

TOWN OF DIXMONT

DOG ORDINANCE

DEFINITIONS

- (A) "DOG" SHALL BE INTENDED TO MEAN BOTH MALE AND FEMALE DOGS.
- (B) "OWNER" SHALL BE INTENDED TO MEAN ANY PERSON OR PERSONS, FIRM, ASSOCIATION OR HAVING THE CONTROL OF A DOG.
- (C) "OWNER SHALL ALSO BE INTENDED TO MEAN AND INCLUDE, WHEN USED IN THIS ORDINANCE, THE PARENTS OR GUARDIAN OF A MINOR WHO OWNS, KEEPS OR HAS IN HIS POSSESSION, A DOG.
- (D) "AT LARGE" SHALL BE INTENDED TO MEAN OFF THE PREMISES OF THE DOGS OWNER OR A MEMBER OF HIS IMMEDIATE FAMILY EITHER BY LEASH, CORD, CHAIN, "AT HEEL" OR UNDER COMMAND.
- (E) "ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER" SHALL BE INTENDED TO MEAN ANY PERSON AUTHORIZED BY THE SELECTMAN, ANY DULY AUTHORIZED POLICE OFFICER OR CONSTABLE.

LICENSE REQUIRED: OWNER DEFINED

- (A) NO DOG SHALL BE KEPT WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE TOWN UNLESS SUCH DOG HAS BEEN LICENSED BY ITS OWNER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATUTES OF THE STATE.
- (B) OWNER SHALL MEAN ANY PERSON OWNING, KEEPING OR HARBORING A DOG.

DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE PROHIBITED

NO OWNER OR PERSON HAVING CUSTODY OF ANY DOG SHALL CAUSE OR PERMIT ANY DOG OWNED OR KEPT BY HIM OR IN HIS POSSESSION OR UNDER HIS CONTROL TO RUN AT LARGE WITHIN THE TOWN OF DIXMONT. A DOG, LICENSED OR UNLICENSED WITHIN THE TOWN OF DIXMONT, A DOG WHILE IN OR ON ANY PUBLIC WAY OR PLACE, EXCEPT AS HEREINAFTER PROVIDED, SHALL BE UNDER RESTRAINT WITHIN THE MEANING OF THIS ORDINANCE. IF IT IS CONTROLLED BY A LEASH, CORD, CHAIN OR "AT HEEL" OR UNDER THE CONTROL OF A PERSON AND OBEDIENT TO THAT PERSON'S COMMANDS, OR ON OR WITHIN A VEHICLE BEING DRIVEN OR PARKED ON THE STREETS OR WITHIN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE HELD TO REQUIRE THE LEASHING OR RESTRAINT OF ANY DOG WHILE ON ITS OWNER'S OR KEEPER'S PREMISES OR IN OR ON ANY PREMISES USED OR OCCUPIED AS A DWELLING HOUSE. A LEASH, CORD OR CHAIN SHALL NOT BE MORE THAN EIGHT (8) FEET LONG. ANY DOG FOUND RUNNING AT LARGE IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION MAY BE IMPOUNDED BY THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER (ACO). OR BY ANY DULY AUTHORIZED POLICE OFFICER OR CONSTABLE. THE OWNER OR KEEPER OF ANY DOG THAT IS IMPOUNDED MAY CLAIM THE DOG PROVIDING IT IS PROPERLY LICENSED UPON PAYMENT TO THE TOWN OF AN IMPOUNDING FEE OF \$10.00 IN ADDITION TO SUCH BOARDING FEES AS MAY BE DUE AND PAYABLE. ANY DOG UNCLAIMED WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS OF THE DATE OF IMPOUNDING SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE TOWN OF DIXMONT AND MAY BE DISPOSED OF IN A SUITABLE MANNER.

VICIOUS AND NOISY DOGS PROHIBITED

- (A) NO PERSON SHALL KEEP A NOISY OR VICIOUS DOG IN THE TOWN OF DIXMONT WHICH DISTURBS THE PEACE AND QUIET OF ANY PERSON.
- (B) NO PERSON SHALL KEEP ANY DOG WHICH HAS BITTEN ANY PERSON. THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER (ACO) OR ANY OTHER AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL, FOLLOWING A COMPLAINT BY ANY PERSON THAT A VICIOUS OR NOISY DOG IS BEING KEPT WITHIN THE TOWN, SHALL CAUSE AN INVESTIGATION OF THE COMPLAINT TO BE MADE. (C) IF A VICIOUS OR NOISY DOG IS FOUND BY THE ACO OR ANY OTHER AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL, THEY SHALL GIVE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE PERSON OWNING OR KEEPING SUCH DOG. SUCH NOTICE SHALL REQUIRE THAT THE DOG BE QUIETED, REMOVED FROM THE TOWN OR DESTROYED.
- (C) FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE A VIOLATION OF THIS CODE AND SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN TWENTY FIVE DOLLARS (\$25.00) NOR MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00). SUCH FINES SHALL BE IMPOSED FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS BEFORE A COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION.

DOGS CONSTITUTING A NUISANCE

- (A) ACTION CONSTITUTING A NUISANCE. IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR AN OWNER OR KEEPER OF A DOG TO ALLOW SUCH DOG TO CAUSE ANNOYANCE OR DISTURBANCE TO ANY PERSONS BY FREQUENT AND HABITUAL HOWLING, YELPING, BARKING OR BY RUNNING AFTER OR CHASING PERSONS, BICYCLES, AUTOMOBILES OR OTHER VEHICLES.
- (B) IMPOUNDMENT OF NUISANCE DOGS. ANY DOG CONSTITUTING A NUISANCE AS SET OUT IN SUBSECTION (A) MAY BE IMPOUNDED BY THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER (ACO) OR OTHER DULY AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL. IF THE OWNER CANNOT BE REASONABLY LOCATED, THE OWNER OF THE DOG SHALL PAY THE FULL COST INCURRED FOR THE BOARD AND SHELTER OF THE ANIMAL.
- (C) PENALTY. ANY OWNER VIOLATING ANY OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL, UPON CONVICTION, BE SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT LESS THEN TWENTY FIVE DOLLARS (\$25.00) OR MORE THEN ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00).