

Chapter 10

ANIMALS*

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***Cross reference**-Environment, ch. 26.

State law references-Township, general police powers, MCL 41.181; wildlife conservation, MCL 324.40101 et seq.; endangered species protection, MCL 324--31)501 et seq.; crimes relating to animals and birds, MCL 750.49 et seq.; local authority to adopt animal control ordinance, MCL 287.290.

Section 10-1 – Identification

An ordinance to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Tittabawassee Township, Saginaw County, Michigan. This ordinance shall hereafter be known as the Tittabawassee Township Animal Control Ordinance.

Section 10-2 - Definitions.

Whenever in this chapter the following terms are used they shall have the meanings as described to them in this section, unless it is apparent from the context thereof that some other meaning is intended:

Farm: A plot of land being at least five (5) acres in size used for agricultural or aqua cultural activities.

Household Pet: Dogs, cats or other animals traditionally kept as domesticated pets, not including those animals traditionally considered farm animals.

Owner: When applied to the proprietorship of an animal, means every person having a right of property in the animal, and every person who keeps or harbors the animal or has it in his care, and every person who permits the animal to remain on or about any premises occupied by him. For the purposes of this act, any person keeping or harboring any animal for seven (7) consecutive days shall be deemed the owner thereof within the meaning of this chapter.

Section 10-3 - Dogs.

- A. License and tag required. All dogs over the age of six (6) months within the Township shall at all times be currently licensed in accordance with the requirements of state law and of the county animal control ordinance. A license tag issued by the county shall be securely affixed to a collar, harness or other device which shall be worn by the dog at all times unless the dog is within the confines of the residence of the owner or of a dog run or other secure enclosure on the owner's premises.
- B. Limit on number of dogs. No "owner", as defined in this ordinance, of a dog, nor any person who owns, leases, or is otherwise in control of any premises within the township, shall keep dogs or permit dogs to be kept within the Township except in compliance with the following:
1. Not more than two (2) dogs may be kept in or about the premises of a dwelling unit in a duplex, apartment, condominium, or other multi-family dwelling unit.
 2. Not more than three (3) dogs may be kept in or about the premises of any single-family dwelling.
 3. No dog may be kept in or about premises other than occupied dwelling units or legally operating farm, pet store, kennel or animal shelter.
 4. Dogs born to a female dog kept in compliance with the provisions of this section may be kept on the premises with said female dog for a period of not more than six (6) months following the date of birth notwithstanding the provisions of subsections B1 and B2 above.
 5. The limits of this section shall not apply to legally operating farms, kennels, pet stores or animal shelters.

- C. Barking dogs. No person owning or having charge, care, custody or control of a dog shall permit such dog at any time, by loud or frequent or habitual barking, yelping or howling, or by aggressive behavior, to cause annoyance to people in the neighborhood or to persons utilizing the public parks, walks or streets of the neighborhood.
- D. Dogs running at large. No person owning or having charge, care, custody or control of any dog shall cause, permit, or allow the same to run at large or to be upon any highway, street, lane, alley, court or other public place, or upon any private property or premises other than those of the person owning or having charge, care, custody, or control of such dog, unless such dog is restrained by a substantial chain or leash not exceeding six (6) feet in length and is in the charge, care, custody, or control of a person with the ability to restrain it.
- E. Cleanliness. No person shall, who harbors or keeps any animal, fail to maintain in a clean and sanitary condition, devoid of rodents and vermin, and free from objectionable odor, all structures, pens or yards wherein any animal is kept.

Section 10-4 – Other Animals

- A. Annoyances. No person owning or having charge, care, custody or control of any animal shall permit such animal at any time, by loud or frequent or habitual vocalization, or by aggressive behavior, to cause annoyance to people in the neighborhood or to persons utilizing the public parks, walks or streets of the neighborhood.
- B. Animals running at large. No person owning or having charge, care, custody or control of any animal shall cause, permit, or allow the same to run at large or to be upon any highway, street, lane, alley, court or other public place, or upon any private property or premises other than those of the person owning or having charge, care, custody, or control of such animal, unless such animal is restrained by an appropriate leash not exceeding six (6) feet in length and is in the charge, care, custody, or control of a person with the ability to restrain it.
- C. No animal may be kept in or about premises other than occupied dwelling units or legally operating farm, pet store, kennel or animal shelter.
- D. Cleanliness. No person shall, who harbors or keeps any animal, fail to maintain in a clean and sanitary condition, devoid of rodents and vermin, and free from objectionable odor, all structures, pens or yards wherein any animal is kept.

Section 10-5 – Penalty

Any person, firm or corporation who shall knowingly violate or refuse to comply with, or resist the enforcement of any provision hereof, shall be guilty of a municipal civil infraction and shall be subject to the penalties as defined in the Tittabawassee Township Sanctions for Ordinance Violations Ordinance.

Section 10-6 – Severability

This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after publication. All ordinances or parts of the ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Chapters 11-13

RESERVED

CD11:1