

CITY OF FREDERICK ANIMAL SUMMARY LAWS

FREDERICK COUNTY DIVISION OF ANIMAL CONTROL

1832 Rosemont Avenue, Frederick, Md. 21702 (301) 600-1544 or (301) 600-1546

Frederick City 3-1 to wit, Frederick County Code;

§ 1-5-24. RUNNING AT LARGE.

An animal shall be deemed to be at large whenever it is not: (1) on the owner's property; or (2) under the immediate physical control of a person and restrained by a chain or leash.

§ 1-5-33. REQUIRED. LICENSE

No persons shall own or have custody of any dog or cat over 4 months of age unless such dog or cat is licensed as herein provided and has been vaccinated against rabies in a procedure approved by the Maryland Public Health Veterinarian. Proof of rabies vaccination shall be given to the seller of dog and cat licenses. This provision shall not apply to dogs or cats in the county owned by a nonresident, provided such dogs or cats are duly licensed in their home jurisdiction, providing the owner has a valid rabies vaccination certificate for said dog or cat while it is in the county.

A multiple domestic animal license or blanket kennel or cattery license will not be issued for any animal that has not been spayed or neutered.

§ 1-5-26. PROPER RESTRAINT, SHELTER, PROTECTION AND CARE FOR DOGS.

(A) Restraint requirement.

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to tether, fasten, chain, tie, restrain or cause a dog to be fastened, chained, tied or restrained to any stationary or inanimate object by means of a rope, chain, strap or other physical restraint for the purpose of confinement for more than 4 (four) hours, cumulatively in any 24 (twenty four) hour period.

(2) The dog must be tethered by a non-choke type collar or a body harness to a tether that is at least four times the body length of the dog, measured from the dog's nose to the back of the hindquarters, or at a minimum be ten feet in length, and which the tether is free from entanglement.

(3) The tether shall have swivels at both ends and all areas of confinement shall be maintained as to provide a safe and healthy environment for the dog.

(4) An individual found chaining or tethering an animal in violation of this section has 30 days to provide other means of confinement, as long as other conditions of confinement and care are being met. The grace period is null and void immediately if the owner, at any time during the grace period, is not in compliance with other applicable laws relating to animals.

(5) Individuals who do not comply within the 30-day grace period are subject to fines and penalties stipulated in this chapter.

(B) Shelter and outdoor enclosure requirements.

(1) Proper shelter, including protection from the weather and elements, shall be provided at all times. The shelter for a dog shall have a weatherproof roof, enclosed sides, a doorway, and a solid floor raised at least two inches above the ground. No interior surfaces shall be metal. The shelter shall have an entryway that the dog can easily enter and sufficient in size for a dog to stand, turn around, lie down, and exit in a natural manner. The shelter shall have adequate ventilation and protection from temperature extremes at all times.

(2) Bedding, such as wood shavings, straw or other material, shall be provided in sufficient quantity for insulation. Bedding shall be kept dry.

(3) Shade, separate from the shelter, either natural or manmade, shall be available at all times to a tethered dog, or a dog confined to an outdoor enclosure.

(4) Any dog confined within an outdoor enclosure must have adequate space for exercise. A minimum of 100 square feet is required. Dogs over 75 pounds must have an additional 50 square feet. Seventy-five square feet is required for each additional dog kept within the same enclosed area.

(C) *Care requirements.*

(1) Any person owning or having care, control or custody of a dog shall provide daily food that is free from contamination and is of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to maintain the animal in good health.

(2) Potable water must be accessible to the dog at all times.

(3) The dog must receive care and medical treatment for injuries, parasites and disease, sufficient to maintain the dog in good health.

(4) Any outdoor area where a dog is confined must be kept free of excretions and contaminated materials and cleaned regularly.

(D) *Penalties.* A violation of this section may result in a civil citation pursuant to § [1-5-53](#) of this chapter, or impoundment of the dog(s), or both.

§ 1-5-53. GENERALLY. CIVIL ANIMAL INFRACTIONS

Violation of any provision of this chapter is a municipal infraction punishable by a fine of \$50 for a first offense, \$75 for a second offense, or \$100 for a third or subsequent offense within a calendar year.

§ 3-6. ANIMAL WASTE.

(a) *Disposal required.* An owner or other person who has possession or control of a dog or other animal:

(1) may not permit the animal's feces to remain upon any park, sidewalk, or other public property; and

(2) shall properly dispose of the animal's feces. For purposes of this section, "properly dispose" means to place in a designated waste receptacle or other refuse container that is regularly emptied by the City or some other refuse collector, in compliance with all applicable provisions of Chapter 10 of this Code; or to dispose into a system designed to convey domestic sewage for proper treatment and disposal.

(b) *Violation.* Violation of this section is a municipal infraction punishable by a fine of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for a first offense, fifty dollars (\$50.00) for a second offense, and seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for a third or subsequent offense per calendar year.

§ 3-7. NOISY ANIMALS.

(a) *Prohibited.* An individual may not own any animal which, by barking, howling or in any other audible manner, disturbs the peace, order and quiet of the City.

(b) *Violation.* Violation of this section is a municipal infraction punishable by a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Each day a violation continues is deemed a separate offense.