

TITLE 10**ANIMAL CONTROL****CHAPTER**

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CHAPTER 1**IN GENERAL****SECTION**

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10-101. Running at large prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person owning or being in charge of any cows, swine, sheep, horses, mules or goats, or any chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or other domestic fowl, cattle, or livestock, to knowingly or negligently permit any of them to run at large in any street, alley, or unenclosed lot within the corporate limits. (1974 Code, § 3-101)

10-102. Keeping near a residence or business restricted. No person shall keep any animal or fowl enumerated in the preceding section within one thousand feet (1,000') of any residence, place of business, or public street, without a permit from the health officer. The health officer shall issue a permit only when in his sound judgment the keeping of such an animal in a yard or building under the circumstances as set forth in the application for the permit will not injuriously affect the public health. (1974 Code, § 3-102)

10-103. Pen or enclosure to be kept clean. When animals or fowls are kept within the corporate limits, the building, structure, corral, pen, or enclosure in which they are kept shall at all times be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. (1974 Code, § 3-103)

10-104. Adequate food, water, and shelter, etc., to be provided. No animal or fowl shall be kept or confined in any place where the food, water, shelter, and ventilation are not adequate and sufficient for the preservation of its health, safe condition, and wholesomeness for food if so intended.

All feed shall be stored and kept in a rat-proof and fly-tight building, box, or receptacle. (1974 Code, § 3-104)

10-105. Keeping in such manner as to become a nuisance prohibited. No animal or fowl shall be kept in such a place or condition as to become a nuisance because of either noise, odor, contagious disease, or other reason. (1974 Code, § 3-105)

10-106. Cruel treatment prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to unnecessarily beat or otherwise abuse or injure any dumb animal or fowl. (1974 Code, § 3-106)

10-107. Seizure and disposition of animals. Any animal or fowl found running at large or otherwise being kept in violation of this chapter may be seized by the health officer or by any police officer and confined in a pound provided or designated by the board of mayor and aldermen. If the owner is known he shall be given notice in person, by telephone, or by a postcard addressed to his last-known mailing address. If the owner is not known or cannot be located, a notice describing the impounded animal or fowl will be posted in at least three (3) public places within the corporate limits. In either case the notice shall state that the impounded animal or fowl must be claimed within five (5) days by paying the pound costs or the same will be humanely destroyed or sold. If not claimed by the owner, the animal or fowl shall be sold or humanely destroyed, or it may otherwise be disposed of as authorized by the governing body.

The pound keeper shall be entitled to collect from each person claiming an impounded animal or fowl a reasonable fee to cover the costs of impoundment and maintenance. (1974 Code, § 3-107)

10-108. Inspections of premises. For the purpose of making inspections to ensure compliance with the provisions of this title, the health officer, or his authorized representative, shall be authorized to enter, at any reasonable time, any premises where he has reasonable cause to believe an animal or fowl is being kept in violation of this chapter. (1974 Code, § 3-108)

10-109. Keeping of hogs. Hogs may be kept within the corporate limits; provided that they are confined in well kept sanitary lots sufficiently large to allow as much as two thousand five hundred (2,500) square feet of space for each hog confined therein; provided that from the first day of October to the first of May of each year hogs may be kept in well cared for sanitary barns and

not more than one (1) car load in one (1) barn, and no hog or hogs shall be kept longer than four (4) consecutive weeks. This section shall not apply to pigs or young hogs under two (2) months old and shall not apply to hogs being carried to market when not kept over more than forty-eight (48) hours. Any violation of this section shall be unlawful and shall be punished in accordance with the general penalty clause of this code. (1974 Code, § 3-109)

CHAPTER 2

DOGS

SECTION

10-201. Rabies vaccination and registration required.

10-202. Dogs to wear tags.

10-203. Running at large prohibited.

10-204. Vicious dogs to be securely restrained.

10-205. Noisy dogs prohibited.

10-206. Confinement of dogs suspected of being rabid.

10-207. Seizure and disposition of dogs.

10-201. Rabies vaccination and registration required. It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, or harbor any dog without having the same duly vaccinated against rabies and registered in accordance with the provisions of the "Tennessee Anti-Rabies Law" (Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 68-8-101 to 68-8-114) or other applicable law. (1974 Code, § 3-201)

10-202. Dogs to wear tags. It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, or harbor any dog which does not wear a tag evidencing the vaccination and registration required by the preceding section. (1974 Code, § 3-202)

10-203. Running at large prohibited.¹ It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to permit any dog owned by him or under his control to run at large within the corporate limits. (1974 Code, § 3-203)

10-204. Vicious dogs to be securely restrained. It shall be unlawful for any person to own or keep any dog known to be vicious or dangerous unless such dog is so confined and/or otherwise securely restrained as to reasonably provide for the protection of other animals and persons. (1974 Code, § 3-204)

10-205. Noisy dogs prohibited. No person shall own, keep, or harbor any dog which, by loud and frequent barking, whining, or howling, annoys, or disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood. (1974 Code, § 3-205)

10-206. Confinement of dogs suspected of being rabid. If any dog has bitten any person or is suspected of having bitten any person or is for any reason suspected of being infected with rabies, the health officer or chief of

¹State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 68-8-108 and 68-8-109.

police may cause such dog to be confined or isolated for such time as he deems reasonably necessary to determine if such dog is rabid. (1974 Code, § 3-206)

10-207. Seizure and disposition of dogs. Any dog found running at large may be seized by any police officer and placed in a pound provided or designated by the board of mayor and aldermen. If said dog is wearing a tag the owner shall be notified in person, by telephone, or by a postcard addressed to his last-known mailing address to appear within five (5) days and redeem his dog by paying a reasonable pound fee, to be fixed by the pound keeper, or the dog will be humanely destroyed or sold. If said dog is not wearing a tag it shall be humanely destroyed or sold unless legally claimed by the owner within two (2) days. No dog shall be released in any event from the pound unless or until such dog has been vaccinated and had a tag placed on its collar.

When, because of its viciousness or apparent infection with rabies, a dog found running at large cannot be safely impounded it may be summarily destroyed by any policeman.¹ (1974 Code, § 3-207)

¹State law reference

For a Tennessee Supreme Court case upholding the summary destruction of dogs pursuant to appropriate legislation, see Darnell v. Shapard, 156 Tenn. 544, 3 S.W.2d 661 (1928).

CHAPTER 3

BIRD SANCTUARY

SECTION

10-301. Killing of birds prohibited, generally.

10-301. Killing of birds prohibited, generally. The entire area embraced within the corporate limits of the City of Erin be and the same is hereby designated as a bird sanctuary.

It shall be unlawful to trap, hunt, shoot or attempt to shoot or molest in any manner any bird or wild fowl or to rob bird nests or wild fowl nests; provided, however, if starlings or similar birds are found to be congregating in such numbers in a particular locality that they constitute a nuisance or a menace to health or property in the opinion of the proper health authorities of the City of Erin, then in such event said health authorities shall meet with representatives of the Audubon Society, bird club, garden club or humane society, or as many of said clubs as are found to exist in the City of Erin, after having given at least three days (3) actual notice of the time and place of said meeting to the representatives of said clubs.

If as a result of said meeting no satisfactory alternative is found to abate such nuisance, then said birds may be destroyed in such numbers and in such manner as is deemed advisable by said health authorities under the supervision of the Chief of Police of the City of Erin. (1974 Code, § 3-301)