

TITLE 10 - ANIMAL CONTROL

CHAPTER 1. - IN GENERAL

Sec. 10-101. - Applicability; running at large prohibited.

(1)

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to cows, swine, sheep, horses, mules or goats, or any chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or other domestic fowl, cattle or livestock.

(2)

It shall be unlawful for any person owning or being in charge of any animal or fowl enumerated herein to knowingly or negligently to permit any of them to run at large in any street, alley, or unenclosed lot within the corporate limits.

(1976 Code, § 3-101; Ord. No. 2011-16, § I, 7-12-2011)

Editor's note— Section I of Ord. No. 2011-16, adopted July 12, 2011, changed the title of [§ 10-101](#) from "Running at large prohibited" to "Applicability; running at large prohibited."

Sec. 10-102. - Keeping near a residence or business restricted.

No person shall keep any animal or fowl enumerated in the preceding section within 1,000 feet 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.

(1976 Code, § 3-102)

Sec. 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.

(1976 Code, § 3-103)

Sec. 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 safe condition, and wholesomeness for food if so intended.

All feed shall be stored and kept in a rat-proof and fly-tight building, box, or receptacle.

(1976 Code, § 3-104)

Sec. 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.

(1976 Code, § 3-105)

Sec. 10-106. - Cruel treatment prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person to unnecessarily beat or otherwise abuse or injure any dumb animal or fowl.

(1976 Code, § 3-106)

Sec. 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 mayor and aldermen. 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, and the animal or fowl will be humanely destroyed or sold if not claimed within five days. If the owner is not known, a notice describing the impounded animal or fowl will be posted in at least three public places within the corporate limits. The notice shall state that the impounded animal or fowl must be claimed within five days by paying the pound costs or the same will be humanely destroyed or sold. If not claimed by the owner within the specified period, the animal or fowl shall be sold or humanely destroyed, or it may otherwise be disposed of as authorized by the board of mayor and aldermen.

Any person claiming an impounded animal shall be required to pay a reasonable fee to cover the costs of impounding and maintaining such animal.

(1976 Code, § 3-107)

Sec. 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 any animal or fowl is allegedly kept.

(1976 Code, § 3-108)

Sec. 10-109. - Rabies control.

(1)

Every animal or rodent which bites a person shall be promptly reported to the animal control officer. It shall thereupon be securely quarantined at the direction of the animal control officer for a period of up to 20 days and shall not be released from such quarantine except by written permission of the animal control officer. At the discretion of the animal control officer, such quarantine may be on the premises of the owner, at the shelter designated as the city animal shelter, or at the owner's option and expense, in a veterinary hospital of his choice. In the case of stray animals, or in the cases of animals whose ownership is not known such quarantine shall be at the shelter designated as the animal shelter.

(2)

The owner upon demand by the animal control officer shall forthwith surrender any animal which has bitten a human, or which is suspected as having been exposed to rabies, for supervised quarantine, the expense of which shall be borne by the owner. Said animal may be reclaimed by the owner if it is adjudged free of rabies, upon payment of the required fees, and upon compliance of the registration provisions set forth in section 10-202.

(3)

When rabies has been diagnosed in an animal under quarantine or rabies is suspected by a licensed veterinarian, and the animal dies while under such observation, the animal control officer shall immediately send the head of such animal to the state health department for pathological examination, and shall notify the proper public health officer of the city of the diagnosis.

(4)

Dogs or cats bitten by a known rabid animal shall be immediately destroyed or if the owner is unwilling to destroy the exposed animal, strict isolation of the animal in a kennel for six months shall be enforced. If the dog or cat has been previously vaccinated, within time limits established by the city health officer or public health service based on the kind of vaccine used, revaccination and restraint (leashing and confinement) for 30 days shall be carried out.

(5)

No person shall kill, or cause to be killed, or remove from the corporate limits, any rabid animals, any animal suspected of having been exposed to rabies, or any animal which has bitten a human, except as herein provided, without written permission from the animal control officer.

(6)

The carcass of any dead animal exposed to rabies shall upon demand be surrendered to the animal control officer.

(7)

The animal control officer shall direct the disposition of any animal found to be infected with rabies.

No person shall fail or refuse to surrender any animal for quarantine or destruction as required herein when demand is made therefor by the animal control officer.

(9)

That each and every provision of this chapter relative to rabies control shall be applicable to all animals and rodents and the owners thereof in the city.

(10)

That all expenses associated with the enforcement of any of these sections shall be borne by the owner of the animal in question.

(1976 Code, § 3-109)

Sec. 10-110. - Reports of bite cases.

It shall be the duty of every physician or other medical practitioner to report to the animal control officer the names and addresses of persons treated for bites inflicted by animals, together with such other information as will be helpful in rabies control.

(1976 Code, § 3-110)

Sec. 10-111. - Responsibilities of veterinarians.

It shall be the duty of every licensed veterinarian to report to the animal control officer any animal considered by him to be a rabies suspect.

(1976 Code, § 3-111)

Sec. 10-112. - Interference with animal control officer.

No person shall interfere with, hinder, or molest the animal control officer in the performance of any duty imposed by this title or seek to release any animal in the custody of the animal control officer except as provided in this title.

(1976 Code, § 3-112)

Sec. 10-113. - Records of animal control officer.

(1)

It shall be the duty of the animal control officer to keep or cause to be kept accurate and detailed records of the licensing, impoundment, and disposition of all animals coming into his custody.

(2)

It shall be the duty of the animal control officer to keep or cause to be kept accurate and detailed records of all bite cases reported to him and his investigation of same.

(1976 Code, § 3-113)

Sec. 10-114. - Violations—Penalty.

Any person found in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined as specified in appendix A, comprehensive fees and penalties, for each offense. Every day in which an animal or owner is found to be in violation of any provision of this chapter shall be deemed a separate offense.

(1976 Code, § 3-114; Ord. No. 2009-49, § I, 8-25-2009)

CHAPTER 2. - DOGS AND CATS

Sec. 10-201. - Rules and regulations pertaining to regulation of dogs and cats.

The provisions of the rules and regulations pertaining to Regulation of Dogs and Cats in Williamson County, Tennessee, County Resolution No. 6-10-7, as adopted by the County Commission of Williamson County, Tennessee, on June 21, 2010, as may be amended, is adopted by reference in its entirety as if fully set forth herein. A copy of these regulations shall be kept on file in the city recorder's office and shall be kept there for the use and inspection of the public.

(Ord. No. 2011-16, § II, 7-12-2011)