

Town of Winchester, Vilas County
Ordinance #2018-03
Dog Licenses

1) AUTHORITY

In this article, the definitions as set forth in 174.001, Wis. Stats., shall be the definitions of terms used in this article, except as otherwise provided herein. In addition to those definitions set forth 174.001, Wis. Stats., the following definitions shall apply.

- At Large:* To be off the premises of the owner and not under the control of some person, either by leash or other physical means of restraining a dog, but a dog within an automobile of any person with the consent of the dog's owner shall be deemed to be upon the owner's premises.
- Officer:* A designated officer appointed by the Town Board to enforce this article.
- Owner:* Any person, owning, harboring, or keeping a dog and the occupant of any premises on which a dog remains or to which the dog customarily returns daily for a period of ten days is presumed to be harboring or keeping the dog with the meaning of this article.

2) LICENSE REQUIRED

No person in the Town shall own, harbor, or keep any dog more than five months of age without complying with this article and the provisions of Ch.174, Wis. Stats.

3) RESTRICTIONS

No person within the Town shall own, harbor or keep any dog which:

- a) Is at large or permitted to run at large within the Town. A dog shall be considered running at large when it is not on the premises of its owner unless it is on a leash within the immediate presence of the owner, his employee or any member of his family 12 years of age or older. An owner shall include any person owning a dog or keeping or harboring a dog for more than 10 days, dog kennels excepted.
- b) Habitually pursues any vehicle upon any public street or highway in the Town.
- c) Assaults or attacks any person off the premises of the owner.
- d) Habitually barks or howls to reasonable annoyance of any person.
- e) Kill, wounds, or worries any domestic animal.
- f) Is over five months of age and has not been issued a valid license under the provisions of this article and/or Ch. 174, Wis. Stats.
- g) Is known by the owner to be infected with rabies or have been bitten by an animal infected with rabies and said owner fails to quarantine the dog as required by 95.21 Wis. Stats.

4) IMPOUNDMENT

- a) The Wisconsin Humane Society and its agents and any county or Town law officer may apprehend and impound any dog within the classification of ((3) restrictions).
- b) The possession of any dog impounded pursuant to the provisions of this section may be obtained by posting bail with the Town Clerk/ Treasurer, plus payment of the current daily fee for each day or fraction thereof during which the dog has been impounded, or by signing a written plea of guilty to the violation of this section and consent to the entry of judgment for the amount of the bail plus payment of the current daily fee for each day or fraction thereof during which the dog has been impounded. Such stipulation of guilt, together with the payment required, shall be delivered to the Town Clerk/Treasurer.

5) RABIES CONTROL PROGRAM

Section 95.21, Wis. Stats., is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this article. Any provisions of this article shall be read in conjunction with the 95.21. Wis. Stats.; however, it is the intent to make this article more restrictive pursuant to 95.21(9), Wis. Stats.

6) VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

Any person found to be in violation of any provision of this chapter shall be subject to penalty.

Penalties: A violation of this ordinance, or any provision thereof, shall be punishable by a civil penalty of \$25.00 for each violation, plus court costs and any/or any legal expenses incurred by the Town of Winchester.

7) SEVERABILITY AND LIABILITY

Should any section, clause or portion of this ordinance be adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

8) EFFECTIVE DATE

The Ordinance shall be effective upon passage and publication as provided by law.