

TITLE 10

ANIMAL CONTROL

CHAPTER

1. IN GENERAL.
2. DOGS.

CHAPTER 1

IN GENERAL

SECTION

10-101. Animals and fowls prohibited.

10-101. Animals and fowls prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, or maintain any cows, swine, sheep, horses, ponies, mules, goats, or other livestock, or any chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or other domestic fowls within the corporate limits. (1986 Code, § 3-101)

CHAPTER 2

DOGS

SECTION

- 10-201. Definitions.
- 10-202. Inoculation, registration, and tagging of dogs.
- 10-203. Seizure and disposition of dogs.
- 10-204. Confinement of dogs suspected of being rabid.
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10-201. Definitions. The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this chapter:

- (1) "Dog." All members of the canine family.
- (2) "Dog catcher." Any person hired by the Town of Rogersville for the express purpose of capturing dogs running at large.
- (3) "Inoculation." The injection of an antirabic vaccine which meets the standards prescribed by the United States Department of Agriculture for interstate sale.
- (4) "Owner." Any person having a right of property in a dog or who keeps or harbors a dog, or who has it in his care, or acts as its custodian, or who permits a dog to remain on or about his premises. (1986 Code, § 3-201)

10-202. Inoculation, registration, and tagging of dogs. Prior to June 1 of each year, every owner of a dog not confined at all times to an enclosed area or on a leash or muzzled shall cause the dog to be inoculated against rabies by a duly licensed veterinarian. Evidence of this inoculation shall consist of a certificate signed by the veterinarian, a copy of which shall be kept by the veterinarian, and a copy of which shall be given to the owner. The veterinarian shall also issue a serially numbered tag bearing the same number as the certificate. The tag shall at all times be attached to a collar or harness worn by the dog for which the certificate and tag have been issued. (1986 Code, § 3-202)

10-203. Seizure and disposition of dogs. On and after June 2 of each year, any dog found by the dog catcher or any officer appointed to enforce this chapter to not be wearing the evidence of inoculation as provided herein, or for which no certificate of inoculation can be produced, shall forthwith be impounded in the dog pound and the owner of the dog shall forthwith be subject to a penalty of two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50). If the owner permits his dog to remain impounded for a period of time longer than five (5) days, then the owner shall be liable for a per diem maintenance fee for impoundment.

Where a dog is impounded and the owner is known, the dog catcher or officer shall immediately notify the owner in writing of the impoundment.

Where the owner is unknown, a notice giving full description of the dog shall be posted at the county courthouse by the dog catcher not later than 10:00 A.M. on the day following the impoundment.

All dogs which have been impounded for failure to be inoculated in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, due notice of which impounding shall have been given as provided in this chapter, shall be humanely destroyed after five (5) days if not redeemed by the owner as provided herein. (1986 Code, § 3-203)

10-204. Confinement of dogs suspected of being rabid. The owner of any dog, whether vaccinated or not, which has been bitten by another animal or which exhibits symptoms of rabies, shall immediately notify the dog catcher and shall promptly securely confine the dog for a period of at least ten (10) days unless officially authorized by proper authority to release it sooner.

Whenever the dog catcher receives information that any person has been bitten by a dog, whether the dog is vaccinated or not, the dog catcher shall have the dog confined for a period of ten (10) days. It shall be unlawful for any person having knowledge that any person has been bitten by a dog to refuse to notify promptly the dog catcher. It shall be unlawful for the owner of the dog to refuse or fail to comply with the orders of the dog catcher in any particular case, and any expenses incurred in the handling of any dog under this section shall be borne by the owner. (1986 Code, § 3-204)

10-205. Dogs at large. It shall be unlawful for any owner of a dog to allow the dog in public places, streets, sidewalks, rights-of-way, or other public areas within the Town of Rogersville without being under his or her control or confined to a leash at all times. Any person violating this section shall be subject to a fine in accordance with the general penalty clause for this code. Any dog found running at large and not under control or on a leash may be held and impounded at the dog pound as designated by the Town of Rogersville until such time as the owner comes forth to receive and claim possession of the dog. The dog may be humanely destroyed if not claimed within thirty (30) days. (1986 Code, § 3-205)

10-206. Pit bulldogs. It shall be unlawful for any person to allow any pit bulldog owned by such person, or in the control of such person, to be located in the corporate limits of the Town of Rogersville at any time. The owner and/or the person having control of any pit bulldog found within the corporate limits of the Town of Rogersville shall be deemed to be in violation of this section and shall be subject to the penalties as provided in this code. (Ord. #5-10-88-2, June 1988)