

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

1. IN GENERAL.
2. DOGS AND CATS.

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

- 10-101. Running at large prohibited.
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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, 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. (1995 Code, § 10-101)

10-102. Keeping near a residence or business restricted. No person shall keep or allow any other animal or fowl enumerated in the preceding section to come 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. (1995 Code, § 10-102)

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. (1995 Code, § 10-103)

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 and safety.

All feed shall be stored and kept in a rat-proof and fly-tight building, box, or receptacle. (1995 Code, § 10-104)

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. (1995 Code, § 10-105)

10-106. Cruel treatment prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to beat or otherwise abuse or injure any dumb animal or fowl. (1995 Code, § 10-106)

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 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. (1995 Code, § 10-107)

10-108. 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. (1995 Code, § 10-108)

CHAPTER 2

DOGS AND CATS

SECTION

- 10-201. Rabies vaccination and registration required.
- 10-202. Dogs and cats to wear tags.
- 10-203. Running at large prohibited.
- 10-204. Vicious dogs and cats to be securely restrained.
- 10-205. Noisy dogs and cats prohibited.
- 10-206. Confinement of dogs and cats suspected of being rabid.
- 10-207. Seizure and disposition of dogs and cats.

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. (1995 Code, § 10-201)

10-202. Dogs and cats to wear tags. It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, or harbor any dog or cat which does not wear a tag evidencing the vaccination and registration required by the preceding section. (1995 Code, § 10-202)

10-203. Running at large prohibited.¹ It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to permit any dog or cat owned by him or under his control to run at large within the corporate limits. (1995 Code, § 10-203)

10-204. Vicious dogs and cats to be securely restrained. It shall be unlawful for any person to own or keep any dog or cat known to be vicious or dangerous unless such dog or cat is so confined and/or otherwise securely restrained as to provide reasonably for the protection of other animals and persons. (1995 Code, § 10-204)

10-205. Noisy dogs and cats prohibited. No person shall own, keep, or harbor any dog or cat which, by loud and frequent barking, whining, or howling, disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood. (1995 Code, § 10-205)

¹State law reference

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

10-206. Confinement of dogs and cats suspected of being rabid. If any dog or cat 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 may cause such dog or cat to be confined or isolated for such time as he reasonably deems necessary to determine if such dog or cat is rabid. (1995 Code, § 10-206)

10-207. Seizure and disposition of dogs and cats. Any dog or cat found running at large may be seized by the health officer or any police officer and placed in a pound provided or designated by the board of commissioners. If said dog or cat 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 or cat by paying a reasonable pound fee, in accordance with a schedule approved by the board of commissioners, or the dog or cat will be humanely destroyed or sold. If said dog or cat is not wearing a tag it shall be humanely destroyed or sold unless legally claimed by the owner within two (2) days. No dog or cat shall be released in any event from the pound unless or until such dog or cat has been vaccinated and had a tag evidencing such vaccination placed on its collar.

When, because of its viciousness or apparent infection with rabies, a dog or cat found running at large cannot be safely impounded it may be summarily destroyed by the health officer or any policeman.¹ (1995 Code, § 10-207)

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).