

DATE: February 10, 2015

TO: Friends and Neighbors of Arcadia Lakes

Arcadia Lakes town ordinance § 6-202 requires an agreement with Richland County for animal control. The Town of Arcadia Lakes and Richland County recently entered into an Agreement requiring the Town to adopt the current Richland County Animal Care Ordinance. A very important provision of the Ordinance is the requirement that pets be licensed.

The [intergovernmental agreement](#) will help control nuisance and dangerous animals, ensure pets are vaccinated against rabies and make it easier to reunite lost pets with their owners. County animal care officers will enforce county ordinances in Arcadia Lakes.

Pet owners in Arcadia Lakes must now provide their dogs and cats over the age of four months with a current pet tag issued by Richland County Animal Care.

The cost to license a spayed or neutered pet is \$4.14 and the cost is \$20.73 to license a fertile pet. Pet licenses are available by mail or in person from the Richland County Animal Care Department.

You may also pick up a license application at town hall or download one from the county website. The [Richland County Animal Care](#) website contains additional information on applying for a license and requirements.

Adopting this agreement brings Arcadia Lakes in line with what other municipalities in Richland County have done. Delegating enforcement to county animal care officers provides an improved and efficient way to meet the Town's responsibility to control and care for animals. The Town (read this as Christine) is not required to issue licenses or maintain records, and no town employee will handle animals.

The agreement and corresponding ordinances are in effect. However, the Director of Richland County Animal Care, Sandra Haynes, indicated she will defer enforcement by 30 days from today's date. Therefore, obtaining license(s) without unnecessary delay is a prudent course.

We believe this measure will help keep Arcadia Lakes a great place to live. With best regards, we are

Sincerely yours,

Arcadia Lakes Town Council

By: Mark Huguley, Mayor