

Chapter 5. Animals and Fowl

Section 500 - General

500.01 Impoundment.

A. The City or any law enforcement officer shall impound any dog or cat found or running at large and shall give notice of the impoundment to the owner of the dog if known. In case the owner is unknown, notice of the impoundment shall be posted on social media, if the dog is not claimed within three (3) regular business days following the posting, or if all fees and charges have not been paid, the City shall cause the dog to be destroyed and its carcass disposed of in a humane way or unless the animal is transferred to another humane society, shelter, or other care provider. The City or any law enforcement officer may also impound or destroy any dog found to be posing a threat to the public's health, safety, and welfare. Such impoundment or destruction shall be made pursuant to applicable State laws.

B. An impounding fee and a daily boarding charge for feeding shall be charged for all impounded dogs as per the City's fee schedule.

500.02 Prerequisite to releasing dog. Before a dog can be released the owner shall present a certificate from a licensed veterinarian showing that the dog has been vaccinated for rabies within the previous twenty-four (24) months.

500.03 Running at Large Prohibited. No dog shall be permitted to run at large within the City limits.

500.04 Abandoning Dogs Prohibited. Any person turning loose a dog away from home or otherwise abandoning a dog within the City shall be guilty of misdemeanor and on conviction thereof shall be punished as prescribed in Minn. Stat. § 144.49, Subdivision 1 as amended.

500.05 Potentially Dangerous Dog. Means any dog that:

- (1) When unprovoked, inflicts bites on a person or domestic animal on public or private property.
- (2) When unprovoked, chases or approaches a person, including a person on a bicycle, upon the streets, sidewalks, or any public or private property, other than the dog owner's property, in an apparent attitude of attack; or
- (3) Has a known tendency, or disposition to attack unprovoked, causing injury or therewise threatening the safety of a person or domestic animals.

500.06 Dangerous Dogs. Whenever the owner of a vicious, dangerous or destructive dog has forfeited bond or bail or has pleaded or been found guilty in connection with a charge of maintaining a dangerous dog and permitting the dog to run at large, the City in addition to fine or imprisonment of the owner, may order the dog confined in a specific manner on its owner's premises if the dog is found running at large thereafter, the City upon apprehension, shall summarily destroy the dog.

Whenever four or more adult persons, having no relationship to each other, make written petition to the City requesting the confinement of a dog because of a potential danger for children in the area, the City, after investigation, may order the immediate confinement of the dog or proceed to procure through a complaint, the City through the hearing process may order for permanent confinement of the animal, or such other substantial disposition as the City may deem appropriate. The City will follow the Minn Stat. for 347.50 - 347.56 for both Potentially dangerous and Dangerous dogs definitions.

500.07 Dogs Which Have Bitten. Whenever any dog shall have bitten a person or there is good reason to believe that the dog has bitten a person, the fact shall be reported within 24 hours to the City, and thereafter the owner of the dog shall comply with the instructions of the City concerning the dog.

500.08 Removal of Excrement. It shall be unlawful for any person who owns or has custody of a dog or cat to cause or permit such animal to defecate on any private property without consent of the property owner, or on any public property, unless the person immediately removes the excrement and places it in a proper receptacle. The provisions of this Subsection shall not apply to seeing-eye dogs under the control of a blind person or to any dog while being used in law enforcement activity.

(Am. Ord. 2017-4, passed 12-12-17)