

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

1. IN GENERAL.
2. DOGS AND CATS.

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

- 10-101. Running at large prohibited.
- 10-102. Keeping near a residence or business restricted.
- 10-103. Keeping in such manner as to become a nuisance prohibited.
- 10-104. Cruel treatment prohibited.

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, 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. (1980 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 two hundred fifty (250) feet of any residence, place of business, or public street, without a permit from the mayor. The mayor 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. (1980 Code, § 3-102)

10-103. 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 either because of noise, odor, contagious disease, or other reason. (1980 Code, § 3-103)

10-104. Cruel treatment prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person unnecessarily to beat or otherwise abuse or injure any dumb animal or fowl. (1980 Code, § 3-104)

CHAPTER 2

DOGS AND CATS

SECTION

- 10-201. Rabies vaccination and registration required.
- 10-202. Animal tags.
- 10-203. Running at large prohibited.
- 10-204. Seizure and disposition of dogs and cats.
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- 10-206. Vicious dogs must be confined.
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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 Tennessee Anti-Rabies Law or other applicable state law. (Ord. #94-009, Nov. 1994)

10-202. Animal tags. In addition to requiring rabies vaccination for dogs and cats under state law, residents of the town who own, keep, or harbor any dog or cat shall register same with town officials by purchasing a tag from the city offices. The person applying for the dog tag or cat tag shall exhibit evidence of current rabies vaccination for the animal and shall pay a registration fee. The registration for neutered animals shall be \$2.00 for each animal. The registration fee for unneutered animals shall be \$5.00 for each animal. Each animal owner shall register his/her animal each year with the town offices. (Ord. #94-009, Nov. 1994)

10-203. Running at large prohibited.¹ It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to permit any dog or cat owned by him/her or under his/her control to run at large within the corporate limits of the town. Any dog found running at large within the municipal limits of the town may be seized by any police officer and placed in the county pound. If said animal is wearing a tag, the owner shall be notified by telephone or by mail addressed to his/her last known mailing address to appear within five days and redeem his/her dog by paying the county pound fees. If said animal found running at large is not wearing a tag, then the Sullivan County Pound will dispose of said animal pursuant to its own regulations. (Ord. #94-009, Nov. 1994)

¹State law references

Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 44-8-408, 68-8-108, and 68-8-109.

10-204. Seizure and disposition of dogs and cats. Any dog or cat found running at large may be seized by any police officer and placed with the appropriate county officials in the county pound. Thereafter disposition of any such animal seized shall be as provided by law and county regulations. When, because of its viciousness or apparent infection of rabies, an animal found running at large cannot be safely impounded, it may be summarily destroyed by any police officer.¹

10-205. Noisy dogs prohibited. No person shall own, keep or harbor any dog which by loud or frequent barking, whining, or howling annoys or destroys the peace and quiet of any neighborhood. (Ord. #94-009, Nov. 1994)

10-206. Vicious dogs must be confined. 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 likewise securely restrained so as to prevent its attacking any member of the public which is lawfully in the vicinity of said vicious dog. (Ord. #94-009, Nov. 1994)

10-207. Confinement of animals suspected of being rabid. If any dog or cat has bitten any person or is suspected of having bitten any person or if for any reason is suspected of being rabid, the chief of police shall require such dog to be confined or isolated for such a time as he deems reasonably necessary to determine if such animal is in fact rabid. (Ord. #94-009, Nov. 1994)

10-208. Violation. Any person convicted of violating any provisions of this chapter shall, upon conviction, be fined no less than \$10.00 and no more than \$50.00. (Ord. #94-009, Nov. 1994)

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).