

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

1. IN GENERAL.
2. DOGS.

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

- 10-101. Running at large prohibited.
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- 10-107. Cruel treatment prohibited.
- 10-108. Seizure and disposition of animals.
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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, sheep, horses, mules, goats, or any chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or other domestic fowl, cattle, or livestock, knowingly or negligently to permit any of them to run at large in any street, alley, or unenclosed lot within the corporate limits. The keeping of swine anywhere within the corporate limits shall be prohibited. (1988 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 five hundred (500) feet 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. (1988 Code, § 3-102)

10-103. Riding and driving livestock restricted during certain hours. It shall be unlawful for any person to ride or drive horses or any other livestock on the streets within the corporate limits between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M. every day of the week. (1988 Code, § 3-103)

10-104. 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. (1988 Code, § 3-104)

10-105. 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 and safety. All feed shall be stored and kept in a rat-proof and fly-tight building, box, or receptacle. (1988 Code, § 3-105)

10-106. 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. (1988 Code, § 3-106)

10-107. Cruel treatment prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to beat or otherwise abuse or injure any dumb animal or fowl. (1988 Code, § 3-107)

10-108. 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 or other appropriate boarding place 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 board of mayor and aldermen.

The recorder, pound keeper, or other person designated by the board of mayor and aldermen shall collect from each person claiming an impounded animal or fowl reasonable fees, in accordance with a schedule approved by the board of mayor and aldermen, to cover the costs of impoundment and maintenance. (1988 Code, § 3-108)

10-109. Inspections of premises. For the purpose of making inspections to insure compliance with the provisions of this chapter, 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. (1988 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 through 68-8-114) or other applicable law. (1988 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. (1988 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. Anyone having control over a dog shall keep the same securely enclosed or securely leashed. (1988 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 provide reasonably for the protection of other animals and persons. (1988 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. (1988 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. (1988 Code, § 3-206)

10-207. Seizure and disposition of dogs. Any dog found running at large may be seized by the health officer or any police officer and disposed of in accordance with this title, chapter 1. In no event shall a dog be released from the pound or other boarding place until such dog has been vaccinated and has a tag evidencing such vaccination 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 the health officer or any policeman.¹ (1988 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).