

TRENTON ANIMAL CODE

ARTICLE IV. DOGS*

Sec. 14-111. License.

(a) *Required.* It shall be unlawful for any person to own, maintain, keep or harbor any dog within the city without first obtaining a license therefor.

***State law reference** – Dog Law of 1919, MCL 287.261 et seq.

(b) *Application.* Application for a dog license shall be made to the city clerk and shall state the breed, sex, age, color, and markings of the dog, and the name and address of the applicant and the last known previous owner. The application shall be accompanied by a certificate of a licensed veterinarian showing that the dog has been vaccinated against rabies.

(c) *Fee.* The fee for license required by this section shall be as established by the city council. If the license is required to be obtained or renewed by the first Monday in July and is not obtained by the second Monday in September, the fee shall be as established by the city council, in absence of good cause shown.

(d) *Issuance of license and tag; design of tag.* The city clerk shall issue to each applicant for a dog license, license, together with a tag of copper or brass, which tag shall contain the number of the license duly stamped or engraved thereon, the year when issued, and the date of expiration, together with the words “Trenton, Michigan, Dog License.”

(e) *Expiration.* All licenses issued under this section shall expire on the first Monday of July following the issuance of the license.

(Code 1974, §§6-23 – 6-26, 6-27 (a) – (c))

Sec. 14-112. “Harboring” or “Keeping” defined.

Any person allowing any dog habitually to remain and be lodged or fed within his house, store, building, enclosure or premises shall be considered as harboring or keeping the dog within the meaning of this article.

(Code 1974, § 6-22)

Cross reference – definitions generally, § 1-2.

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Sec. 14-113. Liability of owner; evidence of negligence.

Every owner and every person possessing or harboring a dog in the city shall be liable for damages for any and all injuries to persons or property that may be caused by such dog on any public highway or other public place, to be determined and collected in appropriate legal proceeding therefor, in which proceeding any failure or refusal by such owner to comply with the requirements of this article shall constitute prima facie evidence.

(Code 1974, § 6-30)

Sec. 14-114. Running at large.

No person owning, possessing or harboring any dog shall permit the dog to run at large. A dog shall be deemed to be running at large under the provisions of this section when it is not under leash, securely tied or securely confined within an enclosure. Violations of this section are a municipal civil infraction.

(Code 1974, §§ 2-306(a)(3), 6-31)

Sec. 14-115. Noisy Dogs.

No person shall harbor or keep any dog which, by loud, frequent or habitual barking, yelping or howling, shall cause annoyance to the neighborhood and people passing on the streets. Violations of this sections are a municipal civil infractions.

(Code 1974, §§ 2-306(a)(4), 6-32)

Cross reference – Noise control, § 38-161 et seq.

Sec. 14-116. Keeping vicious dogs, biting dogs, or dogs bitten by rabid animal.

No person shall harbor or keep a vicious dog or a dog that has been bitten by any animal known to have been afflicted with rabies or which shall have bitten any person.

(Code 1974, § 6-33)

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Sec. 14-117. Procedure when dog has bitten person or is suspected of being rabid.

Every person owning, keeping or harboring any dog that has been attacked or bitten by any other dog or animal known to be afflicted with or having symptoms of rabies, or which has bitten any person, or which has or is suspected to have contracted rabies, shall immediately notify the chief of police or his designee, and upon the demand of such officer shall immediately produce and surrender such dog for observation at the dog pound for a period of ten days; however, in the discretion of such officers, such dog may be quarantined for a like period of time on the premises of the owner or person who is keeping or harboring such dog. If at the end of such ten-day period such dog has not developed rabies, it shall be released from the dog pound or the quarantine. If the dog has developed rabies within such period of time, it shall be destroyed.

(Code 1974, § 6-34)

Sec. 14-118. Dogs impounded second time for biting to be destroyed.

Whenever a dog is brought to the pound or is quarantined a second time for having bitten a person, such dog shall be destroyed, after having been held a sufficient time to meet the requirements of the chief of police for investigation.

(Code 1974, § 6-35)

Sec. 14-119. Allowing quarantined dog to be off of quarantine premises.

It shall be unlawful for any person to suffer or allow any dog that has been quarantined to be on the streets of the city or away from the quarantined premises.

(Code 1974, § 6-36)

Sec. 14-120. Tethering of Dogs

a) Tethering means the practice of securing a dog to a stationary object by means of a metal chain or coated steel cable for keeping a dog restrained. Tethering does not mean walking a dog on a leash, or for temporary grooming, or other professional service.

b) It shall be unlawful for a person to:

- (1) Continuously tether a dog for more than three hours per day;
- (2) Tether a dog on a tether made of anything but a coated steel cable more than (10) feet in length;

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- (3) Use a tether or any assembly or attachments thereto tether a dog that shall weigh more than ten percent (10%) of the animal's body weight, or due to weight, inhibit the free movement of the animal within the area tethered; or
 - (4) Tether a dog on anything except a buckle-type collar or harness, or tethering on a choke chain or around the dog's neck, or tethered to training collar such as choke or pinch-style collars, or in such a manner as to cause injury, strangulation, or entanglement of the dog on fences, trees or other man made or natural obstacles; or
 - (5) Tether a dog without access to shade when sunlight is likely to cause overheating, or appropriate shelter to provide insulation and protection against cold and dampness when the atmospheric temperature falls below 40 degrees Fahrenheit, or to tether a dog without securing its food and water supply so that it cannot be tipped over by the tether; or
 - (6) Tether a dog in an open area where it can be tested by persons or an open area that does not provide the dog protection from attack by other animals; or
 - (7) Tether a dog in an area where bare earth is present and no steps have been taken to prevent the surface from becoming wet and muddy in the event of precipitation.
 - (8) Tether a dog less than four (4) months of age.
 - (9) Tether more than one dog to a single tether.
 - (10) Tether a dog to a stationary object which would allow a dog to come within five feet of any property line.
 - (11) Tether a dog without a swivel attached and/or equipped on both ends.
- c) The animal control officer, or his/her designee, may in his/her discretion order a more restrictive tethering requirements if circumstances require and it is not detrimental to the health, safety or welfare of the dog.

d) Penalty. A person found responsible for violation section 14-120 shall be deemed responsible for a municipal civil infraction in the amount of \$100 per day. Any person found liable for violating this section three or more times in one year time span shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Secs. 14-130 – 14-140. Reserved.