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Alternative Animal Registration

Guideline Statement

Tattooing/microchipping as a sole means of animal identification.

Basis for Guideline

NACA believes that the pet-owning public would rather their pet wear a tag than to be tattooed or microchipped. The absence of a central registry and the permanent "branding" of the animal may present specific problems which may be counterproductive to the purpose of registration. Tattoos may also encourage purposeful disfigurement of the animal, should the animal fall victim to theft. Lack of standardization in the microchipping industry disallows the concept to be an adequate substitution for licensing.

Guideline Recommendation

NACA recommends comprehensive licensing programs. The problems associated with tattoo/microchipping registration must be explored fully before it can be remotely considered a viable alternative to licensing.

Reviewed/Revised by the NACA Corporate Office - 09/17/02

The foregoing Guideline has been affirmed as duly adopted by the NACA Board of Directors.

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