Cat Rabies Vaccination & Licensing Requirements

Background

Although California State Law does not require rabies vaccination of cats, it is highly recommended. A County of Los Angeles ordinance exists requiring rabies vaccination and licensing of cats. Certain cities uphold this ordinance, where cats must be vaccinated for rabies and licensed (based on owner address, not address of veterinary hospital or clinic). Information regarding licensing in certain cities can be obtained by calling local shelters or animal control services divisions. A summary of licensing and rabies vaccination cities is listed below:

Cities of Los Angeles that require both cat rabies vaccination and cat licensing:

Cities of Los Angeles that require cat rabies vaccination but do NOT require cat licensing:
Artesia, Azusa, Commerce, Covina, Culver City, Duarte, Hawthorne, Huntington Park, Lawndale, Lynwood, Monterey Park, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills Estates, Santa Clarita, Torrance, Whittier

Cities of Los Angeles that do NOT require cat rabies vaccination but require cat licensing:
Diamond Bar

Cities of Los Angeles that do NOT require cat rabies vaccination or cat licensing:
Arcadia, Avalon, Bell Gardens, Bellflower, Beverly Hills, Bradbury, Burbank, Cerritos, Claremont, Downey, El Segundo, Glendale, Glendora, Hermosa Beach, La Cañada Flintridge, Lakewood, Los Angeles (City of), Manhattan Beach, Monrovia, Montebello, Norwalk, Paramount, Pasadena, Pico Rivera, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, San Marino, Santa Fe Springs, Santa Monica, Sierra Madre, Signal Hill, South El Monte, South Gate, South Pasadena, Temple City, Vernon

*Unincorporated Areas/Communities in LA County require both cat rabies vaccination and licensing

Note: Information is based on phone and email inquiries in November and December 2015. City laws are subject to change. Cat owners are encouraged to contact their city for the latest regulations.