

Animal Control

Brought to you by The Bowling Green, OH Police Division

Please note: this is a list of COMMON violations. It is to be used for reference only.

It is not intended to be all-inclusive. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Police Division

§ 90.01 ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER; DUTIES; BOND; AUTHORIZATION; IMPOUNDING AND FEES.

(A) The director of safety may, if and as provided by council and the municipal administrator, appoint a city animal control officer from time to time, for such period of time, and at such compensation as may be authorized by Chapter 33 of this code to supplement within the city limits the duties of the county dog warden in enforcing the provisions of R.C. Chapter 955 and the provisions of this chapter. Such animal control officer shall give bond as prescribed by § 30.21.

(B) The animal control officer may have the same police powers as are conferred upon police officers of the city in the performance of his duties subject to meeting the required training standards and approval by the safety director.

(C) The animal control officer shall likewise have power to summon the assistance of bystanders in performing his duties and may serve writs and other legal processes issued by any court within the limits of the city with reference to enforcing R.C. Chapter 955 and this chapter.

(D) The animal control officer or any police officer may pick up and impound any animal found to be in violation of any provision of law. Animals impounded under this section shall be impounded for a period of not less than three days. During such time the owner, harbinger, or keeper thereof may secure the release of such animal upon proof that he has duly registered the animal, if registration is required of the animal. If the animal is a dog, the person shall provide proof that a dog license for the current year has been issued as provided in R.C. Chapter 955, and upon payment to such agent of the city as the director of safety may from time to time direct, of a pickup fee of \$10, and then the person may secure release of the dog or animal.

(E) The foregoing pickup fees shall be charged and collected in addition to any pickup, impoundment, or licensing fees imposed by the county or appropriate agency. If the animal is not so redeemed, the city animal control officer shall deliver the animal to the county dog warden, or make such other disposition as the city animal control officer deems appropriate.

§ 90.02 FAILURE TO CONFINE ANIMALS.

(A) The owner or person having charge of birds, cats, cattle, dogs, ferrets, gerbils, guinea pigs, hamsters, horses, sheep, pigs, rabbits, geese, ducks, turkeys, chickens, or other fowl or domestic animals shall at all times keep those animals confined upon the premises of the owner or person having charge or under absolute physical control by the owner or

person having charge, when off the premises. In the event the animal is being walked upon a leash, it must not exceed ten feet in length.

(B) The running at large of any such animal off the premises of the owner or person having charge is prima facie evidence of failure to keep an animal confined in violation of this section.

(C) Whoever violates this section is guilty of failure to confine animals, a minor misdemeanor. However, if the animal running at large is a dog or cat and the dog or cat has either a current tag issued by the county auditor's office, any auditor's office in the state, or an identification tag affixed to the animal giving the name, address, and telephone number of the animal's owner, then the maximum fine shall be \$50. If the offender has previously been convicted of a violation of this section, then violation of this section is aggravated failure to keep an animal confined, a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

§ 90.10 ANIMAL BITES; QUARANTINE AND REPORTING.

(A) Whenever any animal shall bite any person, the animal control officer may order such animal quarantined for a period extending not longer than two weeks from the time of the biting.

(B) No owner or person in custody or possession of such animal shall fail to comply with such quarantine.

(C) All expenses incurred for the keeping of such animal or the necessary tests to determine whether rabies exists, shall be borne exclusively by the owner or keeper of such animal.

(D) No person having knowledge of the existence of any rabies, or the fact that any animal has bitten any other person, shall fail to immediately report such information to the police division.

(E) Whoever violates division (B) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. Whoever violates division (D) of this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

§ 90.18 RABIES IMMUNIZATION REQUIRED.

(A) Any person who keeps or harbors a dog or cat within the city shall keep such dog or cat immunized or re-immunized against rabies, by a method listed in the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare Center for Disease Control Animal Rabies Compendium, or any other method approved by the Department of Health, so that the dog or cat is continually protected against contracting rabies. Provided, however, dogs and cats need not be immunized before reaching the age of three months.

(B) Dogs and cats entering the city temporarily for dog or cat shows, exhibitions, field trials and/or breeding purposes or any other purpose, shall be properly immunized. All

such dogs and cats shall be accompanied by an immunization certificate supplied by the veterinarian who immunized the dog or cat.

(C) All veterinarians immunizing or re-immunizing dogs or cats against rabies shall keep a record of such immunization or re-immunization and shall, at the time of such immunizing or re-immunizing give the owner or keeper of the animal a certificate of immunization which shall include a number identifying the individual record, a complete description of the animal, place where the animal is kept or harbored, name, address, phone number of the owner, keeper or harbored of the animal, date and type of immunization or re-immunization and such other pertinent information as needed, along with the signature and typed name and address of the veterinarian. The veterinarian shall forward a copy to the Police Division-Animal Control Section.

(D) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to mean that dogs or cats immunized or re-immunized shall be allowed to run at large in violation of any rabies quarantine, law, ordinance or regulation.

(E) All veterinarians who immunize or re-immunize a dog or cat against rabies shall provide a tag approved by the Health Commissioner, which shall have thereon permanently affixed the year of immunization or re-immunization and the number indicating the record prescribed in division (C) hereof. No person who owns, keeps or harbors a dog or cat within the city shall fail to require the dog or cat, at all times, to wear such tag.

§ 90.04 DEFECATION ON PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROPERTY.

(A) No owner, keeper, or harbored of any dog, cat, or other animal shall knowingly permit the animal to defecate on the property, either public or private, of another without the owner, keeper, or harbored having in his possession the necessary tools or equipment to remove the defecation.

(B) The owner, keeper, or harbored shall use the necessary tools and equipment to remove defecation from the property forthwith.

(C) Any person who shall violate any provision of this section shall be guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

§ 90.14 WILD OR DANGEROUS ANIMALS PROHIBITED.

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep, maintain, or have in his possession or under his control within the city any poisonous reptile or any other dangerous or carnivorous wild animal or reptile, and vicious or dangerous domesticated animal, or any other animal or reptile of wild, vicious, or dangerous propensities.

§ 90.03 BARKING, HOWLING, OR OFFENSIVE DOGS.

(A) No person shall own, harbor, or keep any dog within the municipality which, by frequent and habitual barking, howling, or yelping, creates unreasonably loud and

disturbing noises of such a character, intensity, and duration as to disturb the peace, quiet, and good order of the municipality.

(B) No person shall own, harbor, or keep any dog which, by biting, scratching, digging, jumping, running, frolicking, urinating, defecating, vomiting, or otherwise, injures, damages, soils, defaces, or befouls any person, lawn, tree, shrub, plant, building, street, sidewalk, or other public or private property without the permission of the owner or person in charge of such property. The restriction as to defecating imposed by this section shall not be applicable to public property when the owner, harbinger, or keeper of such dog immediately and completely removes all feces deposited by such dog and disposes of same in a sanitary manner, nor to cases in which seeing eye dogs are leading legally blind persons.

(C) Any person who shall allow any dog habitually to remain, be lodged, or fed within any dwelling, building, yard, or enclosure which he occupies or owns, shall be considered as harboring or keeping such dog for the purposes of this section.

(D) Whoever violates this section is guilty of harboring barking, howling, or offensive dogs, a minor misdemeanor. If the offender has previously been convicted of this section, then violation of this section is aggravated harboring of barking, howling, or offensive dogs, a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.