

Chapter 2

Animals

Part 1

Dogs

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Part 1**Dogs****A. Barking Dogs****§2-101. Keeping of Barking Dogs.**

1. *Harboring.* It shall be unlawful for any person knowing to keep any dog which habitually barks, howls or yelps to the great discomfort of the peace and quiet of the neighborhood who are of ordinary sensibilities. Such dogs are hereby declared to be a public nuisance.

2. *Petitions Complaining of Barking Dogs.*

A. Whenever any person shall complain to the Police Department that a dog habitually barks, howls or yelps is being kept by any person in the Township, the Police Department shall notify the owner of said dog that a complaint has been received and that the person should take whatever steps necessary to alleviate the barking, yelping or howling.

B. If the warning given to the person alleged to be keeping a dog set forth in subsection A above is ineffective, then a verified complaint of at least two citizens, not from the same family, may be presented to the Police Department, alleging that a dog which habitually barks, howls or yelps is being kept by any person within the Township. The Police Department shall inform the owner of such dog that a petition has been received and shall cite the owner of the dog for the violation alleged in said petition.

C. Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this Part, upon conviction thereof in an action brought before a district justice in the manner provided for the enforcement of summary offenses under the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 90 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues or each Section of this Part which shall be found to have been violated shall constitute a separate offense. [Ord. 05-112]

(Ord. 88, 1/23/1996, §1; as amended by Ord. 05-112, 7/26/2005)

B. Dogs Running at Large**§2-211. Definitions.**

As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall have the meaning indicated, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

Owner - when applied to the proprietorship of a dog, includes every person having a right of property in such dog, and every person who keeps or harbors such dog or has it in his care, and every person who permits such dog to remain on or about any premises occupied by him.

Running at large - being upon any public highway, street, alley, park or any other public land, or upon property of another person other than the owner, and not being accompanied by or under the control of the owner or any other person having custody of said dog.

(Ord. 05-112, 7/26/2005)

§2-212. Appointment and Duties of Dog Warden.

A dog warden shall be appointed by Board of Supervisors to serve during its pleasure. Such dog warden along with the police officers/constable shall have concurrent responsibility for the enforcement of this Part and of the Dog Law, 3 P.S. 459-101 *et seq.*; provided, that he shall not have the power to make arrests under this Act of Assembly or any other Act of Assembly or ordinance of the Township.

(Ord. 05-112, 7/26/2005)

§2-213. Unlawful to Allow Dogs to Run at Large.

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog or dogs to allow or permit such dog or dogs to run at large in the Township.

(Ord. 05-112, 7/26/2005)

§2-214. Seizing of Dogs.

The dog warden or any police officer or constable may seize any dog found at large in Township. Such dogs are to be impounded in a licensed kennel.

(Ord. 05-112, 7/26/2005)

§2-215. Licensed Dogs.

The Chief of Police/constable shall notify the owner of a licensed dog by registered or certified mail, with return receipt, that the dog is impounded and will be disposed of in 5 days if not claimed. Five days after the return receipt has been received, and the dog has not been claimed, the dog may be sold or destroyed in accordance with the Dog Law, 3 P.S. §§459-302.

(Ord. 05-112, 7/26/2005)

§2-216. Unlicensed Dogs.

Unlicensed dogs that are seized shall be held in such kennel for 48 hours and if not claimed may be destroyed in accordance with the Dog Law, 3 P.S. 459-303.

(Ord. 05-112, 7/26/2005)

§2-217. Dangerous Dogs.

1. A dog determined to be dangerous under §502-A of the Dog Law, 3 P.S. 459-502A, shall be restrained or otherwise kept in accordance with Article VI-A of the Dog Law, 3 P.S. 459-501A *et seq.*

2. Dogs may be killed only in accordance with the requirements of §501 of the Dog Law, 3 P.S. §§459-501, and otherwise, said dogs must be detained and delivered to the police or a State dog warden. While detained, said dog must be treated in a humane manner.

(Ord. 05-112, 7/26/2005)

§2-218. Penalties.

1. The first two times a dog is seized, the owner shall pay a fine of \$15 to the Township as well as reasonable fees for keeping the animal in a kennel in an amount as established from time to time by resolution of the Board of Supervisors.

2. Any person allowing a dog to run at large a third time in violation of this Part shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fines and cost, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days.

(Ord. 05-112, 7/26/2005)