

TITLE 10**ANIMAL CONTROL**¹**CHAPTER**

1. IN GENERAL.
2. DOGS AND CATS.

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

- 10-101. Running at large prohibited.
- 10-102. Pen or enclosure to be kept clean.
- 10-103. Adequate food, water, and shelter, etc., to be provided.
- 10-104. Keeping in such manner as to become a nuisance prohibited.
- 10-105. Cruel treatment prohibited.
- 10-106. Seizure and disposition of animals.

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.

Any person, including its owner, knowingly or negligently permitting an animal to run at large may be prosecuted under this section even if the animal is picked up and disposed of under other provisions of this chapter, whether or not the disposition includes returning the animal to its owner. (1975 Code, § 3-101)

10-102. 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. (1975 Code, § 3-103)

10-103. 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.

¹Municipal code reference

Prohibition of feeding animals in parks: § 11-701.

All feed shall be stored and kept in a rat-proof and fly-tight building, box, or receptacle. (1975 Code, § 3-104)

10-104. 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. (1975 Code, § 3-105)

10-105. Cruel treatment prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to beat or otherwise abuse or injure any dumb animal or fowl. (1975 Code, § 3-106)

10-106. 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 any police officer and confined in a pound provided or designated by the board of commissioners. 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 commissioners.

The pound keeper shall collect from each person claiming an impounded animal or fowl reasonable fees, in accordance with a schedule approved by the board of commissioners, to cover the costs of impoundment and maintenance. (1975 Code, § 3-107, as amended by Ord. #2011-08, Aug. 2011)

CHAPTER 2

DOGS AND CATS¹

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.
- 10-208. Destruction of vicious or infected dogs running at large.

10-201. Rabies vaccination and registration required. It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, or harbor any dog or cat 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. (1975 Code, § 3-201, as amended by Ord. #2011-08, Aug. 2011)

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. (1975 Code, § 3-202)

10-203. Running at large prohibited.² 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.

Any person knowingly permitting a dog to run at large, including the owner of the dog, may be prosecuted under this section even if the dog is picked up and disposed of under the provisions of this chapter, whether or not the disposition includes returning the animal to its owner. (1975 Code, § 3-203, modified)

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

¹The chapter title was changed from "Dogs" to "Dogs and Cats" by Ord. #2011-08, Aug. 2011.

²State law reference

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

such dog is so confined and/or otherwise securely restrained as to reasonably provide for the protection of other animals and persons. (1975 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. (1975 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 police or any other properly designated officer or official may cause such dog to be confined or isolated for such time as he reasonably deems necessary to determine if such dog is rabid. (1975 Code, § 3-206)

10-207. Seizure and disposition of dogs. Any dog found running at large may be seized by any police officer or any other properly designated officer or official and placed in a pound provided or designated by the board of commissioners. 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, in accordance with a schedule approved by the board of commissioners, 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 five (5) days. No dog shall be released in any event from the pound unless or until such dog has been vaccinated and had a tag evidencing such vaccination placed on its collar. (1975 Code, § 3-207)

10-208. Destruction of vicious or infected dogs running at large. 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, or other properly designated officer.¹ (1975 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).