

Barking Dog Diary



Barking Dog Diary

Cassowary Coast
REGIONAL COUNCIL

This following document and diary must be completed in full, signed and returned to Cassowary Coast Regional Council as soon as it is completed.

Thank you for your enquiry.

Initially please take the time to have a friendly chat to your neighbours about the alleged dog barking, either in person or letter box drop of a note. If you wish you can use the following notification template: <https://www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/4130/template-barking-dog-letter-to-neighbour>

To be able to process your request further, after you have communicated with the owner, please wait for 7 days before you commence filling in the attached barking dog diary. This allows the dog owner the opportunity to remediate the issue.

If the issue still persists **after 7 days**, Council then asks for you to complete 7 consecutive days of this barking dog diary and return it to: enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au

Below are details of the barking dog process.

THE PROCESS

Stage 1

- The Dog Owner will be provided with advice regarding their dog/s barking, and the process;
- The complainant will be supplied access to a 'Barking Dog Diary'. The diary is required as part of evidence gathering and may become increasingly relevant should the case later escalate.

Stage 2

- Once the completed Barking Dog Diary has been received by Council a Customer Request will be lodged and Council will at this stage make contact with the dog owner to advise them the alleged barking matter is being escalated;
- If a valid barking dog diary is received by Council, a neighbourhood validation process will be undertaken by Council's Local Law Officers. If the barking nuisance is validated by other neighbours, a Compliance Notice will be issued to the dog owner. If persistent barking continues, stage 3 will be implemented.

Stage 3

- Non-compliance with the Compliance Notice will be validated by the complainant, and neighbours, through the completion of a further 7 day Barking Dog Diary;
- If the completed Barking Dog Diaries are validated, a Penalty Infringement Notice (\$287.00) will be issued to the person responsible for the dog.

We understand that all dogs bark, however it is unfair to expect others in the community to have their peace and comfort unreasonably interfered with by the persistent barking of a dog.

The Good Dog Owners Guide and Barking Factsheet (both links below) provide helpful information to assist in the reduction of nuisance barking. Please take a look.

- <https://www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/4015/good-dog-owners-guide>
- <https://www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/4175/barking-dog-tips-factsheet>
- <https://www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/4173/barking-dog-nuisance-factsheet>
- <https://www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/4130/template-barking-dog-letter-to-neighbour>

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

Address of offending dog/s: _____

Description of dog/s: _____

(Colour, size and breed of dog/s)

Location of where dog/s mainly kept: _____

(Front yard, backyard, whole yard, inside dwelling, on veranda)

Have you confirmed where the barking is coming from? YES / NO

Have you seen the dog/s barking? YES / NO

Have you spoken or given Council's friendly letter to the dog owners? YES / NO

Are you prepared to have the matter mediated? YES / NO

I, the undersigned, wish to lodge a formal complaint with the Cassowary Coast Regional Council in relation to the dog/s described above which bark persistently to such a degree or extent that it unreasonably interferes with my (peace), (comfort) or (convenience) in my premises.

Signature of complainant: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

How to complete a barking diary

Your accuracy in recording the nuisance barking is of extreme importance as it may be presented as evidence in court. Please create a detailed diary **over a minimum of a seven (7) full day period** as the example indicated below.

When completing over a seven (7) day period, include each and every day in consecutive days and indicate times or days when you are absent from your property. All information provided will assist Council and the dog owner when determining peak barking times.

If there is more than one (1) dog on the property, please state which dog is barking (eg large white dog or small brown dog). If all dogs on the property are barking, write that all are barking.

Example of valid diary entries

DAY ONE

Date: 12 November 2014

Time	Time barking started	Time barking stopped	Barking for how long?	Are people at home at the dog's property?	Reason for barking (For example, person walking past, weather, another animal, postman)
7am - 8am	7:05 am	7:07am	4 barks	Yes / No / Unknown	Children playing in street
8am - 9am	8:40 am	8:45 am	2 barks	Yes / No / Unknown	Nobody in street – couldn't see
9am - 10am	9:50 am	10 am	16+ barks	Yes / No / Unknown	Postman delivering in street
10am - 11am				Yes / No / Unknown	Not at home – had to go to work
11am - 12am				Yes / No / Unknown	At work
12am - 1pm	12:30am	1pm	Random barks	Yes / No / Unknown	Came home for lunch break

Example of invalid diary entries

DAY ONE

Date: 12 November 2014

Date	Time barking started	Time barking stopped	Barking for how long?	Are people at home at the dog's property?	Reason for barking (For example, person walking past, weather, another animal, postman)
7am - 8am	Morning	Afternoon	Barking all day	Yes / No / Unknown	Barking at everything
8am - 9am	Before Work	After Work	On and Off	Yes / No / Unknown	Various stuff happening
9am - 10am	AM	Night time	Continuous	Yes / No / Unknown	Never stops barking
10am - 11am				Yes / No / Unknown	Haven't had time – too busy

DAY ONE (1)

Date:

Time	Time barking started	Time barking stopped	Barking for how long?	Are people at home at the dog's property?	Reason for barking (For example, person walking past, weather, another animal, postman)
12pm - 1am				Yes / No / Unknown	
1am - 2am				Yes / No / Unknown	
2am - 3am				Yes / No / Unknown	
3am - 4am				Yes / No / Unknown	
4am - 5am				Yes / No / Unknown	
5am - 6am				Yes / No / Unknown	
6am - 7am				Yes / No / Unknown	
7am - 8am				Yes / No / Unknown	
8am - 9am				Yes / No / Unknown	
9am - 10am				Yes / No / Unknown	
10am - 11am				Yes / No / Unknown	
11am - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
12pm - 1pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
1pm - 2pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
2pm - 3pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
3pm - 4pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
4pm - 5pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
5pm - 6pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
6pm - 7pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
7pm - 8pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
8pm - 9pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
9pm - 10pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
10pm - 11pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
11pm - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	

What were you doing at the time that barking interfered:

DAY TWO (2)

Date:

Time	Time barking started	Time barking stopped	Barking for how long?	Are people at home at the dog's property?	Reason for barking (For example, person walking past, weather, another animal, postman)
12pm - 1am				Yes / No / Unknown	
1am - 2am				Yes / No / Unknown	
2am - 3am				Yes / No / Unknown	
3am - 4am				Yes / No / Unknown	
4am - 5am				Yes / No / Unknown	
5am - 6am				Yes / No / Unknown	
6am - 7am				Yes / No / Unknown	
7am - 8am				Yes / No / Unknown	
8am - 9am				Yes / No / Unknown	
9am - 10am				Yes / No / Unknown	
10am - 11am				Yes / No / Unknown	
11am - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
12pm - 1pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
1pm - 2pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
2pm - 3pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
3pm - 4pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
4pm - 5pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
5pm - 6pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
6pm - 7pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
7pm - 8pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
8pm - 9pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
9pm - 10pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
10pm - 11pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
11pm - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	

What were you doing at the time that barking interfered:

DAY THREE (3)

Date:

Time	Time barking started	Time barking stopped	Barking for how long?	Are people at home at the dog's property?	Reason for barking (For example, person walking past, weather, another animal, postman)
12pm - 1am				Yes / No / Unknown	
1am - 2am				Yes / No / Unknown	
2am - 3am				Yes / No / Unknown	
3am - 4am				Yes / No / Unknown	
4am - 5am				Yes / No / Unknown	
5am - 6am				Yes / No / Unknown	
6am - 7am				Yes / No / Unknown	
7am - 8am				Yes / No / Unknown	
8am - 9am				Yes / No / Unknown	
9am - 10am				Yes / No / Unknown	
10am - 11am				Yes / No / Unknown	
11am - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
12pm - 1pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
1pm - 2pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
2pm - 3pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
3pm - 4pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
4pm - 5pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
5pm - 6pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
6pm - 7pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
7pm - 8pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
8pm - 9pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
9pm - 10pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
10pm - 11pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
11pm - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	

What were you doing at the time that barking interfered:

DAY FOUR (4)

Date:

Time	Time barking started	Time barking stopped	Barking for how long?	Are people at home at the dog's property?	Reason for barking (For example, person walking past, weather, another animal, postman)
12pm - 1am				Yes / No / Unknown	
1am - 2am				Yes / No / Unknown	
2am - 3am				Yes / No / Unknown	
3am - 4am				Yes / No / Unknown	
4am - 5am				Yes / No / Unknown	
5am - 6am				Yes / No / Unknown	
6am - 7am				Yes / No / Unknown	
7am - 8am				Yes / No / Unknown	
8am - 9am				Yes / No / Unknown	
9am - 10am				Yes / No / Unknown	
10am - 11am				Yes / No / Unknown	
11am - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
12pm - 1pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
1pm - 2pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
2pm - 3pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
3pm - 4pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
4pm - 5pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
5pm - 6pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
6pm - 7pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
7pm - 8pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
8pm - 9pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
9pm - 10pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
10pm - 11pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
11pm - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	

What were you doing at the time that barking interfered:

DAY FIVE (5)

Date:

Time	Time barking started	Time barking stopped	Barking for how long?	Are people at home at the dog's property?	Reason for barking (For example, person walking past, weather, another animal, postman)
12pm - 1am				Yes / No / Unknown	
1am - 2am				Yes / No / Unknown	
2am - 3am				Yes / No / Unknown	
3am - 4am				Yes / No / Unknown	
4am - 5am				Yes / No / Unknown	
5am - 6am				Yes / No / Unknown	
6am - 7am				Yes / No / Unknown	
7am - 8am				Yes / No / Unknown	
8am - 9am				Yes / No / Unknown	
9am - 10am				Yes / No / Unknown	
10am - 11am				Yes / No / Unknown	
11am - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
12pm - 1pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
1pm - 2pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
2pm - 3pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
3pm - 4pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
4pm - 5pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
5pm - 6pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
6pm - 7pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
7pm - 8pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
8pm - 9pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
9pm - 10pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
10pm - 11pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
11pm - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	

What were you doing at the time that barking interfered:

DAY SIX (6)

Date:

Time	Time barking started	Time barking stopped	Barking for how long?	Are people at home at the dog's property?	Reason for barking (For example, person walking past, weather, another animal, postman)
12pm - 1am				Yes / No / Unknown	
1am - 2am				Yes / No / Unknown	
2am - 3am				Yes / No / Unknown	
3am - 4am				Yes / No / Unknown	
4am - 5am				Yes / No / Unknown	
5am - 6am				Yes / No / Unknown	
6am - 7am				Yes / No / Unknown	
7am - 8am				Yes / No / Unknown	
8am - 9am				Yes / No / Unknown	
9am - 10am				Yes / No / Unknown	
10am - 11am				Yes / No / Unknown	
11am - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
12pm - 1pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
1pm - 2pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
2pm - 3pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
3pm - 4pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
4pm - 5pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
5pm - 6pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
6pm - 7pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
7pm - 8pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
8pm - 9pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
9pm - 10pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
10pm - 11pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
11pm - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	

What were you doing at the time that barking interfered:

DAY SEVEN (7)

Date:

Time	Time barking started	Time barking stopped	Barking for how long?	Are people at home at the dog's property?	Reason for barking (For example, person walking past, weather, another animal, postman)
12pm - 1am				Yes / No / Unknown	
1am - 2am				Yes / No / Unknown	
2am - 3am				Yes / No / Unknown	
3am - 4am				Yes / No / Unknown	
4am - 5am				Yes / No / Unknown	
5am - 6am				Yes / No / Unknown	
6am - 7am				Yes / No / Unknown	
7am - 8am				Yes / No / Unknown	
8am - 9am				Yes / No / Unknown	
9am - 10am				Yes / No / Unknown	
10am - 11am				Yes / No / Unknown	
11am - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
12pm - 1pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
1pm - 2pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
2pm - 3pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
3pm - 4pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
4pm - 5pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
5pm - 6pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
6pm - 7pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
7pm - 8pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
8pm - 9pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
9pm - 10pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
10pm - 11pm				Yes / No / Unknown	
11pm - 12pm				Yes / No / Unknown	

What were you doing at the time that barking interfered:

I declare that the information provided is to be used for the purposes of the Cassowary Coast Regional Council to conduct an investigation of nuisance barking. As requested, I have completed the diary to the best of my ability and conscientiously believe the information contained to be true in every particular.

Please sign and have somebody to witness your signature. Witnesses must be somebody over the age of 18 years.

Signature of complainant: _____

Printed name: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

WITNESS

Signature of witness: _____

Printed name: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Privacy Statement:

The information requested in this form is being collected by the Cassowary Coast Regional Council (CCRC) to be able to carry out its functions. The CCRC may disclose the information provided by you on this form to a third party, as required by the Local Government Act or in accordance with the Information Act. You may obtain access to your personal information held by the CCRC by submitting a request for information form that is available on our website or from the Co-ordinator Regulatory Services (07) 4030 2277.

Please forward the completed seven (7) day diary using the following options:

In Person

Council Office at 70 Rankin Street Innisfail; or
Council Office at Civic Centre 38-40 Bryant Street Tully.

By Post

Cassowary Coast Regional Council
PO Box 887 Innisfail Qld 4860

Scan all pages and Email (with attention to Animal Management)

Email: enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au