

Town of Manchester

Animal Control Ordinance

Enacted: 06/21/1999

Amended: 06/14/2012

Attested Copy: _____

4. Barking or Howling Dogs.

- A. It is unlawful for any owner to knowingly keep or harbor any dog which causes annoyance, alarm, or noise disturbance for more than fifteen minutes at any time of the day or night, by repeated barking, whining, yelping, howling or any other similar sound, which can be heard beyond the boundary of the owner's property. ~~and disturb or annoy persons in the neighborhood who are of ordinary sensibilities. Such dogs are hereby declared to be a public nuisance. Shall not apply if any animal is provoked by trespassing people or animal on private property on which the animal is situated or by other legitimate cause for provocation does not apply to working farm animals or guard dogs kept on private property.~~
- B. Enforcement. Upon a complaint by any person actually disturbed, the Animal Control Officer or any duly qualified law enforcement officer may investigate the disturbance and if satisfied that a violation of this Section has occurred, may give written notice to the owner of such dog of the violation and that further violation must cease. If, after the written notice has been given to the owner, such owner again violates this Section, the Animal Control Officer shall seek appropriate remedies under this Ordinance by the issuance of a summons and complaint to be served upon the owner and filed in the Maine District Court in the City of Augusta.

5. Authority To Take Unlicensed Dog's to Veterinarian, Shelter Disposition

Any dog not licensed in accordance with Section 1 and found within the town, shall be taken by the Animal Control Officer or Game Warden or Police Officer to a licensed Humane society, City Shelter or Veterinarian and kept there for a maximum period of 9 days (nine days).

- The owner of such dog may, within such period, claim the dog upon payment of a \$20.00 fee, made payable to the Town of Manchester. In addition, such dog must be vaccinated and licensed before being released from said shelter.
- If dog is not claimed within the 9 day period, the Humane Society, Shelter or Veterinarian may give away, sell or otherwise humanely dispose of said dog.

6. Civil Remedies

Any person violating any provision of this Ordinance shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$50.00 and not more than \$500.00 for each offense, and shall pay to the Town its court costs, and reasonable attorney's fees, if any, incurred in the prosecution of the violator. A separate offense shall be deemed committed on each day during or on which a violation occurs or continues. Additionally, the Town may request injunctive relief to prohibit continuation of any violation of this Ordinance.

7. Control of Animal Waste

An owner must remove and dispose of any feces left by his/her animal anywhere other than the property of the owner unless prior permission from another property owner. Deposit such feces into appropriate litter receptacle. This regulation shall not apply to any person who, by reason of physical handicap, is unable to comply with the requirement.

Town Meeting Approved 06/21/1999

Amended Section 4 & 6 - Town Meeting Approved 06/23/2001

Amended Section 4 & 7 - Approved - 06/14/2012