, etc.). Furthermore, such person must spay/neuter the animal to prevent uncontrolled reproduction, obtain knowledge about diseases (especially infectious diseases) that are transmitted among animals or from animals to people and then take steps to prevent such diseases, and attach a marker (microchip, etc.) to the animal that clearly indicates it belongs to him/her.

d. Maintaining the living environment

In cases where a living environment is disrupted by smells, noise, or other problems that are caused by a person who keeps more animals than he/she is capable of managing, the prefectural governor or mayor of the government-designated city (hereinafter the "designated city") may issue a recommendation or order for improvement to that person.



e. Regulation of animal handling businesses

If a person wishes to operate an animal handling business, he or she must register with the prefecture, etc., after satisfying standards for the appropriate handling of animals. Officials in charge of animal welfare for the prefecture, etc., shall enter the place of business to make inspections. If any problems pertaining to the facilities, methods for handling animals, or other items emerge, the prefectural governor or mayor of the designated city may issue a recommendation or order for improvement. If an animal handling business operator is found to be acting maliciously, the governor, etc., may refuse or rescind registration or order the suspension of the business.

f. Regulation of care of dangerous animals

If a person wishes to keep a dangerous animal that has been specified by the national government (by a Cabinet Order) as an animal that may cause harm to human beings (hereinafter a "specified animal"), he or she must receive permission from the prefecture, etc.