

Privacy Policy relating to registration of dogs and cats in accordance with the Act on Welfare and Management of Animals

Minister of the Environment*

1. Basic Premise

Beginning June 1, 2022, the Minister of the Environment will handle the personal information of dog and cat owners who have registered their dogs and cats in compliance with the Act on Welfare and Management of Animals (Act No. 105 of 1973) (hereinafter referred to as "the Registration for Microchipping Dogs and Cats"), to the extent necessary to execute the duties stipulated in the Act and other laws and regulations. The collection, use, provision, and other handling of personal information shall be in compliance with the Act on the Protection of Personal Information (Act No. 57 of 2003), laws, regulations, national guidelines, and other norms regarding the protection of personal information.

2. Scope of information to be collected

The Minister of the Environment collects the personal information (e.g. names, addresses, and telephone numbers) of dog and/or cat owners who register in the Registration for Microchipping Dogs and Cats, as stipulated in Article 39-5, Paragraph 2 of the Act on Welfare and Management of Animals.

3. Purposes of use

The Minister of the Environment will use or provide the personal information acquired in section 2 to execute the duties stipulated in the Act on Welfare and Management of Animals and other laws and regulations. The scope necessary for the execution of the duties includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- (1) Use to the extent necessary for the Minister of the Environment to directly execute the following duties:
 - (i) Duties related to the Registration for Microchipping Dogs and Cats
 - (ii) Contacting dog and/or cat owners by email, telephone, etc. based on the purpose of the Act

on Welfare and Management of Animals and other laws and regulations

- (iii) Questionnaire survey of dog and/or cat owners to serve as a reference for policy planning regarding the Act on Welfare and Management of Animals and other related laws and regulations
- (iv) Creation of statistical information excluding correspondence with specific individuals

(2) The Minister of the Environment may provide all or part of the personal information, by email, telephone, or other means, to the persons listed below in connection with duties pursuant to the laws and regulations set forth below.

- (i) Prefectural governors (including mayors of designated cities), mayors of municipalities (including mayors of special wards), veterinarians (limited to those within the scope prescribed in Article 21-11 of the Regulation for Enforcement of the Act on Welfare and Management of Animals), the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare, and persons seeking registration under Article 39-5, paragraph (1) of the Act on Welfare and Management of Animals (The information to be provided to the persons seeking registration shall be limited to whether the identification number of the microchip implanted in the dog or cat for which registration is sought has been recorded.)
- (ii) Chief of police stations under the Lost Property Act (Act No. 73 of 2006)

4. Storage period

Based on Article 39-5, Paragraph 7 of the Act on Welfare and Management of Animals, personal information acquired in section 2 will be retained for the period specified in Article 21-7, Paragraph 6 of the Regulation for Enforcement of the Act on Welfare and Management of Animals and will be deleted after the period has elapsed.

5. Restrictions on the use and provision of the information

As specified in Article 69 of the Act on the Protection of Personal Information, except for cases that fall under an exception of the Act on the Protection of Personal Information, such as cases based on laws and regulations and other special reasons, the Minister of the Environment will not use the information acquired in section 2 for purposes other than those described in section 3, nor provide the information to any third party. However, statistical information regarding access to the site or

information on users' attributes and others may be made public.

6. Outsourcing of the handling of personal information

The Minister of the Environment may, pursuant to provisions in orders of the Ministry of the Environment, authorize a designated body (hereinafter referred to as “Designated Registration Agency”) to carry out duties concerning the registration of microchip information for dogs and cats. The Designated Registration Agency, to which the Minister of the Environment entrusts the duties, may handle all or part of the information acquired in section 2 to the extent necessary to achieve the purposes of use described in section 3.

7. Measures to ensure security

The Minister of the Environment will store the personal information acquired in section 2 only in Japan and will take the necessary and appropriate measures to prevent leakage, loss, or damage of the information, and other security management measures. In addition, the Ministry of the Environment will conduct audits (including external audits and inspections) of the handling of personal information on a regular or as-needed basis. Measures, such as a revision, will also be taken if found necessary.

8. Requests for disclosure, correction, or suspension of use of the information

If there is a request for the disclosure, correction, or suspension of use of the information acquired in section 2, the Minister of the Environment will respond in accordance with legislation. Please address your requests to the contact person listed in section 12.

9. Scope of application

This policy applies to dog and/or cat owners collected by the Registration for Microchipping Dogs and Cats and visitors to the web site. The Minister of the Environment may revise this policy. Any revisions to the policy will be announced on the website of the Designated Registration Agency and others.

10. Personal information protection manager

Director of the Policy Planning Division, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment

11. Use of Google Services

The Minister of the Environment uses the following services provided by Google LLC on the site for the Registration for Microchipping Dogs and Cats.

(1) Google Analytics

The Minister of the Environment uses Google Analytics, an access analysis tool by Google LLC, on the site for the Registration for Microchipping Dogs and Cats. Google Analytics uses cookies to collect data on site visitors. The data collected by Google Analytics is not linked to the information registered in the Registration for Microchipping Dogs and Cats and does not itself identify specific individuals.

For more information on how data is collected and processed by Google Analytics, please visit Google's Policies and Terms page at <https://policies.google.com/technologies/partner-sites>. If you do not wish to have your data collected by Google Analytics, please install the Google Analytics Opt-Out Add-On from the following website.

Google Analytics Opt-out Add-on

<https://tools.google.com/dlpage/gaoptout?hl=ja>

(2) Google reCAPTCHA

The Minister of the Environment uses Google reCAPTCHA, a service by Google LLC, on the site for the Registration for Microchipping Dogs and Cats for the purpose of protecting the site from spam and other abusive activities. Google reCAPTCHA is not used for the purpose of collecting information, but uses information such as the IP address of the access source.

For more information on Google LLC's Privacy Policy, please refer to Google's Privacy Policy page at <https://policies.google.com/privacy?hl=ja>.

12. Inquiries regarding this policy

For complaints or other inquiries regarding the handling of personal information, please contact the following:

The Registration for Microchipping Dogs and Cats

Designated Registration Agency: Ministry of the Environment

Japan Veterinary Medical Association

Shin Aoyama Bldg., West 23F 1-1-1, Minami Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0062, Japan

<https://reg.mc.env.go.jp/>

* The name of the Minister of the Environment can be found on the following web page.

<https://www.env.go.jp/annai/soshiki/daijin/>

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