

ORDINANCE NO 12 , 2ND SERIES

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WOOD LAKE, MINNESOTA, AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 7 ENTITLED "PUBLIC PROTECTION, CRIMES AND OFFENSES" BY CHANGING PROVISIONS RELATING TO DOG LICENSING AND REGULATION; AND, BY ADOPTING BY REFERENCE, CITY CODE CHAPTER 1 AND SECTION 7.99 WHICH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, CONTAIN PENALTY PROVISIONS.

The Council does ordain as follows:

Section 1. City Code Section 7.03 is hereby amended, in its entirety, to read:

**SEC. 7.03. ANIMAL LICENSING AND REGULATION.**

**Subd. 1. Definitions.** For the purpose of this Section:

- A. "Owner" means a person who owns an animal hereby regulated.
- B. "Own" means to have a property interest in, or to harbor, feed, board, keep or possess.
- C. "Dangerous Animal" means an animal which has caused damage to property or injury to a person, or which animal, by its actions, exhibits a propensity for causing imminent danger to persons.
- D. "Dog" means both male and female and includes any animal of the dog kind.
- E. "Animal" means a dog, cat or other household pet.
- F. "Cat" means both male and female and includes any animal of the feline kind.

**Subd. 2. Running at Large Prohibited.** It is unlawful for the owner of any animal to permit such animal to run at large. Any dog shall be deemed to be running at large with the permission of the owner unless it is on a durable leash secured to an object which it cannot move and on the premises of the owner, or on a leash or under the control of an accompanying person of suitable age and discretion, or effectively confined within a motor vehicle, building, or enclosure. Any cat shall be deemed to be running at large with the permission of the owner unless it is on the premises of the owner, or effectively confined within a motor vehicle, building, or enclosure.



**Subd.3. License Required.** It is unlawful for the owner of any animal, six (6) months of age or more, to fail to obtain a license therefore from the City.

**Subd.4. License Issuance, Term and Renewal.** All animal licenses shall be issued only upon presentation of a certificate issued by a veterinarian, licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Minnesota, showing rabies immunization of the animal and the type of vaccination used. If the vaccination used is of a kill virus type, the license issued shall be for one year. If the vaccination used is of a modified live virus type, the license issued shall be for a two-year period. Licenses shall expire on March 31 and renewed licenses shall run from April 1 for one or two years as provided above. Application for license renewal, accompanied by a veterinarian's certificate, shall be made at least thirty (30) days prior to expiration of the license.

**Subd.5. Adoption of Fees.** All fees for the licensing, impounding and maintenance of animals, including penalties for late application, may be fixed, and determined by the Council, adopted by resolution, and uniformly enforced. Such fees may from time to time be amended by the Council by resolution. A copy of the resolution setting forth currently effective fees shall be kept on file in the office of the City Clerk-Treasurer and open to inspection during regular business hours.

**Subd.6. Tag Required.** All licensed animals shall wear a collar and have a tag firmly affixed thereto evidencing a current license. A duplicate for a lost tag may be issued by the City upon presentation of the receipt showing the payment of the duplicate license fee. Tags shall not be transferable, and no refund shall be made on any license fee because of leaving the City or death of the animal before the expiration of the license.

**Subd.7. Animal Pound.** Any dog found in the City without a license tag, or any animal, running at large, or otherwise in violation of this Section, shall be placed in the Animal Pound, and an accurate record of the time of such placement shall be kept on each animal. Every animal so placed in the Animal Pound shall be held for redemption by the owner for at least five business days. A "regular business day" is one during which the Pound is open for business to the public for at least four hours between 8:00 o'clock A.M. and 7:00 o'clock P.M. Impoundment records shall be preserved for at least six months and shall show (1) the description of the animal by species, breed, sex, approximate age, and other distinguishing traits; (2) the location at which the animal was seized; (3) the date of seizure; (4) the name and address of the person from whom any animal three months of age or over was received; and, (5) the name and address of the person to whom any animal three months of age or over was transferred. If unclaimed, such animal may be humanely destroyed and the carcass disposed of, unless it is requested by a licensed educational or scientific institution under authority of Minnesota Statutes, Section 35.71. Provided, however, that if a tag affixed to the animal, or a statement by the animal's owner after seizure specifies that the animal should not be used for research, such animal shall not be made available to any such institution but may be destroyed after the expiration of the five-day period.



specifies that the animal should not be used for research, such animal shall not be made available to any such institution but may be destroyed after the expiration of the five-day period.

**Subd. 8. Notice of Impounding.** Upon impounding an animal under the above Subdivision, the owner shall be notified by the most expedient means, or if the owner is unknown, written notice shall be posted for five days at the City Hall describing the animal and the place and time of taking.

**Subd. 9. Release From Animal Pound.**

A. If such animal is owned by a resident of the City, after purchase of an appropriate license, if unlicensed, and payment of the impounding fee, maintenance, and immunization fee.

B. If such animal is owned by a person not a resident of the City, after immunization of any such animal for rabies, and payment of the impounding fee and maintenance.

**Subd. 10. Seizure by a Citizen.** It is lawful for any person to seize and impound an animal so found running at large and shall within six hours thereafter notify the Poundmaster of said seizure. It shall be the duty of the Poundmaster to place said animal in the Animal Pound. If the name of the owner of such animal so seized is known to the person who first takes such animal into custody, he/she shall inform the Poundmaster of the name of the owner, and the address if known.

**Subd. 11. Immobilization of Animals.** For the purpose of enforcement of this Section any peace officer, or person whose duty is animal control, may use a so-called tranquilizer gun or other instrument for the purpose of immobilizing and catching an animal.

**Subd. 12. Other Unlawful Acts.** It is unlawful for the owner of any animal to (1) fail to have the license tag issued by the City firmly attached to a collar worn at all times by the licensed animal, or (2) own a dangerous animal, or (3) interfere with any peace officer, or other City employee, in the performance of his/her duty to enforce this Section, or (4) fail to keep his/her dog from barking, howling or whining, or (5) fail to keep his/her cat from emitting loud or unusual noise.

**Subd. 13. Summary Destruction.** If an animal is diseased, vicious, dangerous, rabid or exposed to rabies and such animal cannot be impounded after a reasonable effort or cannot be impounded without serious risk to the person attempting to impound, such animal may be destroyed in a humane manner.

**Subd. 14. Rabies Control - Generally.**



A. Every animal which bites a person shall be promptly reported to the City Clerk-Treasurer or Poundmaster and shall thereupon be securely quarantined at the direction of the City or Poundmaster for a period of fourteen (14) days, and shall not be released from such quarantine except by written permission of the City. In the discretion of the City, such quarantine may be on the premises of the owner or at the veterinary hospital of his/her choice. If the animal is quarantined on the premises of the owner, the City shall have access to the animal at any reasonable time for study and observation of rabies symptoms. In the case of a stray animal or in the case of an animal whose ownership is not known, such quarantine shall be at the Animal Pound, or at the discretion of the City the animal may be confined in a designated veterinary hospital.

B. The owners, upon demand made by the Poundmaster or by any other City employee empowered by the Council to enforce this Section, shall forthwith surrender any animal which has bitten a human, or which is suspected as having been exposed to rabies, for the purpose of supervised quarantine. The expenses of the quarantine shall be borne by the owner and the animal may be reclaimed by the owner if adjudged free of rabies upon payment of fees set forth in this Section and upon compliance with licensing provisions set forth in this Section.

C. When an animal under quarantine and diagnosed as being rabid or suspected by a licensed veterinarian as being rabid dies or is killed, the City shall immediately send the head of such animal and rabies data report to the State Health Department for pathological examination and shall notify all persons concerned of the results of such examination.

D. The City shall issue such proclamation and take such action when rabies is suspected or exists as is required by Minnesota Statutes.

**Subd. 15. Reports of Bite Cases.** It is the duty of every physician, or other practitioner, to report to the City the names and addresses of persons treated for bites inflicted by animals, together with such other information as will be helpful in rabies control.

**Subd. 16. Responsibility of Veterinarians.** It is the duty of every licensed veterinarian to report to the City his/her diagnosis of an animal observed by him/her as a rabies suspect.

**Subd. 17. Police Dogs, Seeing-Eye Dogs.** The provisions of Subdivisions 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this Section shall not apply to the ownership or use of seeing-eye dogs by blind persons, or dogs used in police activities of the City, such as canine corps or tracking dogs used by or with the permission of the Council.

**Subd. 18. Animals in Heat.** Except for controlled breeding purposes, every female animal in heat shall be kept confined in a building or secure enclosure, or in a veterinary hospital or boarding kennel, in such manner that such female animal cannot come in contact with other animals.

Section 2. City Code Chapter 1 entitled "General Provisions and Definitions Applicable to the Entire City Code Including Penalty for Violation" and Section 2.99 entitled "Violation a Misdemeanor" are hereby adopted in their entirety, by reference, as though repeated verbatim herein.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect from and after the adoption and publication.

Passed and adopted by the Council this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2002.

ATTEST:

THE COUNCIL

Laurie Gabbert  
City Clerk-Treasurer

Brady Tamm  
Mayor

INTRODUCED:

July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2001

FINAL PASSAGE ON:

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2002.

PUBLISHED IN THE ~~WOOD LAKE NEWS~~  
Tri County News

May 1<sup>st</sup> + 8<sup>th</sup>, 2002.



**ORDINANCE NO. 12, 3<sup>RD</sup> SERIES**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WOOD LAKE, MINNESOTA, AMENDING  
SECTION 1, SUBD. 12, OF ORDINANCE NO. 12, 2<sup>ND</sup> SERIES ADOPTED ON April 8,  
2002, AND TITLED "ANIMAL LICENSING AND REGULATION."**

**The City Council of Wood Lake, Minnesota ordains:**

**Section 1.** Section 1, Sub.12, of Ordinance No. 12, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series:

Subd. 12. Other **Unlawful Acts**. It is unlawful for the owner of any dog to (1) fail to have the license tag issued by the City firmly attached to a collar worn at all times by the licensed dog, or (2) own a dangerous dog, or (3) interfere with any peace officer, or other City employee, in the performance of his duty to enforce this Section, or (4) fail to keep his dog from barking, howling or whining or (5) fail to keep his/her cat from emitting loud or unusual noise.

**Section 2.** Section 1, Sub.12, of Ordinance No. 12, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series is amended, in its entirety, to read:

Subd. 12. Other **Unlawful Acts**. It is unlawful for the owner of any dog to (1) fail to have the license tag issued by the City firmly attached to a collar worn at all times by the licensed dog, or (2) own a dangerous dog, or (3) interfere with any peace officer, or other City employee, in the performance of his duty to enforce this Section, or (4) keep or harbor a dog which habitually barks, or (5) fail to keep his/her cat from emitting loud or unusual noise.

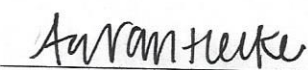
A. "Habitual Barking" shall be defined as barking, crying, howling, or whining for repeated intervals of at least five minutes with less than one minute of interruption, often in a 24-hour period, for consecutive days. The barking must also be audible off of the owner's or caretaker's premises.

**Section 3.** This ordinance becomes effective from and after its passage and publication.

Passed and adopted by the City Council of Wood Lake, Minnesota this 8th day of July, 2024.

  
Mayor, David J. Stelter

**ATTEST:**

  
City Clerk, Ashley VanHecke

INTRODUCED:

August 8, 2024

PUBLISHED IN THE TRI-COUNTY NEWS:

July 18, 2024

**ORDINANCE NO. 12, 3<sup>RD</sup> SERIES**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WOOD LAKE, MINNESOTA, AMENDING  
SECTION 2 OF ORDINANCE NO. 12, 2<sup>ND</sup> SERIES ADOPTED ON April 8, 2002, AND  
TITLED "ANIMAL LICENSING AND REGULATION."**

**The City Council of Wood Lake, Minnesota ordains:**

**Section 1.** Section 2 of Ordinance No. 12, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series:

City Code Chapter 1 entitled "General Provisions and Definitions Applicable to the Entire City Code Including Penalty for Violation" and Section 2.99 entitled "Violation a Misdemeanor" are hereby adopted in their entirety, by reference, as though repeated verbatim herein.

**Section 2.** Section 2 of Ordinance No. 12, 3<sup>rd</sup> Series is amended, in its entirety, to read:

**Section 2. Penalties for Violation**

**Subd. 1. Definitions.** For the purpose of this section: Every person violates a section, subdivision, paragraph or provision of this chapter when such person performs an act thereby prohibited or declared unlawful, or fails to act when such failure is thereby prohibited or declared unlawful, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished as follows:

A. Where the specific section, subdivision, paragraph or provision specifically makes violation a misdemeanor, such person shall be punished as for a misdemeanor; where a violation is committed in a manner or under circumstances so as to endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property, such person shall be punished as for a misdemeanor. Where such person stands convicted of a violation of any provision of this chapter within the immediately preceding twelve (12) month period and is charged with another violation, such violation shall be punishable as a misdemeanor. As to any violation not constituting a misdemeanor under the provisions of this section, such person shall be punished as for a petty misdemeanor.

**Subd. 2. Penalties**

A. The first violation of failure to license a dog with the City shall be a petty misdemeanor punishable by a fine of \$50.00/animal.

B. The first nuisance violation for a habitually barking dog (as defined in Section 1, Subd. 12, Line A.) shall be a petty misdemeanor punishable by a \$25.00 fine. The second violation will result in a \$50.00 fine, a third violation will result in a \$75.00 fine, and the fourth (and final) violation will result in a \$100.00 fine.



C. The first violation for a dog running at large shall be a petty misdemeanor punishable by a \$50.00 fine. The second violation, for the same dog, will result in a \$100.00 fine, a third violation will result in a \$150.00 fine, and subsequent violations will result in fines of \$200.00 or more.

**Section 3.** This ordinance becomes effective from and after its passage and publication.

Passed and adopted by the City Council of Wood Lake, Minnesota this 8th day of July, 2024.

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