



ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

Code Enforcement & Public Health

5200 - 85th Ave. N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55443 (763) 493-8070, Fax (763) 493-8171,



Owning an animal:

A privilege and a responsibility

Owning a pet is one of the great American pastimes and privileges. Animals fill the role of companion, guide, hunter, guardian, and entertainer. But owning a pet is a major responsibility as well. That responsibility extends not only to proper care and training, but also to your responsibility for the animal's behavior. A proper understanding of animal ownership is necessary in today's complex society. The City of Brooklyn Park has certain regulations regarding animal management to help ensure the environment remains healthful and safe, and that nuisances are prevented.

Licensing

All dogs, cats, and other animals over six (6) months of age and not customarily kept inside a cage indoors must be licensed with the City. (Ord. 92.35) The pet must display the license tag at all times. This license serves several purposes:

- It aids in the speedy recovery of lost or impounded animals;
- It provides authorities with a phone number in case of emergency.
- It provides a method to ensure that pets are properly vaccinated against rabies.

No more than three animals not customarily maintained within a cage and over 6 months of age are allowed at any one dwelling unit, except at a commercial kennel. (Ord. 92.21)

Rabies Vaccinations

The threat of rabies still exists for your pet and our community. To prevent this, you are required to have your pet (dog, cat, ferret, etc.) vaccinated against rabies. Your veterinarian will provide you with a certificate, which you will need when obtaining a license for your pet. (Ord. 92.35)

Pet Management

- **Pets must be under control at all times.** When the animal is off your property, the animal must be on a leash unless attending Brookdale Dog Park, located at 7650 June Ave N. *Dogs must be licensed in order to use the dog park.* While on your property, your animal must be restrained from leaving your property by use of physical means or being in the physical presence of a competent person having control over the animal. (Ord.92.03)
- **Clean up after your pet.** No one appreciates other animal's "daily deposits" on their property or in public parks. You are required to pick up and dispose of your animal's feces in a sanitary manner. A plastic bag makes a convenient clean-up device. (Ord. 92.07) Also, animal urine is harmful to certain plants. Be considerate of other people's property.
- **Animals may not disturb the peace.** Excessive noise (ie. barking, howling, crowing, etc.) from your pet/animal is hard on the nerves of personal within hearing range. Respect your neighbors' right to a quiet neighborhood. This ordinance provision is enforced twenty-four hours a day. (Ord. 92.05)

Dangerous Animals

- **Do not let your animal bite.** Any animal that bites a person must be euthanized or quarantined in the manner provided by in Ord 92.14. The Animal Control Officer may determine that an animal that bites a human being is ferocious and of a vicious character, habit or disposition and the animal is a public nuisance. An animal declared to be “a dangerous animal or public nuisance animal” will have to be destroyed. A person keeping a “dangerous animal” or “public nuisance animal” is guilty of a penal offense. (Ord. 92.15) Be kind to your animal, do not let them bite!

Prohibited Animals

The following animals are prohibited:

(Ord. 94.03, 94.04)

- Animals that are considered wild by nature and/or pose a danger to humans or other animals. These types of animals include but are not limited to wolves, bobcats, poisonous creatures, constrictors or boa types of snakes, and other types of inherently dangerous animals.
- Diseased animals of any type (dogs, cats, fish, fowl, etc.) are prohibited and may not be transported into the City. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly bring into the City, or have in the person’s possession, an animal that is afflicted with infectious or contagious diseases. All such diseased animals must be destroyed in a humane manner unless the disease is curable and the animal is under the care of, and receiving treatment from a licensed veterinarian. (Ord. 92.11)
- Carcasses of animals, fish, or fowl, wild or domestic, are prohibited.
- Chicken, ducks, pigeons, and other domestic fowl.

- Any farm type of animal located on property not zoned as farmland. This includes horses, cows, sheep, goats, pigs, fowl, etc. Any combination of animals of any age kept in such numbers or under conditions which reasonably annoy, injure, or endanger the health, safety, comfort, repose or welfare of the public or of the animals or fowl. Kept in unclean conditions, animals can transmit disease to other animals as well as people.

Farm Animals

Domesticated and farm animals are allowed on properties zoned R1 for farming. (Ord.152.242.01) A farm is a parcel of land having five (5) acres or more that is under cultivation or a parcel of ten (10) acres or more that is fenced and used as pasture, or a parcel of ten (10) acres or more of any combination. No farm may exceed one animal unit per acre in aggregate.

(Ord.152.008)

- An animal unit is defined as one cow, horse, donkey or burro, llama, or three (3) sheep or emus, goat, etc. Any animal not listed, except domestic house animals, may be considered one animal unit equivalency. (Ord 152.008)

Prohibited Activities

The following activities are prohibited:

- Animal fighting- with or without gambling activities.
- Animal slaughtering, injuring or experimentation that is not directly associated with a licensed meat processor or state licensed medical/veterinary profession.
- Business activities associated with the outside keeping of animals, cages, or other supplies.
*Please refer to the *Home Occupation* brochure for more information.

Important Facts

- √ Over one million animals are lost each year because they are not wearing I.D. and license tags.
- √ An animal's urine can permanently damage lawns and shrubbery.
- √ A choke chain does not make a good everyday collar; hundreds of animals die each year from accidental strangulation.
- √ Neutered/spayed animals are healthier and tend to live longer.
- √ It only takes 10 minutes to cause permanent brain damage when an animal is left in an unventilated car on a summer day. Authorized persons have the authority to immediately relieve this situation.

City Contacts

A variety of resources are available to help with any questions dealing with animal management issues:

Code Enforcement & Public Health Division

Animal feces, fowl or unapproved animals

763-493-8070

Licensing Division

Animal licenses

763-493-8182

Police Department

Excessive animal noise, loose animals, dangerous animals or animal bites, more than 3 pets on a property

Dial 911 for Officer Assistance

Please contact us if you have any questions/concerns regarding this brochure, or would like more information concerning the enforcement of city ordinances.

763-493-8070

This brochure is intended only as a general guide. Other codes and ordinances may apply. You can reference ordinances at the city website