

GEORGIA'S ANIMAL ORDINANCES BY COUNTY

- Compiled by **GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY**
as of December 2020

			ACO POWERS	DUTY OF ACO & LE	PURPOSE SECTION	DEFINITIONS	TETHER	MAND S/N	# DOGS LIMIT	BREEDER RESTRICTIONS	VIOLATION FEES/PENALTIES	REPEAT OFFENDER	RIGHT OF ENTRY	HUMANE CARE	IMPOUNDS/RECLAIM S	ANIMAL ESTABLISHMENTS	ABANDONMENT	HOT CAR	ADOPTIONS	REGISTRATION	DUTIES OF OWNERS	TRUCK BED	MUST REPORT HITTING ANIMAL	RETAIL SALES DOGS/CATS	SEIZE ABUSED DOGS	SPECIFIC SHELTER REQMTS
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Appling County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL																									
Atkinson County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL																									
Bacon County		2008 ORDINANCE - minimal																								
Bacon County - City of Alma		2008 ORDINANCE - Limit # of animals to 2							X																	
Baker County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL																									
Baldwin County		2019 ordinance. Tether restrictions. No owner shall give away or sell any puppy or kitten prior to the minimum age of eight weeks (SEC 14-49)	X				X																X			
Barrow County	city of Statham has a T ban also	2018 ORDINANCE. DETAILED SHELTER DEFINITION, NO UNATTENDED TETHERING , ADOPTION FEE COVERS MICROCHIP S/N SHOTS, ETC.				X	1			GDA				X		X			X							X
Bartow County		2018 ORDINANCE. TETHER RESTR, 3 DOG LIMIT<1ACRE, unlic breeders subj to immed impoundmt , SHELTER reqmts MINIMUM FINE SCHEDULE, SHORT HOT CAR PARAGRAPH, Shelter reimbursed for care of sick impounded animal	X		X	X	X		X	GDA+	X			X				X								X
Ben Hill County		2015 ORDINANCE - Minimal				X														X						
Ben Hill County(City of Fitzgerald)	City of Fitzgerald	2012 City of Fitzgerald ORDINANCE. TETHER BAN Sec 5-95 . Shelter Sec 5-96. Reasonable Cause and Powers sections. Right to enter/Right to emergency entry very good 5-36 and 5-37. Shelter sec. 5-96, # dogs and cats max. Dog licenses required. Duty to render assistance to animal hit by vehicle 5-86. Animal establishments require Permits.				X	X	2		X	X			X	X		X			X						
Berrien County		NO ORDINANCE																								
Bibb County	Macon-Bibb	2014 ORDINANCE. MAND SPAY/NEUTER SECTION - NO DATE ON MODIFICATION - TETHER BAN /license req'd for dogs and cats - Abandonment section 5-13W/ PENALTIES SCHEDULE, A PORTION OF WHICH GOES TO ED REQMTS Animal Welfare personnel; Min penalties on tether/transport 5-22; any agent can seize animal that requires Humane treatment 5-18				X	3	X		X							X			X		X				
Bleckley County	City of Cochran	2002 ORDINANCE. Authority sec 12-24	X		X	X								X												
Brantley County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL																									
Brooks County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL																									
Bryan County		Minimal																								
Bulloch County		1994 ORDINANCE. repeat offender clause - 2ND viol of ord in 24 month period - seizure Sec 8-162 and 8-163										X														

GEORGIA's ANIMAL ORDINANCES BY COUNTY - Compiled by <i>GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY</i> as of December 2020			ACO POWERS	DUTY OF ACO & LE	PURPOSE SECTION	DEFINITIONS	TETHER	MAND S/N	# DOGS LIMIT	BREEDER RESTRICTIONS	VIOLATION FEES/PENALTIES	REPEAT OFFENDER	RIGHT OF ENTRY	HUMANE CARE	IMPOUNDS/RECLAIM S	ANIMAL ESTABLISHMENTS	ABANDONMENT	HOT CAR	ADOPTIONS	REGISTRATION	DUTIES OF OWNERS	TRUCK BED	MUST REPORT HITTING ANIMAL	RETAIL SALES DOGS/CATS	SEIZE ABUSED DOGS	SPECIFIC SHELTER REOMTS
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Burke County	1st year w/ an animal services department	2019 ORDINANCE. microchip at 1st impound, higher fees for unaltered and 2nd offenses, mand spay/neuter at 3rd impound. Conflicting mand spay/neuter other than registered purebreds sec 10-21, superbreeder fee, HOT CAR SECTION 10-26			X	X	X	?		X		X			X	X	X	X			X					
Butts County		2015 ordinance - Tether restrictions, scalable impound fees and 'excessive number of animals' clause - to be interpreted by ACO			X	X	X				X				X											
Calhoun County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL																									
Camden County		2016 ORDINANCE -Tether Restrictions. Protective Custody taken of animals - after one conviction person barred from owning 1 year, 2nd conviction - 5years	X			X	X					X														
Candler County - City of Metter		2019 ORDINANCE -City of Metter - Minimal Tether Restrictions			X	X	X																			
Carroll County		2015 ORDINANCE - animal establishmt permit req'd, minimal TETHER RESTRICTIONS, HOT CAR				X	X									X		X								
Catoosa County		2001 ORDINANCE - minimal. county registration tag required				X														X						
Charlton County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL																									
Chatham County		Tether Ban 22-206. MAND S/N EXC REG PUREBREDS, HOT CAR, BED OF TRUCK, OUTDOOR # CATS LIMIT OF 8			X	X	3	X		X								X				X				
Chatham County - SAVANNAH		TETHER BAN 9-5035. MAND S/N EXC REG PUREBREDS, HOT CAR, BED OF TRUCK, OUTDOOR # CATS LIMIT of 8, DOGS, 5			X	X	4	X	X	X								X				X				
Chatham County - PORT WENTWORTH		1996 ORDINANCE. TETHER BAN (ONE HOUR PER DAY ONLY)			X		5													X						
Chatham County - POOLER		2009 ORDINANCE. Minimal. Unclear Tether restriction. Sec 14-41			X		X																			
Chatham County - GARDEN CITY		2008 ORDINANCE. Animal Establishments require license. \$1,000 min fine + 6mos. In jail for aggr animal cruelty Sec 14-22 and 23. unclear tether restriction Sec 14-24. Limit # of outdoor to 4 cats and 3 dogs				X	X		X					X		X		X				X				
Chattahoochee County (Cusseta-Chatt)		2004 - minimal. Adopter must pay spay/neuter cost to ACO and AC remits to veterinarian. Sec 6-35																	X				X			
Chattooga County		not on municode																								
Cherokee County		2007 ORDINANCE - TETHER BAN , Abandonment section 10-30, HOT CAR, HOARDER SECTION, OPEN BED OF TRUCK, CRUELTY CONVICTION &DANG DOG CANNOT OWN FOR ONE YEAR				X	6		X		X	X					X	X				X				
Cherokee County - Ball Ground		2018 ORDINANCE - follows county above but adds a RETAIL SALES BAN Sec 6-11				X	7		X		X	X					X	X				X		X		
Clarke County (Athens-Clarke)		2017 TETHER BAN , Feral cat sec 4-1-21 and 26.				X	8							X	X											

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Clay County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL	2001 ORDINANCE - minimal				X																				
Clayton County		2010 ORDINANCE. no tether > 12 hours, trolley or cable no tether between 10pm and 6am, limit 5 dogs, breeder permit req'd, animal establishment permit and business license req'd. Includes standards for each type of establishment. Decent impound section. Hot car Sec 14-33. Adopters must pay a sterilization bond which is redeemed by veterinarian. Sec. 14-302			X	X	X		X	X					X	X	X	X	X			X				
Clinch County		not on municode																								
Cobb County		2017 ORDINANCE. TETHER BAN	X			X	X						X				X	X				X	X			
Coffee County		2002 ORDINANCE - 2 PAGES																								
Colquitt County		2016 ORDINANCE. Minimal. Minimal TETHER RESTRICTIONS	X				X																			
Columbia County		2007 ORDINANCE - minmal	X																							
Cook County		no ordinance - less than 1 page																								
Coweta County		2017 ORDINANCE. CHIP at 1st impound, MAND SPAY/NEUTER AT 2ND IMPOUND/LANDLORD LETTER FOR ADOPTION <u>NO TETHERING BETWEEN 10PM AND 6AM</u> COUNTY LICENSE FOR ANIMAL ESTABLISHMENTS ONLY GDA BREEDERS ALLOWED & MUST BE REGISTERED WITH AC/hot car		X	X	X				X					X			X	X							
Coweta County - Grantville		2011 ORDINANCE. Tether Restrictions					X																			
Crawford County		not on municode																								
Crisp County		2007 ORDINANCE - minimal									X		X													
Crisp County - City of Cordele		2000 ORDINANCE. City of Cordele, Duty of ACOs section		X																						
Dade County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL	2015 ORDINANCE. Hot car.	X			X							X					X								
Dawson County		2018 ORDINANCE - NO TETHER AS PRIMARY MEANS , Abandonment section 10-6. ACO is sworn Peace Officer under Sheriff's Department Sec. 10-46	X			X	X										X			X						
Decatur County		1999 ORDINANCE. Minimal				X																				
Decatur County - City of Bainbridge		2010 ORDINANCE - 10-6 impound - 1st = \$100, 2nd = mandatory spay/neuter. Pet license req'd Sec 10-18. Tether Restrictions Sec 10-36				X	X								X					X						
DeKalb County		2015 update - TETHER allowed only as 2ndary means & trolley, etc. County registration tag required, Right to refuse adoptions sec 5-23, Those convicted of cruelty, etc., not allowed to own a pet for 5 years. Repeat Offender sec 5-28, Health certificate reqmt to sell an animal. Animal Services Advisory Board.				X	X					X					X	X	X	X	X	X				

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Dodge County		not on municode																								
Dooley County		1989 - DANGEROUS DOG ONLY																								
Dougherty County		2003 ORDINANCE. right to impound section 2-3.5-29	X			X																				
Dougherty County- City of Albany		2010 ORDINANCE. city of Albany. <u>Tether cannot be primary means</u> , humane treatment section 10-5, seizure & entry powers 10-35	X			X	X						X	X			X	X								
Douglas County		2012 TETHER BAN, ANIMAL ESTABLISHMENT PERMITS REQ'D, no transport by bed of truck, Powers 5-50	X			X	X			X			X			X						X				
Early County		not on municode																								
Echols County		2008 ordinance - minimal. Can impound animal with 3 violations. Sec 10-82				X						X	X	X			X									
Effingham County		1994 ORDINANCE except 2019 Update on TNR only. Otherwise, minimal.				X																				
Elbert County		not on municode																								
Emanuel County		2008 ORDINANCE. 1/2 page long.																								
Evans County		2006 ordinance- Minimal				X																				
Fannin County		2008 ordinance - Minimal. MUST RESPOND TO COMPLAINTS WITHIN 24 HOURS Sec 14-21				X															X					
Fayette County		2014/17 ORDINANCE -Minimal. MIN FEES ON IMPOUNDS W REPEAT OFFENDERS GRADUATED FEES 6-26				X						X			X											
Floyd County		UPDATED IN 2015 FOR FERAL CATS THE REST is 1985 CODE			X	X																	X			
Floyd County, City of Rome		2008 Ordinance - minimal, 2nd offense, can bar from owning an animal for up to 2 years				X						X														
Forsyth County		2018 ORDINANCE. TETHER CANNOT BE PRIMARY MEANS RESTRAINT, CRUELTY VIOL RESTRICT OWNERSHIP ONE YEAR, S/N BY COUNTY, ADOPT RESTRICTIONS, FAIL TO REPORT ANIMAL NEGL/ABUSE REVOKES BUS LICENSE/TREAT OR EUTHANIZE FOR PARVO AND DISTEMPER 14-34e				X	X					X				X	X		X	X						
Franklin County		2017 ORDINANCE. purpose/scope section. Animal establishments required permits/ACO rights/HOT CAR	X		X	X					X		X	X		X		X								
Fulton		2019 ORDINANCE. Retail Sales Ban. TETHER BAN . special permit required for 4 or more dogs, penalties section, cruelty section, impoundment fees retained under 34-317. Retail sales ban - pet shops may only offer adoptions plus dogs and cats may not be adopted out until 8 weeks old				X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X				X		

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Gilmer County		2006 ORDINANCE. Motorist duty to notify AC, render assistance, & pay vet bills of animal hit . Sterilization bond on adoptions Sec 14-43. Max 10 # of pets.				X			X						X		X		X				X			
Glascock County		no ordinance																								
Glynn County		ORDINANCE updated 2020 - tether restrictions - not yet on Municode. 2017 ORDINANCE				X	X							X												
Gordon County		2013 ORDINANCE - minimal			X	X	X										X									
Grady County		?? ORDINANCE. Minimal																								
Greene County		2012 ORDINANCE. Minimal				X																				
Gwinnett County		2017 ORDINANCE. TETHER BAN , Adoption restrictions 10-46, hot car and truck bed, Sec 10-175and 176. (MORE CHGS ADOPTED 122018 NOT YET IN MUNICODE)				X	16			GDA		X		X			X	X				X				
Habersham County		2018 ORDINANCE.Sec 10-3 Duties and Powers, Minimal Tether Restrictions	X			X	X			GDA			X				X	X		X						
Habersham County, City of Alto		2010 ORDINANCE. City of Alto - striking with car, tether restrictions, impound fees & license fees higher for unaltered, license req'd, owner liable for impound costs, repeat offender & penalties section, HOT CAR	X			X	X				X	X			X			X		X			X			
Hall County		2018 ORDINANCE. Hot Car Sec 4.10.350, Shelter Requirements, TETHER BAN , Repeat Offender Sec 4.10.220				X	17				X	X		X			X	X								
Hancock County		not on municode																								
Haralson County		2017 ORDINANCE. tether ban 8-134, removal from vehicles May 1 thru Oct 1 8-37/ all LE can enforce 8-32/good purpose and intent 8-1	X		X	X	18											X								
Harris County		2010 ORDINANCE - Minimal. MAND REQ FOR LICENSE FOR KENNEL W STANDARDS				X										X										
Hart County		2013 ORDINANCE-minimal				X											X									
Heard County		1995 ORDINANCE. Hot car section <u>requires</u> owner to be charged with cruelty, Sec 6-32. Seizure of mistreated animals includes <u>costs will be borne by violator</u> , Sec 6-33. Animal establishments are inspected by animal control, animal establishmt stds Sec 6-294				X							X			X		X								
Henry County		2012 ORDINANCE. Hot Car, Adoption requirements.			X	X							X	X				X	X							
Houston County		2016 ORDINANCE - Authority to remove abused or neglected animals + hot car Sec. 10-6, # limit of 3 dogs and cats < 5 acres, TETHER BAN , conviction of VIOLATIONS, cant own for 3 years Sec 10-23				X	19		X			X	X					X								

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Houston County - Warner Robbins	(warner Robbins)	2017 ORDINANCE - Authority to remove abused or neglected animals + hot car Sec. 5-6, # limit of 3 dogs and cats < 5 acres, TETHER BAN , conviction of cruelty, cant own for 3 years Sec 5-23				X	20		X			X	X					X								
Irwin County		not on municode																								
Jackson County		2016 ORDINANCE - Hot Car, Tether Restrictions, Adoption S/N + microchip requirements, permission from owner of property req'd for outdoor sales by licensed breeders, rescues, etc.				X	X				X							X	X				X	X		
Jackson County - city of COMMERCE		2019 City of Commerce ORDINANCE. Tether restrictions. Hot Car. Open truck bed.	X			X	X			GDA		X		X				X				X				
Jasper County		2009 ORDINANCE	X			X												X								
Jeff Davis County		2012 ORDINANCE. Minimal, dangerous dog only.																								
Jefferson County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL																									
Jenkins County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL																									
Johnson County	city of Sandersville	2006 ORDINANCE. Minimal.				X							X													
Jones County		not on municode																								
Lamar County		2001 ORDINANCE. Minimal.				X																				
Lanier County		2011 ORDINANCE. Decent authority section 6-9	X			X							X													
Laurens County		2015 ORDINANCE. Animal Establishments must have license. Illegal to breed without a state license.	X			X				X						X	X						X			
Lee County		2014 ORDINANCE. GOOD ENF & PEN section 14-4, LIMIT # ANIMALS, Right to seize suspected abused Sec 14-172	X		X	X			X		X		X		X											
Liberty County		2013 ORDINANCE. ATTENDED TETHER ONLY 2NDARY MEANS ONLY/TROLLEY, MOBILE HOME PARK SECTION/ COUNTY REGISTRATION				X	21							X						X						
Lincoln County		1989 ordinance. Dang dog only																								
Long County		2015 ORDINANCE. Tether 2ndary means only by trolley Great fees section 6-8				X	22				X															
Lowndes County		2016 ORDINANCE. 2nd Impoundmt fees are doubled OR get animal spayed/neutered and microchipped Sec. IX. No outdoor sales Sec XV, Tether restrictions			X	X	X								X				X					X		
Lumpkin County		2017 1ST IMPOUND MICROCHIP&OWNER REG, ANIMAL OWNER DUTIES SECTION	X			X					X				X						X					
Macon County		no animal ordinance																								
Madison County		2017 ORDINANCE. MANDATORY SPAY/NEUTER Sec. 14-285. Tether ban Sec. 14-113, Penalties, Sec 14-35, Authority & Right of Entry 14-33, # animals limit 3 to 6 dep on size of property Sec 14-72, Animal Control can inspect animal establishments, TNR			X	X	23	X	X		X		X	X	X	X		X		X						

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Marion County		2006 ORDINANCE. Minimal				X																				
McDuffie County		1988 ORDINANCE. Less than one page.																								
McIntosh County		2008 ORDINANCE. 2011 added Animal Shelter Advisory Board Art. VIII	X			X					X		X	X				X								
Meriwether County		2008 ORDINANCE. 3 DOG/CAT LIMIT ON RES LOTS < 5 ACRES				X			X																	
Miller County		no animal ordinance																								
Mitchell County		2016 ORDINANCE. Dangerous Dog and Nuisance sections only - Minimal				X																				
Monroe County		2018 ORDINANCE. Hot Car Sec. 4-29				X				GDA			X				X	X								
Montgomery County		no animal ordinance																								
Morgan County		2006 minimal				X																				
Murray County		1998 ORDINANCE. Motorist that hits an animal must notify and pay vet bill Sec 14-44				X																	X			
Muscogee (COLUMBUS)		2017 ORDINANCE. Minimal. Humane care - minimal: Water reqmt is 18 hours, Food 24 hours. Limit # animals - 6 or more requires private/hobby kennel permit (\$25). minimal Tether Restrictions - 12 hour max on trolley only. Minimal Hot Car.				X	X		X								X	X		X		X	X			
Newton County	tether	2018 ORDINANCE. TETHER ban. # animals limits. Animal establishment permits AC can inspect.				X	24		X				X	X		X	X									
Oconee County		2016 ORDINANCE. Tether restrictions.			X	X	X				X						X						X			
Oglethorpe County		not on municode																								
Paulding County		2018 ORDINANCE. Tether ban. Right of Entry. Penalties section has minimum graduated fees for 1st, 2nd and 3rd offenses. Sec 14-8. Animal establishmts need permits. Pet shop standards.				X	25			X	X	X	X	X		X		X								
Peach County		no ordinance																								
Peach County - City of Byron		2017 ORDINANCE. # animals limit to 4							X											X						
Pickens County		2014 ORDINANCE, TETHER RESTRICTIONS, PURPOSE SECTION, right to impound animals in violation, shelter reqmts, HITTING ANIMAL W VEHICLE MUST BE REPORTED			X	X	X							X			X	X			X		X			X
Pierce County	City of Blackshear	1989 Dang dog only																								
Pike County		2014 ordinance. Tether restrictions, CRUELTY SECTION			X	X	X							X												

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Polk County		2015 ORDINANCE. PURPOSE SECTION, HOT CAR, HITTING ANIMAL W VEHICLE MUST BE REPORTED, humane care	X		X	X						X		X			X	X					X			
Pulaski County		2013 PIT BULL REGISTRATION				X			X																	
Putnam County		2015 ORDINANCE. Minimal. Animal Advisory Board - purpose section				X					X															
Quitman County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL	2005 ordinance, minimal, license req'd for dogs																		X						
Rabun County		2008 ORDINANCE			X	X							X				X									
Randolph County		not on municode																								
Richmond (Augusta-Richmond)	city of Augusta has Tether ban	2007 ORDINANCE. Minimal. - AC can seize neglected animals	X																							
Rockdale County		2020 ORDINANCE. Tether Restrictions, incl not > 12 hours or between 10pm and 6 am. Mand microchip at 2nd impound, mand. Spay/neuter at 3rd impound. Cannot adopt > 4 animals same household. Dog Park regulations Sec 18-51			X	X	X							X					X							
Schley County		not on municode																								
Screven County		2005 ORDINANCE - minimal. Protective custody Sec 11-98				X					X						X								X	
Seminole County		2008 ORDINANCE - ENF & PEN SECTION 10-4, RIGHT OF ENTRY IS REASONABLE CAUSE, # animals limited in subdivisions, weak tether restrictions of weight and length only		X	X	X			X		X	X	X													
Spalding County		2018 ORDINANCE - \$100 Surrender fee.TETHER RESTRICTIONS 12-1016 c. Unaltered Animal Permits required. # of animals ltd to 4 on <2acres. Business license from County req'd for all animal establishments 12-1014. Mandatory spay/neuter exc registered purebreeds.			X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X										
Stephens County		1999 ORDINANCE - Minimal			X	X																				
Stewart County		not on municode																								
Sumter County		2014 ORDINANCE - Dangerous Dog only																								
Talbot County		2001 ORDINANCE - minimal				X																				
Tattnall County		??? ORDINANCE. Dangerous Dog only																								
Taylor County		not on municode																								
Telfair County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL	not on municode																								
Terrell County		not on municode																								
Thomas County		2000 ORDINANCE - minimal, dangerous dog only				X																				

GEORGIA'S ANIMAL ORDINANCES BY COUNTY

- Compiled by **GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY**
as of December 2020

			ACO POWERS	DUTY OF ACO & LE	PURPOSE SECTION	DEFINITIONS	TETHER	MAND S/N	# DOGS LIMIT	BREEDER RESTRICTIONS	VIOLATION FEES/PENALTIES	REPEAT OFFENDER	RIGHT OF ENTRY	HUMANE CARE	IMPOUNDS/RECLAIM S	ANIMAL ESTABLISHMENTS	ABANDONMENT	HOT CAR	ADOPTIONS	REGISTRATION	DUTIES OF OWNERS	TRUCK BED	MUST REPORT HITTING ANIMAL	RETAIL SALES DOGS/CATS	SEIZE ABUSED DOGS	SPECIFIC SHELTER REOMTS
			TAB 1	TAB 2	TAB 3	TAB 4	TAB 5	TAB 6	TAB 7	TAB 8	TAB 9	TAB 10	TAB 11	TAB 12	TAB 13	TAB 14	TAB 15	TAB 16	TAB 17	TAB 18	TAB 19	TAB 20	TAB 21	TAB 22	TAB 23	TAB 24
Tift county		2016 ORDINANCE. Tether restrictions. # animals limits betw 4 and 6 of dogs and cats.			X	X			X																	
Toombs County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL	not on municode																								
Towns County		2009 ORDINANCE - minimal				X																				
Treutlen County		not on municode																								
Troup County		2017 ORDINANCE - Minimal Tether restrictions				X	X																			
Troup County - City of LaGrange		2018 ORDINANCE - Minimal Tether restrictions				X	X																			
Turner County		2002 ORDINANCE - Minimal	X		X	X					X															
Twiggs County		not on municode																								
Union County		2014. 14-4 Owner's Responsibilities Section includes Tether restrictions and duty to contain unsterilized animals and to respond to complaints within 24 hours - tethering not permitted as a permanent means of confinement	X		X	X	X							X			X				X					
Upson County		1996 ORDINANCE - Minimal				X																	X			
Walker County		06/01/2018 ORDINANCE - Minimal Tether restrictions. Repeated impounds fees increase. 10-85				X	X							X	X											
Walton County		2013 Minimal tether restrictions. Decent definitions	X			X	X						X	X												
Walton County - City of MONROE		2016 ORDINANCE. Minimal tether restrictions.10-19	X			X	X						X	X					X							
Ware County		2011 tether restrictions, PROBABLE CAUSE ROE, no exotic animals Any cat that is outdoors while not under direct control must be sterilized. HOT CAR, THOROUGH LIST of Humane Treatment CRUELTY SECTION 10-25	X		X	X	X	outdoor cats						X				X								
Warren County		not on municode																								
Washington County		2015 ORDINANCE. minimal			X																					
Wayne County		1989 ORDINANCE - minimal				X																				
Webster County		2003-2013 ORDINANCE - minimal				X																				
Wheeler County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL																									
White County		2015. 10-31 Owner's Responsibilities Section includes Tether restrictions and duty to contain unsterilized animals and to respond to complaints within 24 hours - tethering not permitted as a permanent means of confinement see 10-34 as well, 10-72 powers	X			X	X							X			X				X					

GEORGIA's ANIMAL ORDINANCES BY COUNTY - Compiled by GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY as of December 2020			ACO POWERS	DUTY OF ACO & LE	PURPOSE SECTION	DEFINITIONS	TETHER	MAND S/N	# DOGS LIMIT	BREEDER RESTRICTIONS	VIOLATION FEES/PENALTIES	REPEAT OFFENDER	RIGHT OF ENTRY	HUMANE CARE	IMPOUNDS/RECLAIM S	ANIMAL ESTABLISHMENTS	ABANDONMENT	HOT CAR	ADOPTIONS	REGISTRATION	DUTIES OF OWNERS	TRUCK BED	MUST REPORT HITTING ANIMAL	RETAIL SALES DOGS/CATS	SEIZE ABUSED DOGS	SPECIFIC SHELTER REOMTS
			TAB 1	TAB 2	TAB 3	TAB 4	TAB 5	TAB 6	TAB 7	TAB 8	TAB 9	TAB 10	TAB 11	TAB 12	TAB 13	TAB 14	TAB 15	TAB 16	TAB 17	TAB 18	TAB 19	TAB 20	TAB 21	TAB 22	TAB 23	TAB 24
Whitfield County		2019 ORDINANCE. Tether Requirements, Sec. 4-10. - Mandatory Spay/neuter requirement. no person may own, keep, or be in possession of a dog or cat that is six months of age or older which has not been spayed or neutered, unless GDA licensed breeder. Ban on flea market or similar sales of dogs and cats.			X	X	X	X		X					X							X		X		
Whitfield County - City of Dalton		2010 ORDINANCE. Tether Requirements, Sec 14-35. Ban on flea market or similar sales of dogs and cats.				X	X											X				X		X		
Wilcox County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL	not on municode																								
Wilkinson County	NO ANIMAL CONTROL	not on municode																								
Worth County - City of Sylvester		2009 ORDINANCE. No ordinance under county, but found Sylvester GA. Confiscation section 18-71, right of entry 18-3 and 4	X			X							X													

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GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF ACO POWERS SECTIONS

BARTOW COUNTY

Sec. 14-33. - Enforcement generally; animal control officers.

(a)

The primary responsibility for enforcement of this article shall be vested in the animal control unit. This unit shall consist of animal control officers, the number and identity of whom shall be designated by the board of commissioners of the county. These officers shall be vested with the authority to issue citations for violation of this article, and the officers composing this unit may also call upon such other officers, constables and employees of the magistrate's office or sheriff's department of the county as may be necessary for the enforcement of this article.

(b)

Upon information known to or a complaint lodged with any officer or member of the animal control unit or the county sheriff's department that any owner or possessor of a domesticated animal is in violation of this article, a citation shall be issued requiring the owner or possessor of such domesticated animal to appear before the judge of the magistrate court of the county on a day and time certain to stand trial for the violation of this article. If such violation of this article has not been witnessed by an officer of the animal control unit or the sheriff's department or other employee of the county, a subpoena shall be issued to the person making the complaint requiring such person to appear on the day and time set to testify on behalf of the county. **If the owner or possessor of any domesticated animal is not known, and such domesticated animal is at-large in violation of this article, upon complaint made to or information known to the animal control unit, it shall be the duty of the unit to immediately attempt to take possession of such domesticated animal and impound it** according to such rules and regulations and ordinances of the county for the detention, control and disposition of domesticated animals.

(c)

Animal control officers may pursue such animal onto private property to effect capture and impoundment of such animal. All impounded animals shall be housed and cared for at the county animal control facility.

(d)

It shall also be the responsibility of the animal control unit to enforce division 4 of this article relating to dangerous dogs.

(e)

Any animal control officer may, at his or her discretion, return an animal found to be in violation of this article to its rightful owner and at the time issue to the owner a court summons for such violation or violations in lieu of impounding the dog or other animal.

Sec. 14-34. - Interference with enforcement officers.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with, threaten, molest, hinder, provide false information to, or prevent any animal control officer or office empowered to act by law in the discharge of their duties as prescribed in this article.

(b)

Any person who shall hinder, delay, interfere with or obstruct any animal control officer or office empowered to act by law while engaged in capturing, securing or taking to the animal shelter any animal or animals liable to be impounded, or who shall break open in any manner directly or indirectly aid, counsel or advise the breaking open of any animal control shelter, impound area, trap, or vehicle used for the collecting of any such animals shall be deemed in violation of this chapter.

LANIER COUNTY

Sec. 6-9. - Authority.

(a)

It shall be the duty of the sheriff's department and the animal control services, to seize and impound, subject to the provisions of this chapter, all animals whether domesticated or undomesticated, found in violation of the provisions of this chapter within this county, whether the animal shall be in the immediate presence of its owner or custodian or otherwise.

(b)

The county animal control officer shall have the authority to issue summons for violations of ordinances pertaining to animals and said violations shall be prosecuted through the magistrate court of the county. Said fines for such violations shall be set by the county in accordance with state and federal law. Any person who is issued a summons, must appear in magistrate court. Failure to appear will result in a bench warrant being issued by the court.

(c)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF ACO POWERS SECTIONS

The county animal control officer shall have the right to prosecute all violators of state animal cruelty laws or those who are in violation of the state law (O.C.G.A. § 4-8-20) through the superior court of the county.

Sec. 6-10. - Right of entry.

(a)

The officers and animal control services for the county are hereby authorized to enter upon any unfenced lot, tract or parcel of land for the purpose of seizing and impounding any animal found thereon in violation of this chapter.

(b)

It shall be unlawful for any person to obstruct, interfere, or hinder an animal control officer or a dog control officer in the lawful discharge of his official duties pursuant to this chapter. Any person convicted of a violation of this Code shall be punished as provided in O.C.G.A. § 16-10-24(b).

Sec. 6-11. - Redemption of vaccinated animals.

The owner of any impounded domestic animal which has been vaccinated as required by this chapter, upon satisfactory proof of ownership, may redeem his animal by making a deposit with the chief animal control officer and be allowed 24 hours to get the animal vaccinated. The amount of the deposit shall be as established by the board of commissioners from time to time. If the owner fails to procure a vaccination certificate within such 24 hours, the deposit shall be forfeited and the animal shall be impounded again. Upon presentation within such period of time of certificate of vaccination issued under this chapter, \$15.00 of the initial deposit shall be refunded to the owner.

Sec. 6-12. - Reclaiming an animal.

If a domestic animal or livestock is impounded or has had three separate summons to appear for the same violation within a 12-month period, the owner is required to appear before a magistrate to reclaim the animal on the third summons.

LAURENS COUNTY

Sec. 6-2. - Office of animal control.

(a)

There is hereby created the office of animal control, which the animal control officer shall enforce the provisions of this chapter.

(b)

The animal control officer is authorized to issue citations to persons violating this chapter, for trial in the county magistrate court.

(c)

The animal control officer, as well as employees and agents of the animal control office and persons under his control and supervision, are empowered to seize animals as required by this chapter so long as the animals are within the county. These employees and agents of the office of animal control shall have the right to go on private property within the county for the purposes of enforcing the provisions of this chapter, provided it is necessary for such purpose. The animal control officer shall have the authority to issue citations and subpoenas to witnesses and require their appearance in the county magistrate court on any matter relating to the enforcement of any of the provisions contained herein.

(d)

Citations may be issued in person or sent by mail for enforcement of any of the provisions contained herein.

Sec. 6-3. - Dog control officer; appointment; compensation.

The county board shall appoint a dog control officer who shall serve at the pleasure of the county board. The dog control officer's compensation shall be established from time to time by the county board.

Sec. 6-4. - Interference with officer.

It is unlawful for any person to resist, attack, verbally threaten, interfere with or hinder any law enforcement officer, the animal control officer, the health officer, or their designees or agents in the performance of the duties imposed upon them by this code of ordinances or by state law. It is also unlawful to tamper with or remove traps set by the animal control officer or his agents in the performance of his duties.

Sec. 6-5. - Adoption of chapter by municipalities within county boundaries.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF ACO POWERS SECTIONS

In accordance with state law, the county may enter into agreements with the municipalities located within its territorial limits to provide animal control services within the corporate limits of each such municipality. Pursuant to such agreement, any municipality in the county may adopt this chapter. Any municipality adopting this chapter must authorize the enforcement of the municipal ordinance by the county animal control office. The municipal ordinance must provide that the incorporated areas shall be subject to the fees charged by the office of animal control and that all fees charged by the county animal control office shall be retained by the county to defray the cost of operation of the animal control unit. The adopting municipal ordinance shall also provide that violations be tried in the county magistrate court as provided in O.C.G.A. § 15-10-150 et seq.

MACON-BIBB COUNTY

Sec. 5-18. - Investigation.

(a)

Investigation of alleged violations of this chapter and allegations of cruelty to animals shall be conducted in accordance with proper law enforcement procedures.

(b)

Upon receiving a report which requires an investigation, or observation of a situation that requires an investigation, the Animal Welfare Officer will produce the necessary identification, explain the need to enter the property and seek oral authorization to enter the property to conduct an investigation. If a property owner or resident fails to grant said authorization, the Animal Welfare Officer shall seek the necessary warrant where required by law, and upon production of said warrant, the owner shall be required to allow entry.

(c)

It is further provided that **any agent of the animal welfare department may take possession of the animal when, in his or her opinion, it requires humane treatment**. Any animal taken into custody for inhumane treatment may be reclaimed by the owner upon compliance with the regulations of the animal welfare division, subject to and/or unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

PICKENS COUNTY

Sec. 14-8. - Impoundment.

(a)

Any animal which is in violation of any portion of this chapter may be impounded. The appropriate enforcement agency shall use discretion in determining whether impoundment shall be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this chapter.

(b)

All impounded animals not bearing identification shall be designated as strays.

(c)

All impounded animals shall be provided adequate food and water and shall be provided with humane care while impounded at the owner's expense.

(d)

Neither the county nor its agents shall be responsible for any diseases, injuries, or other harm to any impounded animal.

(e)

The fees with respect to services performed in connection with the enforcement of this chapter shall be set by the board of commissioners. A copy of said fees shall be available by request from that office. Fees may change from time to time at the discretion of the board of commissioners. The fees established and collected pursuant to this subsection are not penalties; they are imposed for the sole purpose of defraying expenses born by the county for animal control and welfare. Fees may change at any time and shall include but not be limited to an impounding fee, a per day boarding fee, and rabies vaccinations, if necessary.

(f)

Nothing contained herein shall prevent the killing of an animal when it is determined to be a menace to public safety or a menace to other animals such that it cannot be impounded with reasonable effort.

(g)

Nothing contained herein shall prevent the humane killing of an animal which is severely sick or injured.

POLK COUNTY

Sec. 10-13. - Impoundment.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF ACO POWERS SECTIONS

(a)

In addition to any other remedies provided in this chapter, **the animal control officer may seize and impound** at the animal shelter any of the following animals:

Any dog or cat without a valid rabies tag and identifying tag;

Any animal constituting a public nuisance or considered a danger to the public as determined by the animal control officer;

Any animal in violation of any quarantine or confinement order issued by the county board of health or the public health director;

Any unattended animal that is ill, injured or otherwise in need of care;

Any animal that is believed to have been abused or neglected as determined by the animal control officer;

Any animal that is reasonably suspected of having rabies;

Any animal that a court of competent jurisdiction has ordered impounded or destroyed;

Any animal that is considered unattended or abandoned, as in situations where the owner is deceased or has been arrested or evicted from his regular place of residence and there is no other person who will take custody of the animal.

Any owner may request live pickup of animal if it is determined that animal cannot be adequately cared for or if other attempts for alternative placement have failed. The animal control department has complete authority to approve or disapprove live animal pick up and types of animals that will be considered for pickup. If approved, owner must pay appropriate fee as referenced in Subpart A, Chapter 1, Section 1-17 - Fee Schedule. Any owner who requests live pickup of an animal must immediately and in writing relinquish all ownership rights of animal. The owner shall have no right to reclaim an animal that has been relinquished to animal control.

(b)

The animal control officer or appropriate law enforcement officer may also, or in lieu of impoundment, issue to the owner a notice of violation. Such notice will cite the owner to appear on a date certain before the magistrate court of the county as provided in this chapter.

(c)

Any person finding an animal at large upon his property may remove the same to the animal shelter or hold the animal in his own possession, and as soon as possible, notify animal control. The property owner shall provide a description of the animal and the name of the owner, if known. Animal control shall dispatch an animal control officer to take possession of the animal as soon as possible.

(d)

Any animal control officer or other designated person who seizes and impounds an animal that cannot be housed at the animal shelter shall be authorized to arrange transportation of the animal to a farm or other appropriate facility which agrees to accept such animal. The disposition of the animal shall be handled in the same manner as though the animal were confined at the animal shelter except that, in addition to the fees charged for redemption as referenced in Subpart A, Chapter 1, Section 1-17 - Fee Schedule, the owner shall also pay the actual transportation and feeding costs incurred while said animal was impounded.

(e)

Any animal control officer or other person who discovers or is notified of livestock (as that term is defined in O.C.G.A. § 4-3-2) running at large, shall notify the appropriate law enforcement agency. The seizure, impoundment and disposition of such livestock shall be in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. title 4, ch. 3 (O.C.G.A. § 4-3-1 et seq.).

Sec. 10-29. - Enforcement.

(a)

Enforcement responsibility. Animal control officers and law enforcement officers of the various jurisdictions within the county shall be enforcement officials for this chapter. Their officials shall have the authority to act on behalf of the county and the participating municipalities and the animal control committee in investigating complaints, impounding and destroying animals, issuing citations, and taking other lawful action as required to enforce the provisions of this chapter.

(b)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF ACO POWERS SECTIONS

Interference. No person shall interfere with, hinder, or molest the animal control department or any other officer in the performance of his duties. No person shall seek to release any animal in the custody of the animal control department, except as herein provided.

(c)

Right of entry.

The animal control officers and the appropriate enforcement officers of the county are hereby authorized to **enter upon any premises or parcel of land for the purpose of seizing and impounding any animal found therein or thereon to be in violation of this chapter**, including, but not limited to, an animal that has bitten a person within ten days of the biting incident.

The animal control department may use any force necessary to remove any animal locked in a closed vehicle between the dates of May 1 and October 1. The operator of the vehicle will be charged with cruelty to animals as defined in this document. No injunction or claim for damages may be placed against the animal control department or its officers for this action.

(d)

Summons. Representatives of the animal control department and appropriate law enforcement officers are hereby authorized to issue a citation to any person for violation of any section within this chapter. The citation shall be in a form approved by the county magistrate court, shall designate the offense charged and shall require the person so charged to appear before the county magistrate court on a date certain to answer all charges therein.

(e)

Equipment. The animal control department is authorized to employ any equipment it deems necessary to enforce the provisions of this chapter, including, but not limited to, humane wire box traps, and the animal control department may, subject to conditions it may determine, lend such traps or other equipment to private persons for the purpose of preventing nuisances resulting from animals at large.

(f)

Final decisions. All decisions of the animal control committee are final.

BALDWIN COUNTY

Sec. 14-52. - Authorization to take custody of animal.

The animal control unit or any other law enforcement officer is authorized to take immediate custody of any animal it deems the subject of violation set forth in this article until disposition of any case arising out of the violation.

COBB COUNBTY

Sec. 10-121.7. - Impoundment of animals inhumanely or cruelly treated in violation of sections 10-121 through 10-121.6.

Any animal that has not received humane care, that has been subjected to cruelty in violation of sections 10-121 through 10-121.2 or 10-121.6, or that is used or intended for use in any violation of sections 10-121.3 through 121.5 shall be immediately impounded by CCAC.

COLQUITT COUNTY

Sec. 6-12. - Additional conditions on release of impounded animals.

When any animal shall be impounded pursuant to the provisions of this article, the animal control officer may impose such conditions on the release of such animal as may be necessary, or desirable, in order to avoid, forestall or prevent the reoccurrence of the violation leading to the impoundment of such animal; and no animal shall be redeemed by the owner of the animal or other person except upon an undertaking to comply with all the provisions of this chapter, which may include an undertaking by such person to keep such animal outside the city, an undertaking to pay for any damage done by such animal and any other condition reasonably calculated to protect the public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the county.

WHITE COUNTY

Sec. 10-72. - Powers and duties of division chief of the animal control department.

The animal control division chief shall be primarily responsible for the enforcement of this article and his duties shall include but not be limited to the following:

-1

Cooperation with the county board of health in the enforcement of rabies control regulations and of animal control directives.

-2

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF ACO POWERS SECTIONS

Cooperation in the promotion of animal control and welfare.

-3

Taking up and impounding animals that are in violation of this chapter, using any and all means available which are humane in nature; however, the animal control officer shall be authorized but not required to impound animals or fowl not on the owner's or custodian's property. The animal control officer can, in lieu of impoundment, issue a citation for violations of this chapter,

-4

The animal control officer shall be authorized to enter either public or private property to impound any animal which he has reasonable cause to believe is in violation of this chapter.

-5

The animal control officer may destroy any animal which presents a threat of immediate harm to public health or safety or other innocent animals and which cannot be taken for impoundment without threat of serious harm to the animal control officer or his agents. The destruction shall be in the most humane method available to the officer on scene.

-6

Keeping a record of the number and description of all animals impounded or otherwise taken into custody, showing in detail in the case of each animal a general description by sex, breed and approximate age, together with any identification tag, vaccination tag or other marking, including micro-chipping and the date of receipt.

-7

The animal control division chief may designate any animal control officer to perform any of the duties of the animal control division chief.

DAWSON COUNTY

Sec. 10-46. - County board of health; enforcement of division; animal control officer.

(a)

Enforcement generally. Enforcement of this division shall be by the county board of commissioners. All fines, fees, penalties or other funds received in connection with the enforcement of this division shall be paid to Dawson County.

(b)

Hearings. Hearings concerning dangerous or potentially dangerous dogs shall be carried out by the county board of health as set forth by O.C.G.A. § 31-5-2.

(c)

Animal control officer. The position of animal control officer will fall under the office of the sheriff and the individual holding said position will be a duly sworn peace officer with the powers of arrest as granted by state law. Said position will be filled by the sheriff or his authorized representative according sheriff's office policy and procedure. The animal control officer will report to the sheriff or other member of the sheriff's office as directed by the sheriff.

(d)

Powers and duties of the county board of health. The county board of health is designated to conduct hearings and determine matters as required in this article.

(e)

Appeals from decisions of the county board of health. Appeals from decisions of the county board of health shall be on the record and to the superior court for the county. It is the responsibility of the county board of health to certify the public record to the superior court.

BLECKLEY COUNTY

Sec. 12-24. - Authority; duties; alternate assignment of duties.

(a)

The animal control officer is authorized to issue citations to persons violating this article for trial in the magistrate court upon such citations.

(b)

The animal control officer, as well as employees and agents of the animal control officer and persons under his control and supervision, are empowered to seize animals as required by this article so long as the animals are within the county.

(c)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF ACO POWERS SECTIONS

These employees and agents of the animal control officer, and persons under his control and supervision, shall have the right to go on private property within the county for the purposes of enforcing the provisions of this article, provided it is necessary for such purpose.

(d)

The animal control officer shall have the authority to issue citations and subpoenas to witnesses and require their appearance in magistrate court on any matter relating to the enforcement of any of the provisions contained herein.

(e)

The sole commissioner may assign additional animal control duties to any officer or employee of the county government who is subject to the jurisdiction of the governing authority of the county.

(f)

With the consent of the sheriff, assignment of the additional duties of animal control officer to the county sheriff or to a sheriff's deputy.

(g)

With the consent of the county board of health and the rabies control officer, the sole commissioner may assign the additional duties of animal control officer to a rabies control officer appointed pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 31-19-7.

(h)

An animal control officer is authorized to make whatever inquiry is deemed necessary to ensure compliance with the provisions of this chapter. Law enforcement officers of the county shall cooperate with animal control officers in enforcing the provisions of this chapter.

(i)

A person carrying out the duties of an animal control officer shall not be authorized to make arrests unless the person is a law enforcement officer having the powers of arrest.

EXAMPLES OF ACO DUTIES LANGUAGE**Cordele, Crisp County**

It shall be the duty of the animal control officer to inspect the premises of any person believed to be in violation of this chapter, and to investigate any complaint made in writing and signed by a citizen of the city alleging a violation of this chapter, and where a violation is found to exist, the animal control officer shall issue a summons requiring the violator to appear at the next session of the municipal court

COWETA COUNTY**Sec. 10-2. - Animal services: Authority; powers and duties.**

The animal services operates under the Coweta County Board of Commissioners and is under the direction of the director of the corrections division or their designee and shall be responsible for:

-1

Ensuring that all animals in the county or city that has adopted the county ordinance and has a signed agreement with the county for animal services are duly licensed and are inoculated against rabies as required by this chapter.

-2

Cooperating with the county health officer or the Georgia Department of Agriculture, animal protection investigators in the enforcement of the laws of the state with regard to animals, the vaccinations of dogs and cats against rabies and the disposition of animals found to be kept in violation of this article or the laws of the State of Georgia or federal law.

-3

Investigating all complaints with regard to dogs, cats and other animals based upon written and signed complaint by a person willing to testify in cases that may be heard in the appropriate court. In case of animal cruelty the animal services officer may investigate based upon what he feels is reliable anonymous information without requiring a written complaint from the person reporting the alleged animal cruelty.

-4

Obtaining a search warrant to enter any premises upon which there is probable cause to believe that a violation of this chapter exists - with the search warrant, the animal services officer may enter the premises to examine and take custody of animals whenever the animal services officer determines that the action is appropriate to achieve the purpose of this chapter.

-5

Pursuit of animals. In exigent circumstances the animal services officer shall be authorized to follow and enter upon any enclosure or lot, public or private, within the county when the animal services officer has probable cause to believe that an animal is rabid, abused, neglected, aggressive, dangerous, vicious, or an imminent threat to the health, welfare or safety of the general public, and to take custody of the animal, when appropriate, to achieve the purpose of this chapter.

-6

Health and animal protection regulations incorporated. All rules and regulations of the county board of health and the Georgia Department of Human Resources and the Georgia Department of Agriculture - Animal Protection Division presently existing or as adopted in the future are incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth herein.

Sec. 10-3. - Interference with animal services officer.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for any person, knowingly and willfully, to obstruct or hinder an animal services officer in the lawful discharge of his/her official duties; to seek to release any animal within the animal services officer's custody without his/her consent; to attempt to assist the animal services officer without his/her consent; or to provide, knowingly and willfully, false information to the animal services officer.

(b)

It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with, damage, move or remove any traps or restraining devices used by animal services officers or contracted agencies that may be used from time to time or to release any animals from any such traps or restraining devices.

EXAMPLES OF ACO DUTIES LANGUAGE**HABERSHAM COUNTY****Sec. 10-3. - Powers and duties of HCACC and the animal control officer.**

HCACC shall be primarily responsible for the enforcement of this chapter and the duties shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

-1

Cooperation with the county board of health in the enforcement of rabies control regulations and of animal control directives.

-2

Cooperation in the promotion of animal control and welfare.

-3

Taking up and impounding animals that are in violation of this chapter, using any and all means available which are humane in nature; however, any officer shall be authorized, but not required, to impound animals or fowl not on the owner's or custodian's property. Any animal control officer can, in lieu of impoundment, issue a citation for violations of this chapter.

-4

Any animal control officer shall be authorized to enter either public or private property to impound any animal which he has reasonable cause to believe is in violation of this chapter.

-5

Any animal observed by a peace officer or an animal control officer to be in immediate danger may be removed from such situation by the quickest and most reasonable means available in order to prevent further harm, suffering or death of the animal.

-6

The animal control officer may destroy any animal which presents a threat of immediate harm to public health or safety or other innocent animals and which cannot be taken for impoundment without threat of serious harm to the animal control officer. The destruction shall be in the most humane method available to the officer on scene. HCACC shall be under no duty to attempt the confinement or capture of such animal found at large nor shall it have a duty to notify the owner of such animal prior to its destruction. An immediate threat to the safety of any person may include, but not be limited to, a vicious animal, a potentially rabid animal or an attacking animal.

-7

Keeping a record of the number and description of all animals impounded or otherwise taken into custody, showing in detail as to each animal a general description by sex, breed and approximate age, together with any identification tag, vaccination tag or other marking (including microchipping) and the date of receipt.

-8

The director may designate any animal control officer to perform any of the duties of the director.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF PURPOSE LANGUAGE

SAVANNAH

Sec. 9-5001. - Statement of purpose.

The City of Savannah has undertaken to establish this Animal Control Ordinance to protect the public health and safety of its citizens and to promote the general welfare of the citizens and animals residing within the city. Animal ownership is encouraged and welcomed by the city; however, strong emphasis is placed on responsible ownership of animals. Animal owners are encouraged to respect the rights of their fellow citizens and also those of their animals. Primary responsibility is placed upon animal owners to properly train and/or secure their animals so as to prevent them from causing injuries and/or creating nuisances. The mayor and aldermen believe that all animals should be cared for in a loving and nurturing manner by both pet owners within their dwellings or by shelters using best practices or in conformance with modern veterinary practices.

SEMINOLE COUNTY

Sec. 10-1. - Purpose.

The purposes of this chapter are to provide for the safety, good order, general welfare treatment and maintenance of animals; to limit the number and types of animals, which may be kept and maintained to prohibit certain animals; to provide for control of animals; to provide for the control of rabies and zoonoses (diseases that can be transmitted to humans); to prohibit fighting dogs, cocks, and other animals; to provide for an animal control board; to provide seizure, confinement, reclamation, forfeiture, abandonment, surrender, adoption, and disposal of animals, and to provide generally for the public health and welfare of the citizens of Seminole County.

PICKENS COUNTY

Sec. 14-3. - Purposes.

The broad purposes of this chapter shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 1
To set forth the minimum standards by which the county shall operate in its enforcement of all state and county laws, ordinances, and resolutions relating to domesticated animals and the care, custody, and control of such domesticated animals;
- 2
To protect and to promote the health, welfare, and safety of the general public;
- 3
To educate the general public with regard to proper maintenance and care of domesticated animals, including, but not limited to, educating the public as to the benefits of spaying or neutering such domesticated animals to prevent undesired reproduction;
- 4
To enforce and to promote the public health requirement that all dogs and cats be properly vaccinated against rabies on an annual basis;
- 5
To enforce and to promote the public safety requirement that all dangerous dogs and all potentially dangerous dogs be properly confined and that necessary measures be taken to protect the public at large from such animals.

SPALDING COUNTY

Sec. 12-1001. - Purpose.

In order to protect the health and safety of persons and animals in Spalding County, to improve and make more safe motor vehicle and pedestrian traffic, to control the incidence and spread of rabies, **to prohibit abandonment and other forms of cruelty to animals, to promote the general welfare of the citizens of this county by providing specific regulations concerning the care and treatment of animals and providing for violations of those regulations, and to invest the authority to enforce those regulations**, the board of commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia, hereby adopt this chapter, to be known and cited as the Spalding County Animal Control Ordinance.

WARE COUNTY

Sec. 10-1. - Purpose.

The purposes of this chapter are to provide for the safety, good order, general welfare, treatment and maintenance of animals; to limit the number and types of animals, which may be kept and maintained; to prohibit certain animals; to provide for control of animals; to provide for the control of rabies and zoonoses (diseases that can be transmitted to humans); to prohibit fighting dogs, cocks, and other animals; to provide seizure, confinement, reclamation, forfeiture, abandonment, surrender, adoption, and disposal of animals, and to provide generally for the public health and welfare of the citizens of Ware County.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF PURPOSE LANGUAGE

City of Fitzgerald - BEN HILL COUNTY

Sec. 5-1. - Purpose of chapter.

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The purposes of this chapter are to provide for the care, treatment and maintenance of animals and birds; to limit the number and types of animals which may be kept and maintained; to prohibit certain animals and birds; to provide for duties and responsibilities of owners and custodians of animals; to provide for control of animals; to provide for control of rabies; to provide for the duties of animal control officer(s); to provide for the seizure, confinement, reclamation, forfeiture, abandonment, surrender, adoption and disposal of animals; to provide for the administration and enforcement of the provision of this chapter; to provide for certain offenses and penalties therefore; to provide for the control of diseases, and to provide generally for the public health and welfare.

BURKE COUNTY

Sec. 10-3. - Purposes.

(a)

The broad purposes of this chapter shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

-1

To set forth the minimum standards by which the county shall operate in its enforcement of all state and county laws, ordinances, and resolutions relating to domestic animals and the care, custody, and control of such domestic animals;

-2

To protect and to promote the health, welfare, and safety of the general public;

-3

To educate the general public with regard to proper maintenance and care of domestic animals, including, but not limited to, educating the public as to the benefits of spaying or neutering certain domestic animals to prevent undesired reproduction;

-4

To enforce and to promote the public health requirement that all dogs and cats be properly vaccinated against rabies regularly;

-5

To enforce and to promote the public safety requirement that all dangerous animals be properly confined and that necessary measures be taken to protect the public at large from such animals.

BARTOW COUNTY

Sec. 14-12. - Purpose and intent.

The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the humane treatment of animals by regulating the care and control of animals within Bartow County; to provide for the classification of dangerous dogs and vicious dogs; to provide for the investigation of cruelty to animals; to provide for emergency procedures pertaining to sick or injured animals; to provide appropriate restrictions on the keeping of animals, including number and minimum land area; to provide standards for the care and treatment of animals; to provide for enforcement of these provisions; and to promote the public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of Bartow County by restricting nuisances and preventing unwholesome, unhealthy, or unsanitary living conditions for animals.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Sec. 6-52. - Purpose; scope.

(a)

It is the intent of this article to make animal owners responsible and accountable for the actions, behavior and conditions of their animals.

(b)

Nothing in this article shall be interpreted or applied so as to create any power or duty in conflict with the preemptive effect of any federal, state or municipal law.

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS**CHEROKEE COUNTY****ec. 10-26. - Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Abandon means the act of placing an animal on public property or within a public building, unattended or uncared for, or on or within the private property of another without the express permission of the owner, custodian, or tenant of the private property. An animal shall also be considered abandoned when it has been unattended and without adequate food, water, ventilation or shelter, for a period in excess of 36 hours, regardless of where such animal may be found or kept.

Adequate food means sufficient quantity of noncontaminated and nutritionally healthy sustenance that is appropriate to the species, breed, size, age, and health of the animal, or at the direction of a licensed veterinarian, which is sufficient to prevent starvation, malnutrition, or risk to the animal's health. Garbage, spoiled, rancid, or contaminated food is not adequate food.

Adequate shelter means a protective covering for an animal that is of adequate size and provides adequate protection to maintain the animal in a state of good health, and that prevents pain, suffering, or significant risk to the animal's health. Adequate shelter shall consist of a completely enclosed structure with four sides with a door opening, a constructed floor, and a roof. It should also be clean, dry, and compatible with current weather conditions, in addition to age, size, species, and condition of the animal. The structure should be of sufficient size to allow the animal to stand, turn around, lie down, and go in and out of the structure comfortably. To be adequate, some type of bedding that is quick drying, such as hay or pine straw, must be provided to maintain comfortable temperatures within the structure during times when the ambient, outside temperature is below freezing. In addition, the structure shall include a heavy plastic or rubber flap to cover the door and/or window openings during the months of November through March. From April through October, the structure shall either be shaded or moved out of direct sunlight. If the shelter is made of wood, it shall be raised at least two inches off the ground to prevent seepage or rotting. Examples of inadequate shelter include, but are not limited to, lean-tos, metal or plastic drums, boxes, abandoned vehicles, porches, decks, or material that does not provide sufficient protection from the elements.

Adequate space means a sufficient safe space for adequate exercise suitable to the age, size, species, and breed of animal. For dogs, adequate space means an enclosure with a minimum of 150 square feet per dog.

Adequate water means clear, drinkable water in adequate supply. Examples of inadequate water include, but are not limited to: snow, ice, and rancid/contaminated water.

Dogs running at large means any dog not under immediate control, not on a leash, not at heel, not beside a competent person, not in a vehicle driven or parked, or not confined within the property limits of his owner. Hunting and tracking dogs are deemed under the control of the owner when hunting with the landowner's permission. Working farm dogs are deemed under the control of the owner when acting in conjunction with farming operations and/or otherwise under the general command of the owner.

Fighting dog means any dog that is owned, possessed, kept, harbored, trained, or maintained for the purpose of fighting. Fighting dogs are illegal in Cherokee County.

Impoundment means the act of taking physical possession and control of an animal by an animal control officer or other officer empowered to act by law and transporting it to the animal control facility.

Necessary veterinary care means veterinary medical attention appropriate to the circumstances, whenever an animal is known or suspected to have suffered an injury, accidental or deliberate, or exhibits signs of disease process such as shock, temperature fluctuation, tremors, swelling, broken bones, open wounds, inability to eat or drink, blistering, irregular or abnormal breathing, partial or total paralysis, abnormal discharge or bleeding, mange, or other signs of health problems.

Proper enclosure means an enclosure that meets all of the following criteria:

A structure which is suitable to prevent the entry of young children and to prevent the dog from escaping;

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

A structure with secure sides and a secure top attached to all sides;

A structure whose sides are so constructed at the bottom so as to prevent the dog's escape by digging under the sides. The sides must either be buried two feet into the ground or sunken into a concrete pad;

A structure which provides appropriate protection from the elements for the dog. The structure must contain adequate shelter inside it;

A structure which is inside a perimeter or area fence;

The gate to the structure shall be of the inward-opening type and shall be kept locked except when tending to the animal's needs such as cleaning the kennel or providing food and water.

Sanitary conditions means an animal living space, shelter, or exercise area that is not contaminated by health hazards, irritants, pollutants, items, or conditions that endanger or pose a risk to an animal's health.

Serious injury means any physical injury that creates a substantial risk of death; results in death, broken or dislocated bones, lacerations requiring multiple sutures, or disfiguring avulsions; requires plastic surgery or admission to a hospital; or results in protracted impairment of health, including transmission of an infection or contagious disease, or impairment of the function of any

BARROW COUNTY**Sec. 14-31. - Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Abandoned animal : Any domesticated animal, when such animal has been placed upon public property or within a public building unattended or caged, or is placed upon or within the private property of another without the permission of the property owner and is left unattended and uncaged. Any domestic animal will also be considered abandoned when such animal has been upon or within the property of the owner or custodian of this animal for a time period in excess of 24 hours unattended and without being supplied proper food or water.

Abused animal means any animal that has been harmed by an act, an omission or neglect including but not limited to any animal that has been:

-1

Deprived of adequate food, water, shelter, ventilation, care, space or veterinary care;

-2

Physically harmed, tortured, mutilated, beaten or illegally killed;

-3

Trained/used for fighting other animals;

-4

Used as bait to train/lure other animals to fight/kill.

Animal under restraint: Any animal that is controlled within the property limits of its owner, is controlled by a leash, is at heel or beside a competent person and is obedient to the person's commands, or is within a vehicle being driven or parked on the streets.

Care (adequate/humane) means attention to the needs of an animal, including but not limited to, the provision of adequate water, food, shelter, bedding, sanitary conditions, ventilation, heating/cooling (temperature control), space, exercise and veterinary medical attention necessary to maintain the health of the animal with regard to the specific age, size, species, and breed of animal.

Confinement means restriction of an animal to a home, basement, garage, building, pen or other escape-proof enclosure.

Confinement by a rope, chain, tether, fenced yard, or other area accessible by other animals or other persons, other than the caretaker is not considered confinement.

Fence means a structure of wire, wood, stone or other materials, including invisible fencing, which is of sufficient height and strength to act as a barrier against the passage of the animal it is intended to enclose.

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

-1

A fence does not include an invisible fence if the fence is:

- a.
Turned off or the animal is not wearing a properly operating signaling device;
- b.
Ineffective for any animal that has learned it can cross the fence line;
- c.
Intended to be a means of keeping people or animals out of an enclosed area; or
- d.
Buried in or adjacent to a municipal or county right-of-way.

-2

An invisible fence is not an acceptable means of control for an animal that is classified as vicious or dangerous, or is in estrus/heat.

Fighting animal/game animal means any animal that has aggressive parentage, or any animal bred and/or trained to:

-1

Exhibit aggressive qualities;

-2

Have no instinct to withdraw from a fight or to display signs of submission;

-3

Fight to the point of complete exhaustion or death with minimal provocation;

-4

Suppress the animal's instinct for self-preservation;

-5

Inflict maximum damage to the animal's opponents;

-6

Offer little or no indication that an attack is imminent; or

-7

Be ready/willing for combat and unyielding in combat.

Impoundment: The action of taking physical control of an animal by an animal control officer or other officers empowered to act by law and the transporting of such animal to the animal control facility.

Owner: Any person who owns, harbors, keeps and maintains, has lawful possession of, or knowingly causes or permits an animal to be harbored or kept; or any person who has an animal in his care, who shelters and/or provides for such animal sufficient quantities of wholesome food and water, and permits an animal to remain on or around his premises two weeks or more. This shall include any person hired or acting as custodian of the animal for its owner.

Proper restraint on owner's property: The term means, but shall not be limited to, the following:

-1

The animal is securely and humanely enclosed within a house, building, fence, pen or other type enclosure from which the animal cannot climb, dig, jump or escape on its own accord;

-2

The animal is securely and humanely restrained by a tether as defined in this chapter; or

-3

The animal is on a leash and under control of a competent person or off the leash and obedient to that person's commands, and the person is present with the animal anytime it is not restrained as provided in subsections (1) and (2) of this definition.

Under control while off owner's real property:

-1

The animal is securely and humanely confined within a vehicle, parked or in motion;

-2

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

The animal is properly confined within a secure enclosure with the property owner's permission;

-3

The animal is securely restrained by a leash or other method held by a competent person;

-4

The animal is under immediate voice command of a competent person at any given time; or

-5

The animal is a hunting dog and is being used for hunting in accordance with state game and fish department laws, rules and regulations.

Shelter (adequate) means protective cover for a domestic animal appropriate for the species and providing adequate space to maintain the animal in good health, which also prevents pain, suffering or a significant risk to the animal's health.

-1

Adequate shelter includes but is not limited to the following:

(a)

Sufficient coverage and insulation to protect the animal from extreme heat or cold temperatures;

(b)

Sufficient protection from the elements to keep the animal dry;

(c)

Sufficient shade and ventilation to prevent the animal from overheating and/or dehydrating; and

(d)

Adequate bedding or resting suitable for the breed, species, age, size, and medical condition of the animal.

-2

Adequate shelter is structurally sound housing that provides an animal with:

(a)

Adequate space;

(b)

Four solid walls or an igloo type structure;

(c)

A roof;

(d)

A dry floor;

(e)

An entrance; and

(f)

Adequate space for the number of animals on the property.

-3

Materials not suited for an adequate shelter include but are not limited to:

(a)

Inadequate insulated containers;

(b)

Crates with exposed sharp edges;

(c)

Metal or plastic drums;

(d)

Abandoned or parked vehicles;

(e)

Porches or decks;

(f)

Any other structure that fails to provide sufficient protection from the elements;

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

(g)

Any other structure that is not safe or suitable for housing the species.

Severe injury means any physical injury that results in broken bones or disfiguring lacerations requiring multiple sutures or cosmetic surgery, puncture wounds that intrude below the surface of the skin, or a physical injury that results in death.

Tether means any chain, rope, leash, tie out or wire designed to restrain an animal which is attached to an animal's collar or halter and is also attached to a stationary object. Acceptable tethers include appropriate size chain, leash, rope or other tethering device that shall be no shorter than three times the length of the animal tethered. Tethering devices, as referred to in this chapter, are the type commonly used for the size animal involved and are attached to the animal by means of a properly fitted collar or harness.

City of Alto - HABERSHAM COUNTY**Sec. 6-2. - Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Abandonment (of an animal).

(a)

Abandons an animal by leaving an animal unattended for a period of time in excess of 36 hours without food, water, adequate ventilation or shelter on public or private property, including but not limited to the property of the owner/custodian.

(b)

Puts out, leaves, abandons, or in any other way discards any animal on public or private property, including but not limited to the property of the owner/custodian and including but not limited to leaving an animal in a box, bag, fence, or house or other structure or tethered; or

(c)

Places an animal in the custody of a state licensed entity, such as but not limited to a veterinary clinic, grooming facility, boarding facility, or pet sitter for treatment, boarding, or other care, and fails to reclaim the animal by the agreed upon time. The entity shall abide by the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 44-14-490 in disposing of the animal.

Adequate food means sufficient quantity of non-contaminated and nutritionally healthy sustenance that is appropriate to the species, breed, size, age and health of the animal, or at the direction of a licensed veterinarian, which is sufficient to prevent starvation, malnutrition, or risk to the animal's health. Garbage, spoiled, rancid, or contaminated food is not adequate food.

Adequate water means clear, drinkable water in adequate supply. Examples of inadequate water include, but are not limited to: snow, ice and rancid/contaminated water.

Animal establishment means any pet shop, grooming shop, animal auction, kennel, performing animal exhibition or animal shelter, except this term shall not include veterinary medical facilities, licensed research facilities, facilities operated by government agencies, or licensed animal dealers regulated by the USDA under the provisions of U.S. Pub. Laws 89-544 and 91-579 (7 USC 2131 et seq.).

Animal shelter means a facility designated or recognized by the town council for the purpose of impounding or caring for animals.

At large means off the premises of the owner or custodian of the animal or fowl, and not under the immediate control of the owner or custodian.

Board of commissioners means the Habersham County Board of Commissioners.

Dangerous dog means any dog that, according to the records of an appropriate authority:

(a)

Inflicts a severe injury on a human being without provocation on public or private property at any time after March 31, 1989; or

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

(b)

Aggressively bites, attacks or endangers the safety of humans without provocation after the dog has been classified as a potentially dangerous dog and after the owner has been notified of such classification.

Fowl means any and all fowl, domesticated and wild, male and female, singular and plural.

Hoarder means a person or entity that:

(a)

Collects animals and fails to provide them with humane/adequate care;

(b)

Collects dead animals that are not properly disposed of as required by this article; or

(c)

Collects, houses, or harbors animals in filthy, unsanitary conditions that constitute a health hazard to the animals being kept, and/or to the animals or residents of adjacent property.

Humane manner means care of an animal to include, but not limited to, adequate heat, ventilation and sanitary shelter; wholesome food and water, consistent with the normal requirements and feeding habits of the animal's size, species and breed.

Kennel means an establishment kept for the purpose of breeding, selling or boarding dogs or cats or engaging in the training of dogs or cats.

Neglect means absence of adequate care.

Neglect (willful) means the intentional withholding of adequate food, water and humane care required by an animal to prevent starvation, dehydration, death, or other harmful/debilitating conditions.

Neutered means rendered permanently incapable of reproduction.

Nuisance means a dog or cat which:

(a)

Damages, soils or defecates on private property other than the owners' or on public walks and recreation areas unless such waste is immediately removed and properly disposed of by the owner;

(b)

Causes a disturbance by excessive barking or other noise making;

(c)

Chases vehicles or molests, attacks or interferes with persons or other domestic animals on public or private property.

This term shall not apply to livestock or animals raised in connection with an agricultural operation.

Sanitary conditions means an animal living space, shelter, or exercise area that is not contaminated by health hazards, irritants, pollutants, items, or conditions that endanger or pose a risk to an animal's health.

Severe injury means any physical injury that results in broken bones or disfiguring lacerations requiring multiple sutures or cosmetic surgery or a physical injury that results in death.

Shelter (adequate) means protective cover for a domestic animal appropriate for the species and providing adequate space to maintain the animal in good health, and which also prevents pain, suffering or a significant risk to the animal's health.

(a)

Adequate shelter includes but is not limited to the following:

-1

Sufficient coverage and insulation to protect an animal from extreme hot and cold temperatures;

-2

Sufficient protection from the elements to keep the animal dry;

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

-3

Sufficient shade and ventilation to prevent an animal from overheating and/or dehydrating; and

-4

Adequate bedding or resting area suitable for the breed, species, age, size, and medical condition of the animal.

(b)

Adequate shelter is structurally sound housing which provides an animal with:

-1

Adequate space;

-2

Four solid walls or an "igloo" type of structure;

-3

A roof;

-4

A dry floor that is either;

a.

Solid, or

b.

Grids, provided the animal can easily stand, walk, lay, and sit on the grids without its feet or body parts being caught, damaged, or injured. The grids and area under the grids must be designed so that they can be cleaned and sanitized.

c.

An entrance; and

d.

Adequate space for the number of animals on the property.

(c)

Materials not suitable for shelters include but are not limited to:

-1

Inadequately insulated containers;

-2

Crates with exposed sharp edges;

-3

Metal or plastic drums;

-4

Abandoned or parked vehicles;

-5

Porches or decks;

-6

Lean-to's;

-7

Any other structure that fails to provide sufficient protection from the elements; and

-8

Any other structure that is not safe or suitable for housing the species.

(d)

The animal's containment area shall be free of accumulated waste and debris so that the animal shall be free to walk or lie down without coming in contact with any waste or debris, and a suitable method of draining shall be provided to eliminate excess water or moisture.

If an animal is tethered, the tether length shall be three times the length of the animal from the tip of its nose to the end of its tail. If the animal has no tail or a cropped tail, two feet must be added to tether length.

Stray animal means any animal not wearing a collar with a tag and/or license.

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

Tonneau cover means a cover that can be fastened over the bed of a pick up truck or trailer that would restrict the movement and/or ventilation of an animal.

Under control means any animal that is controlled by a leash when off the property of the owner, or is within the passenger area of a vehicle driven or parked on the streets, or within the property limits of its owner and is confined or attended by its owner, or confined within the property limits of another with the permission of the person in control of the property.

Unsanitary conditions means an animal living space including shelter and exercise area, contaminated by health hazards, irritants, items or conditions that endanger or pose a risk to an animal's health, including but not limited to:

- (a) Excessive animal waste;
- (b) Garbage, trash or effluent;
- (c) Standing water or mud;
- (d) Rancid/contaminated food or water;
- (e) Fumes, foul, or noxious odors, contaminated air, hazardous chemicals or poisons;
- (f) Decaying materials;
- (g) Uncontrolled parasites or rodent infestation; and
- (h) Areas that contain nails, screws, broken glass, broken boards, pits, poisons, sharp implements or other items that could cause injury, illness or death to an animal.

Veterinary care (adequate) means medical care of an animal from or under the direction of a licensed veterinarian and necessary to maintain the health of an animal based on the age, species, breed, etc., of the animal, or to prevent an animal from suffering from:

- (a) Ongoing infections;
- (b) Infestation of parasites;
- (c) Disease; or
- (d) Any other medical condition/injury where withholding or neglecting to provide such care would:
 - 1 Endanger the health or welfare of the animal; or
 - 2 Promote the spread of communicable diseases.

Veterinary care (necessary) means veterinary medical attention appropriate to the circumstances, whenever an animal is known or suspected to have suffered an injury, accidental or deliberate, or exhibits signs of disease process such as shock, temperature fluctuation, tremors, swelling, broken bones, open wounds, inability to eat or drink, blistering, irregular or abnormal breathing, partial or total paralysis, abnormal discharge or bleeding, mange, or other signs of health problems.

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS**Sec. 10-1. - Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Abandonment (of an animal) means the act of any person who:

-1

Abandons an animal by leaving an animal unattended for a period of time in excess of 24 hours without food, water, adequate ventilation or shelter on public or private property, including but not limited to the property of the owner/custodian;

-2

Puts out, leaves, abandons, or in any other way discards any animal on public or private property, including but not limited to the property of the owner/custodian, and including but not limited to leaving an animal contained in a box, bag, fence, house or other structure or tethered; or

-3

Places an animal in the custody of a state licensed entity, such as but not limited to a veterinary clinic, grooming facility, boarding facility, or pet sitter for treatment, boarding, or other care, and fails to reclaim the animal by the agreed upon time. The entity shall abide by the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 44-14-490 in disposing of the animal.

Abused animal means any animal that has been harmed by an act, an omission or neglect, including but not limited to any animal that has been:

-1

Deprived of adequate food, water, shelter, ventilation, care, space, or veterinary care.

-2

Physically harmed, tortured, mutilated, beaten, or illegally killed.

-3

Trained/used for fighting other animals.

-4

Used as bait to train/lure other animals to fight/kill.

Adequate means sufficient; commensurate; equally efficient; equal to what is required; suitable to the case or occasion; satisfactory.

Animal mill means an individual or entity that keeps and/or breeds animals in conditions where animals are frequently caged for extended periods of time, do not receive adequate care, and/or are not kept in an environment conducive to the health and well being of the animals.

Animal shelter means an entity that possess a shelter license from the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

Bedding (adequate) means sufficient quantity of dry, non-contaminated, safe bedding, which is appropriate to the animal's age, size, species, and breed requirements.

Board of health means the Cobb County Board of Health, or its authorized representatives, which shall include officers or employees of CCAC.

Breeder means a person or entity that owns an animal and allows it to reproduce, whether planned or unplanned.

Care (adequate/humane) means attention to the needs of an animal, including but not limited to, the provision of adequate water, food, shelter, bedding, sanitary conditions, ventilation, heating/cooling (temperature control), space, exercise and veterinary medical attention necessary to maintain the health of the animal with regard to the specific age, size, species, and breed of animal.

Cobb County Animal Control means the Cobb County Animal Control Unit and Shelter sometimes referred to in this chapter as "CCAC".

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

Confinement means restriction of an animal to a home, basement, garage, building, pen, or other escape-proof enclosure.

Confinement by a rope, chain, tether, fenced yard or other area accessible by other animals or persons, other than the caretaker, is not considered confinement.

Costs means confiscation costs on potentially dangerous dogs, dangerous dogs or vicious animals are set by the board of commissioners and shall be paid by the owner to Cobb County Animal Control.

Dangerous dog means:

-1

Any dog that, according to the records of the county, has without provocation either:

- a. Inflicted severe injury on a human being on public or private property; or
- b. Aggressively bitten, attacked or endangered the safety of humans after the dog has been classified as a potentially dangerous dog and after the owner has been notified of such classification.

-2

A dog shall not be a dangerous dog within the meaning of this chapter if:

- a. The dog inflicts an injury upon a person when the dog is being used by a law enforcement officer executing official duties;
- b. The injury inflicted by the dog was sustained by a person who, at the time, was committing a willful trespass or other tort, was tormenting, abusing, or assaulting the dog, had in the past been reported to have tormented, abused or assaulted the dog, or was committing or attempting to commit a crime.

Dead animal means a deceased animal including the carcass or parts of a carcass.

Dispose of means:

- 1 The sale of any live animal at public or private sale, the giving or adopting of a live animal to an individual/entity, or the transference of ownership of a live animal to CCAC or any licensed humane society, licensed rescue group or licensed veterinarian.

-2

Appropriate burial or cremation of a dead animal as directed in this chapter.

Dog control officer means the manager of Cobb County Animal Control or his/her designee who is responsible for enforcing the state dangerous dog laws. This term "dog control officer" is utilized by state law with regard to the state dangerous dog law.

Domestic animal means any animal other than wildlife, wild animals, or exotic animals as defined by this chapter that is domesticated by humans so as to live and breed in a tame condition.

Effluent means an outflow or discharge of waste.

Euthanasia means the legal act of putting animals to death using humane methods approved by the Georgia Department of

Exercise (adequate) means bodily exertion suitable to the age, size, species and breed of animal to maintain normal good health, muscle tone, non-aggressive temperament, and normal behavior.

Exotic animal means any animal that is not indigenous to the State of Georgia.

Fence means a structure of wire, wood, stone or other materials, including invisible fencing, which is of sufficient height and strength to act as a barrier against the passage of the animal it is intended to enclose.

-1

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

A fence does not include an "invisible fence" if the fence is:

- a.
Turned off or the animal is not wearing a properly operating signaling device;
- b.
Ineffective for any animal that has learned it can cross the fence line;
- c.
Intended to be a means of keeping people or animals out of an enclosed area; or
- d.
Buried in or adjacent to the county right-of-way.

-2

An invisible fence is not an acceptable means of control for an animal that is classified as vicious, dangerous, potentially dangerous, or is in estrus/heat.

Fighting animal/game animal means any animal that has aggressive parentage, or an animal bred and/or trained to:

-1

Exhibit aggressive qualities;

-2

Have no instinct to withdraw from a fight or to display signs of submission;

-3

Fight to the point of complete exhaustion or death with minimal provocation;

-4

Suppress the animal's instinct for self-preservation;

-5

Inflict maximum damage to the animal's opponents;

-6

Offer little or no indication that an attack is imminent; or

-7

Be ready/willing for combat and unyielding in combat.

Food (adequate) means sufficient quantity of non-contaminated and nutritionally adequate food, fed according to age, size, species and breed requirements, or as directed by a veterinarian, which is sufficient to prevent starvation, malnutrition or risk to the animal's health. Garbage or spoiled/rancid food is not considered adequate food.

Foster home means a temporary home that cares for animals until they can be placed in a permanent home or returned to CCAC or its designee for adoption/disposal. Foster homes must be affiliated with and controlled by licensed rescue groups and/or licensed animal shelters.

Garbage means all refuse matter/effluent. Garbage includes, but is not limited to animal or vegetable refuse, by-product of a restaurant, kitchen, or meat/poultry processing establishment, spoiled/rancid food and refuse accumulation of animal, fruit, or vegetable matter, liquid or otherwise (that is normally discarded).

Grid means a manufactured type of wood, plastic, or wire flooring specifically designed to be used in an area where an animal is

Hoarder means a person or entity that:

-1

Collects animals and fails to provide them with humane/adequate care;

-2

Collects dead animals that are not properly disposed of as required by this chapter; or

-3

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

Collects, houses, or harbors animals in filthy, unsanitary conditions that constitute a health hazard to the animals being kept, and/or to the animals or residents of adjacent property.

Human exposure to rabies means any bite, scratch, or other situation in which saliva or central nervous system (CNS) tissue of a potentially rabid animal enters an open wound, fresh wound, or comes in contact with a mucous membrane by entering the eye, mouth, or nose. Touching or handling a potentially rabid animal with the possible exception of a bat or touching or handling another animal or inanimate object that has had contact with a rabid animal does not constitute an exposure unless wet saliva or CNS tissue entered a fresh, open wound or had contact with a mucous membrane. Likewise, contact with the urine, feces, or blood of a potentially rabid animal does not constitute an exposure since the pathogenesis of rabies is such that the virus follows nerve pathways and has only limited circulation in the blood.

Humane society means a licensed organization that rescues, assists and provides care for animals, educates the public in humane care of animals, initiates/facilitates programs to improve the quality of life for animals.

Impoundment means the taking into custody of an animal by CCAC.

Licensed means having a valid Georgia state license issued under the authority of the State of Georgia.

Lure means an animal used to bait/teach/encourage another animal to chase, fight or kill other animals.

Manager means the manager of the Cobb County Animal Control Unit or his/her designee.

Neglect means absence of adequate care that is unintentional.

Neglect (willful) means the intentional withholding of adequate food, water and humane care required by an animal to prevent starvation, dehydration, death, or other harmful/debilitating conditions.

Nuisance animal means any animal that:

-1

Damages, soils, defiles, eliminates or defecates on private property other than its owner's property or on public property;

-2

Causes unsanitary or offensive conditions or otherwise endangers public health, welfare or safety;

-3

Causes a disturbance by barking, howling or other noisemaking for a period of more than 15 minutes;

-4

Chases vehicles, bicycles, or people;

-5

Is in estrus and not confined in a manner which can keep it away from intact males of the same species; or

-6

Causes serious annoyance to a neighboring residence and interferes with the reasonable use and enjoyment of that property.

Owner means any person owning, possessing, harboring, keeping or having custody or control of any animal subject to this chapter. This definition is intended to embrace any person who is a custodian.

Police department means the Cobb County Police Department or its successor department(s).

Potentially dangerous dog means:

-1

Any dog that has without provocation bitten a human being on public or private property.

-2

A dog is not considered a potentially dangerous dog according to this chapter if:

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

a.

The dog inflicts an injury upon a person when the dog is being used by a law enforcement officer in carrying out official duties; or

b.

The injury inflicted was sustained by a person who was committing a willful trespass or other tort, was tormenting, abusing or assaulting the dog, had in the past been reported to have tormented, abused or assaulted the dog, or was committing or attempting to commit a crime.

Primary enclosure means any structure or device used to restrict an animal to a limited amount of space, such as a fence, building, room, pen, run, cage, stall, paddock, or pasture, that provides adequate space and shelter.

Proper enclosure means an enclosure for keeping a dangerous dog, potentially dangerous dog or vicious animal securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen, fence, or structure suitable to prevent the entry of another animal or any person other than the owner or caretaker.

The enclosure must:

-1

Be designed to prevent the animal from escaping, and:

a.

If the enclosure is a fence, the fence must be high enough to keep the animal from climbing over and must be secured at the bottom to keep the animal from digging under.

b.

If the enclosure is a pen or structure other than a fence, the pen or structure must have secure sides, top and bottom constructed or secured in such a manner to prevent the animal's escape, and be of a height and strength to maintain the

-2

Provide adequate shelter.

-3

Provide adequate space for the animal.

Provoked attack means an attack resulting when a domestic animal is placed in a situation such that an expected reaction would be to bite or attack.

Relinquished means written transfer of ownership of an animal by the owner to CCAC.

Rescue animal means a dog, cat, or other animal temporarily maintained by a licensed rescue group until the animal can be placed in a permanent home.

Rescue group (licensed) means any individual or entity that houses and cares for rescue animals until permanent homes can be located and that maintains all required federal, state and local licenses/registrations.

Restraint of animal means complete and immediate control of an animal by a physical device while under the direct supervision of a competent person. .

Running at large means any domestic animal not under the control and restraint of the owner or the owner's designee.

Sale of animals means the transfer of ownership of an animal through verbal or written agreement to a new owner in exchange for money, goods, services, or fees.

Sanitary conditions means animal living space free from health hazards, irritants, or conditions that may endanger or pose a significant risk to an animal's health. In the case of farm animals, nothing in this section shall be construed as imposing sanitation requirements or standards more stringent than normally accepted animal husbandry and humane practices as defined by this chapter and Georgia state law as regulated by the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

Severe injury means any physical injury resulting in any of the following:

- 1
Broken bones;
- 2
Puncture wounds;
- 3
Lacerations, with or without, sutures;
- 4
A medical procedure; or
- 5
Death.

Shelter (adequate) means protective cover for a domestic animal appropriate for the species and providing adequate space to maintain the animal in good health, which also prevents pain, suffering or a significant risk to the animal's health.

-1

Adequate shelter includes but is not limited to the following:

- a.
Sufficient coverage and insulation to protect an animal from extreme hot and cold temperatures;
- b.
Sufficient protection from the elements to keep the animal dry;
- c.
Sufficient shade and ventilation to prevent an animal from overheating and/or dehydrating; and
- d.
Adequate bedding or resting area suitable for the breed, species, age, size, and medical condition of the animal.

-2

Adequate shelter is structurally sound housing which provides an animal with:

- a.
Adequate space;
- b.
Four solid walls or an "igloo" type of structure;
- c.
A roof;
- d.
A dry floor that is either:
 - 1
Solid, or
 - 2
Grids, provided the animal can easily stand, walk, lay and sit on the grids without its feet or body parts being caught, damaged, or injured. The grids and area under the grids must be designed so that they can be cleaned and sanitized.
- e.
An entrance; and
- f.
Adequate space for the number of animals on the property.

-3

Materials not suitable for shelters include but are not limited to:

- a.
Inadequately insulated containers;
- b.
Crates with exposed sharp edges;

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

- c.
Metal or plastic drums;
- d.
Abandoned or parked vehicles;
- e.
Porches or decks;
- f.
Lean-tos;
- g.
Any other structure that fails to provide sufficient protection from the elements; and
- h.
Any other structure that is not safe or suitable for housing the species.

Space (adequate) means:

- 1
Sufficient safe space for adequate exercise suitable to the age, size, species and breed of animal;
- 2
Sufficient space during periods of confinement, suitable to the age, size, species and breed of animal to permit the animal to turn about freely, stand, sit, or lie, move, etc. in a comfortable and normal position; or
- 3
For sick or injured animals, confinement as directed by a veterinarian.

State dangerous dog control law means O.C.G.A. tit. 4, ch. 8, art. 2 (O.C.G.A § 4-8-20 et seq.) as amended.

Strict confinement/isolation for animals bitten by rabid animal means confinement for the period of time recommended by the State of Georgia and kept inside a home, basement, garage, or suitable building, and isolated from other animals and people other than the caretaker while the animal is being observed for symptoms of rabies. An animal within a fenced yard, on a chain, or otherwise in an area accessible in any way to other animals or persons other than the caretaker is not in a strictly confined area.

Temperature control (adequate) means maintaining temperatures recommended for animals by the Department of Agriculture guidelines for shelters and farm animals.

Tether means any chain, rope, leash, tie out or wire designed to restrain an animal which is attached to an animal's collar or halter and is also attached to a stationary object. Acceptable temporary tethers include appropriate size chain, leash, rope or other tethering device that is of adequate length to satisfy the space and exercise requirements for the animal. In any event, any tether must be a minimum of ten feet in length. Tethering devices, as referred to in this chapter, are the type commonly used for the size animal involved and are attached to the animal by means of a properly fitted collar or harness.

Training group (licensed) means an appropriately licensed organization or individual that trains animals to assist physically handicapped persons, to assist search and rescue operations, and/or to work with government agencies or law enforcement agencies.

Unprovoked attack or without provocation means an attack that is not provoked as defined by this chapter.

Unsanitary conditions means animal living space including shelter and exercise area, contaminated by health hazards, irritants, items or conditions that endanger or pose a risk to an animal's health, including but not limited to:

- 1
Excessive animal waste;
- 2
Garbage, trash or effluent;
- 3
Standing water or mud;

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

- 4
Rancid/contaminated food or water;
- 5
Fumes, foul or noxious odors, contaminated air, hazardous chemicals or poisons;
- 6
Decaying materials;
- 7
Uncontrolled parasite or rodent infestation; and
- 8
Areas that contain nails, screws, broken glass, broken boards, pits, poisons, sharp implements or other items that could cause injury, illness or death to an animal.

Ventilation (adequate) means fresh air sufficient to provide for the health of an animal.

Veterinarian means a doctor of veterinary medicine licensed to diagnose and treat diseases and injuries in animals.

Veterinary care (adequate) means medical care of an animal from or under the direction of a licensed veterinarian and necessary to maintain the health of an animal based on the age, species, breed, etc., of the animal, or to prevent an animal from suffering from:

- 1
Ongoing infections;
 - 2
Infestation of parasites;
 - 3
Disease; or
 - 4
Any other medical condition/injury where withholding or neglecting to provide such care would:
 - a.
Endanger the health or welfare of the animal; or
 - b.
Promote the spread of communicable diseases.
- Veterinary clinic (licensed) means a business facility where veterinary medicine is practiced.

Vicious animal means:

- 1
Any animal which:
 - a.
Constitutes a physical threat to human beings or other animals by virtue of an attack of such severity or intensity as to cause severe property or physical damage; or
 - b.
Makes an unprovoked attack on animals or on human beings; or
 - c.
Intentionally attacks physical property in an effort to cause harm to a human or other animal.
- 2
An animal shall not be a vicious animal within the meaning of this chapter if:
 - a.
It inflicts an injury upon a person when the animal is being used by a law enforcement officer carrying out official duties; or
 - b.

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

The injury inflicted by the animal was sustained by a person who was committing a willful trespass or other tort, was tormenting, abusing or assaulting the animal, had in the past been reported to have tormented, abused or assaulted the animal, or was committing or attempting to commit a crime.

Water (adequate) means clean, fresh water sufficient to prevent dehydration, properly sustain health, and prevent significant risk to the animal's health. For the purposes of this chapter, snow, ice or rancid/ contaminated water are not considered adequate water.

WALTON COUNTY**Sec. 10-1. - Definitions.**

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The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Abandoned animal means any animal which shall have been placed upon public property or within a public building unattended and unsupervised or upon or within the private property of another without the express permission of the owner, custodian or tenant of the private property and is unattended or without care. An animal shall also be considered as abandoned which has been upon or within the property of the owner or custodian of the animal for a period of time in excess of 36 hours unattended and without adequate food, water and shelter.

Adequate food means sufficient quantity of non-contaminated and nutritionally healthy sustenance that is appropriate to the species, breed, size, age and health of the animal, or at the direction of a licensed veterinarian, which is sufficient to prevent starvation, malnutrition, or risk to the animal's health. Garbage, spoiled, rancid, or contaminated food is not adequate food.

Adequate shelter means protective cover appropriate for the species and providing adequate space to maintain the animal in good health, which also prevents pain, suffering or a significant risk to the animal's health. Adequate shelter shall consist of a completely enclosed structure with four sides with a door opening, a constructed floor, and a roof. It should also be clean, dry and compatible with current weather conditions, in addition to age, size, species and condition of the animal. The structure should be of sufficient size to allow the animal to stand, turn around, lie down and go in and out of the structure comfortably. Adequate shelter must be compatible with the number of animals on the property.

-1

Adequate shelter includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- a. Sufficient coverage and insulation to protect an animal from extreme hot and cold temperatures;
- b. Sufficient protection from the elements to keep the animal dry;
- c. Sufficient shade and ventilation to prevent an animal from overheating and/or dehydrating; and
- d. Adequate bedding or resting area suitable for the breed, species, age, size, and medical condition of the animal.

-2

Materials not suitable for shelters include, but are not limited to:

- a. Inadequately insulated containers;
- b. Plastic kennels or airline-type animal shipping crates;
- c. Metal or plastic drums;
- d. Abandoned or parked vehicles;
- e.

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

Uncovered porches or decks;

f.

Lean-tos;

g.

Any other structure that fails to provide sufficient protection from the elements.

Adequate veterinary care means medical care of an animal from or under the direction of a veterinarian and necessary to maintain the health of an animal based on the age, species, breed, etc., of the animal, or to prevent an animal from suffering from:

-1

Ongoing infections;

-2

Infestation of parasites;

-3

Disease; or

-4

Any other medical condition/injury where withholding or neglecting to provide such care would:

a.

Endanger the health or welfare of the animal; or

b.

Promote the spread of communicable diseases.

Adequate water means clear, clean, drinkable water in adequate supply. Examples of inadequate water include, but are not limited to: snow, ice, rainwater and rancid or contaminated water.

Animal at large means any animal found loose and not under proper restraint off of the property of its owner.

Animal control officer means any person so designated by the board of commissioners to perform the duties of animal control and enforce the provisions of this chapter.

Animal under restraint means:

-1

Any animal controlled within the property limits of its owner;

-2

Any animal secured by a leash with a collar, or enclosed by way of a fence or other enclosure;

-3

Any animal at heel or beside a competent person and which is obedient to the person's commands; or

-4

Any animal within a vehicle being driven or parked on the streets.

Domesticated animals means animals that are accustomed to living in or about the habitation of humans, including, but not limited to, cats, dogs, cows, fowl, horses, swine, domesticated wild animals and exotic animals.

Impoundment means the action of taking physical control of an animal by an animal control officer or other officers empowered to act by law and the transporting of such animal to the animal control facility.

Owner means any person who owns, harbors, keeps and maintains, has lawful possession of, or knowingly causes or permits an animal to be harbored or kept, who has an animal in his care, who shelters or provides for such animal sufficient quantities of wholesome food and water 14 consecutive calendar days or longer, and permits an animal to remain on or around his premises. The term "owner" shall also include any person hired or acting as custodian of the animal for its owner.

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

Proper collar or harness means any fitted collar or harness which provides enough room between the collar and the animal's throat through which two fingers may fit. Choke, pinch, or prong type collars may not be used in tethering, fastening, chaining, tying, or otherwise restraining a dog. Rope, cable, chain, wire or other similar materials are not suitable as a proper collar or harness.

HALL COUNTY**4.10.100. - Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Abandonment means to place upon public property, within a public building or within the private property of another without the express permission of the owner, custodian or attendant of the private property, any domesticated animal or agricultural animal that is unattended or uncared for. Any owner shall also be considered to abandon the domesticated animal or agricultural animal, for the purposes of this chapter, if the animal has been upon or within the property of the owner or custodian of this animal for a period of time in excess of 36 hours unattended and without adequate food and water or if the owner of the animal was evicted from the premises where the domesticated animal or agricultural animal was kept and said owner fails to immediately remove the animal from the premises.

Adequate food means food which is sufficient to prevent starvation, malnutrition, or risk to the animal's health. Adequate food shall not include garbage, spoiled, rancid or unhygienic food or food containing worms, insects or insect larvae.

Adequate size means a structure or container of sufficient size to allow the animal to stand, turn around, lie down and go in and out of the structure or container comfortably.

Adequate space means a sufficient space for adequate exercise suitable to the age, size, species and breed of animal, which, unless otherwise provided in this chapter, shall include at least:

1

An enclosure with a minimum of 144 square feet per animal except for an animal in transport by vehicle, an animal being boarded at a licensed facility, or any animal under 25 pounds that shall be provided with space of adequate size, or

2

A provision of at least a ten-foot metal chain or metal cable (does not include a rope) that cannot become tangled or prevent the animal from having access to adequate food, water or shelter for any animal tethered or chained outside.

Adequate water means clear, drinkable water in adequate supply, but does not include snow, ice, rancid, unhygienic water or water containing worms, insects, or insect larvae.

Aggravated habitual violator means a habitual violator as provided for in this chapter that has been found guilty of more than one violation of article III of this chapter or any other provision of this chapter wherein the animal involved in the violations inflicted a bite breaking the skin on another animal or human.

Agricultural animal means any hoofed animal including, but not limited to, bovine, caprine, equine, ovine, and swine, and, more specifically, cows, donkeys, goats, horses, llamas, mules, sheep and pigs as well as all other animals used or suitable for either food, fiber or labor including chickens, roosters, turkeys, or other fowl on agricultural property.

Agricultural property means, for the purpose of this chapter only, any parcel of land two acres or more in size or property that is less than two acres in size that is contiguous or adjacent to parcels of land that are at least five acres or more in size.

Animal means any animal including those of the amphibian (amphibians), reptilian (reptiles), aves (fowl) and mammalia (mammals) classes.

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

Animal at large means an animal not under restraint.

Animal control officer means any officer; agent or employee of the Hall County Animal Services designated by the governing authority to perform the duties of animal control and enforcement of this chapter and to perform the duties of dog control officer pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 4-8-22(c), as amended from time to time.

Animal shelter means any facility operated by or under contract for the state, county, a municipal corporation, or a political subdivision of the state for the purpose of impounding or harboring seized, stray, homeless, abandoned, or unwanted dogs, cats, and other animals; any veterinary hospital or clinic operated by a veterinarian or veterinarians which operates for such purpose in addition to its customary purposes; and any facility operated, owned, or maintained by a duly incorporated humane society, animal welfare society, or other organization for the purpose of providing for and promoting the welfare, protection, and humane treatment

Animal under restraint means any domesticated animal or agricultural animal is considered under restraint unless otherwise provided herein if:

1

It is controlled within the property limits of its owner by:

a.

A visible physical barrier that the animal cannot climb, dig, jump or otherwise escape from on its own volition, that is securely locked by key or combination lock at any time the animal is left unattended and that is not an invisible electronic fence; or

b.

A metal chain or metal cable of sufficient strength to restrain the animal;

2

It is controlled by a leash by a person physically able to control the animal;

3

It is entirely contained within the occupant enclosure of a vehicle;

4

If entirely contained within the cargo area of a truck being driven or parked on the streets, it is safely restrained by a harness or tether of sufficient strength to restrain the animal or confined in a kennel or cage; or

5

It is within the fenced enclosure of any dog park approved and operated by the governing authority.

Board of health means the Hall County Board of Health.

Canine shall mean a dog.

Cock fighting tools means any instrument attached to the spur of a rooster intended for fighting.

Dangerous animal means any animal other than livestock maintained on agricultural property, that, according to the records of an appropriate authority:

1

Has without provocation inflicted severe injury on a human being on public or private property; or

2

Aggressively bites, attacks, or endangers the safety of humans, domesticated animals or agricultural animals without provocation after the animal has been classified as a potentially dangerous animal and after the owner has been notified of such classification.

Domesticated animal means an animal that is living in or about the habitation of people including, but not limited to, cats, chickens, dogs, ducks, cows, fowl, geese, horses, rabbits, swine and livestock whether or not they are further classified by this chapter as hazardous animals, dangerous animals or potentially dangerous animals but shall not include agricultural animals. Pen raised skunks are categorized as those skunks acceptable by the State of Georgia and may be kept in Georgia as pets.

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

Feral animal means an animal that has escaped from a domestic or captive status and is more or less living as a wild animal, or is born of a feral animal.

Fowl means chickens, ducks, geese, roosters, turkeys, poultry and other birds of the aves class.

Governing authority means the board of commissioners of Hall County, Georgia.

Guard animal means any animal which has been trained to attack persons or other animals independently or upon oral command and any animal which, while not so trained, is reasonably expected to perform as a guardian of the property upon and within which it is located.

Habitual violator means any owner that is found guilty of violating two or more of the same sections of this chapter more than once in any six-month period when the violations for two or more of the same sections occur on separate days.

Hall County Animal Shelter means the animal shelter operated by Hall County, Georgia.

Hazardous animal means any animal:

1
For which a permit or license is required for possession of pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 27-5-1, et seq.;

2
That is a hybrid animal which is part wild animal in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia; or

3
That is a Reticulated Python (*Python reticulatus*), Amethystine Python (*Morelia amethystina*), Green Anaconda (*Eunectes murinus*), Indian Python (*Python molurus*—the Burmese python *P. m. bivittata* is a subspecies of the Indian) or African Rock Python (*Python sebae*).

Hoarder means a person or entity that is the owner of more than one animal maintained without adequate food, water, sanitation or space.

Humane society means the Humane Society of Hall County or any corporation, organization or association existing for the purpose of prevention of cruelty to animals, education for humane treatment of animals or animal adoption for stray animals.

In distress means the condition of an animal that, because of lack of necessary veterinary care, is in pain, anxiety, or acute physical or mental suffering requiring immediate assistance to prevent death of the animal or an animal suffering to the extent that necessary veterinary care is required to prevent further physical harm to the animal.

In heat means a female animal that is in her estrous cycle.

Law enforcement agency means the Hall County Sheriff's Office, Hall County Enforcement Division or other law enforcement agency of the governing authority.

Livestock means any hoofed animal including, but not limited to, bovine, caprine, equine, ovine, and swine, and, more specifically, cows, donkeys, goats, horses, llamas, mules, sheep and pigs.

Necessary veterinary care means medical care of an animal from or under the direction of a licensed veterinarian and necessary to maintain the health of an animal based on the age, species, breed, etc., of the animal, or to prevent an animal from suffering from:

1
Ongoing infections;

2

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

Infestation of parasites;

3

Disease; or

4

Any other medical condition/injury where withholding or neglecting to provide such veterinary care would further endanger the health or welfare of the animal or promote the spread of communicable diseases.

Owner means any natural person or any legal entity, including but not limited to a corporation, partnership, firm, trust or parent or legal guardian of any minor, who or which:

1

Owens;

2

Possesses;

3

Harbors;

4

Keeps;

5

Cares for;

6

Feeds;

7

Maintains;

8

Has custody or control of; or

9

Knowingly permits to be harbored or kept or to remain on or about their premises an animal within the jurisdiction of the governing authority. If an animal has more than one owner, any one of such owners may be prosecuted for violations whether or not any other owners are also prosecuted.

Potentially dangerous animal means any animal, other than livestock maintained on agricultural property, with a known propensity, tendency, or disposition to attack unprovoked, to cause injury, or to otherwise threaten the safety of human beings, or any animal that when unprovoked:

1

Inflicts injury on a human being on public or private property;

2

Chases or approaches a human being upon the street, sidewalks or any public grounds or the private property of another in a vicious or terrorizing manner in an apparent attitude of attack; or

3

On more than one occasion causes injury to or death of another domesticated animal or agricultural animal unless the other domesticated animal or agricultural animal was not under restraint at the time.

Proper enclosure means an enclosure for keeping a dangerous animal or potentially dangerous animal while on the owner's property securely confined and enclosed in a manner suitable to prevent the entry of young children and designed to prevent the animal from escaping as specified in the criteria set forth in subsection 4.10.570B. of this chapter.

Public or private animal refuge means harborers of unwanted animals of any breed, including crossbreeds, who provide food, shelter, and confinement for more than four animals of any kind.

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITIONS SECTIONS

Records of appropriate authority means records of any state, county or municipal law enforcement agency; records of any county or municipal animal control agency; records of any county board of health; records of any federal, state, or local court; records of a dog control officer as provided in O.C.G.A. § 4-8-22(c); or records of an animal control officer as provided by this chapter.

Severe injury means any physical injury that results in broken bones or disfiguring lacerations requiring multiple sutures or cosmetic surgery, or a physical injury that results in death.

Sexually mature animal means any dog or cat that has reached the age of 180 days or six months or more.

Sterilization means the surgical removal of the reproductive organs of a dog or cat in order to render the animal unable to reproduce.

Unowned animal means any animal that is not wearing a collar or other identifying information such as a microchip, and no information is known about a possible owner.

(Res. of 2-11-10(2), § 1(Exh. A); Res. of 10-25-18(1), § 1)

Editor's note— Res. of 2-11-10(2), § 1(Exh. A), repealed former § 4.10.100, and enacted a new § 4.10.100 as set out herein. Former § 4.10.100 pertained to similar subject matter. See the Code Comparative Table for complete derivation.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF TETHER RESTRICTIONS OR TETHER BAN SECTIONS

Sec. 14-41. - Tethering animals.

The owner or custodian of a domesticated animal may tether the animal with the following restrictions:

The tethering of animals younger than six months old is prohibited.

The tethering of an animal that has not been spayed or neutered is prohibited.

The use of a tether weighing more than the animal can reasonably bear is prohibited.

The tether may be no shorter than three times the length of the animal tethered.

Any tethered domesticated animal must have access to adequate shelter, food and water while tethered.

No tether shall be affixed to any type of prong collar, to any collar that restricts the ability for an animal to breath normally, or wrapped directly around an animal's neck.

No animals shall be tethered during any declared weather advisories, warnings or emergencies.

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Sec. 10-29. - Restraint.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for any owner, possessor, guardian, or custodian of any dog to fail to keep a dog under restraint or control as provided for in this section.

(b)

A dog is considered not under restraint or control when it is running at large, whether wearing a collar and tag or not. Reasonable care and precautions shall be taken to prevent the dog from leaving the real property limits of its owner, guardian, possessor, or custodian, and to ensure that:

1

It is securely and humanely enclosed within a house, building, fence, pen or other proper enclosure out of which it cannot climb, dig, jump, or otherwise escape on its own volition; and that such enclosure is securely locked at any time the animal is left

2

It is securely and humanely restrained by an invisible containment system. If using an invisible containment system, a sign must be posted on the property indicating that the system is in place;

3

It is on a leash and under the control of a competent person, or it is off leash and obedient to and under voice command of a competent person who is in the immediate proximity of the dog any time it is not restrained as provided for in subsections (1) or (2) above, while on the owner's property;

4

It shall be unlawful for the owner, possessor, guardian or custodian of any animal to restrain or anchor an animal by means of a tether, chain, cable, rope or cord, unless the tether or other restraint is being held by a competent person. An exception shall be made for the limited purpose of allowing the animal's owner, possessor, guardian, or custodian to temporarily restrain the animal by such means to allow the animal's needs to be met, such as the time necessary to clean the animal's living quarters, feed, and water

GWINNETT

Sec. 10-71. - Restraint of dogs.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for any owner or possessor of any dog to fail to keep the dog under restraint or control as provided for in this section.

(b)

A dog is considered not under restraint or control when it is running at large, whether wearing a collar and tag or not. Reasonable care and precautions shall be taken to prevent the dog from leaving the real property limits of its owner, possessor, or custodian, and

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF TETHER RESTRICTIONS OR TETHER BAN SECTIONS

It is securely and humanely enclosed within a house, building, fence, pen or other enclosure out of which it cannot climb, dig, jump, or otherwise escape on its own volition, and that such enclosure is securely locked at any time the animal is left unattended;

It is securely and humanely restrained by an invisible containment system. If using an invisible containment system, a sign must be posted on the property indicating that the system is in place; or

It is on a leash and under the control of a competent person, or it is off leash and obedient to and under voice command of a competent person who is in the immediate proximity of the dog any time it is not restrained as provided for in subsection (b)(1) or (2) of this section while on the owner's property.

(c)
It shall be unlawful to tether an animal outdoors, except when all of the following conditions are met:

The owner or adult custodian of the animal must be outside with the animal at all times and the animal must be visible to the owner;

Single point tethering is prohibited;

Tethering an animal by a trolley system is the only approved form of tether;

Only one animal may be attached to each trolley system;

Any cable attached to the trolley system and attached to an animal must be at least ten feet in length and shall not allow the animal to come within five feet of the edge of the property line of the property upon which such animal is tethered;

Tethers must be made of a substance which cannot be chewed by the animal, shall not weigh more than five percent of the body weight of the animal, and shall have a swivel on each end;

The trolley system must be at least ten feet in length and mounted no more than seven feet above the ground level;

The length of the tether from the trolley system to the animal's collar should allow access to the maximum available exercise area and allow the animal free access to food, water, and shelter;

The animal must be attached to the tether by a properly fitted harness or collar with enough room between the collar and the animal's throat through which two fingers may fit. Choke collars and pinch collars are prohibited for the purpose of tethering an

The trolley system must be a sufficient distance from any other objects or animals to prohibit the tangling of the cable, to prohibit the cable from extending over an object or an edge that could result in injury or strangulation of the animal and be of sufficient distance from any fence so as to prohibit the animal from having access to the fence;

The animal is not outside during extreme weather, including, but not limited to, extreme heat or near freezing temperatures, or storms;

The animal is at least six months of age; and

The animal is not sick or injured.

When an animal is found tethered unattended but in compliance with the remaining provisions of this subsection and the owner has received no prior warnings, or citations concerning tethering, an officer may provide information or a warning about proper tethering methods.

BARTOW COUNTY

Sec. 14-14. - Control of animals.

(a)
Control of animals. Every animal shall be restrained and controlled so as to prevent it from molesting passersby, chasing vehicles, or attacking persons or other animals. It shall be a violation of this section for the owner of an animal, or for the person having possession of, responsibility for, or custody of an animal, to not have the animal under secure control whether on the premises of such person or off the premises.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF TETHER RESTRICTIONS OR TETHER BAN SECTIONS

Secure control: When the animal is on the premises of the owner or the person having possession of, responsibility for, or custody of an animal, "secure control" shall mean: the animal is enclosed in a fence or other enclosure sufficient to contain the animal; the animal is contained by an electronic fence and shock collar or similar technology; the animal is tethered consistent with subparagraph (b); or the animal is under direct voice command.

When an animal is off the premises of the owner or the person having possession of, responsibility for, or custody of an animal, "secure control" shall mean: the animal is secured by a leash, chain, tie or other device held by a competent person; the animal is tethered consistent with subparagraph (b) with the permission of the person upon whose property the animal is tethered; the animal is safely confined within a vehicle, consistent with subparagraph (e); or the animal is enclosed in a fence or other enclosure sufficient to contain the animal with permission of the owner of the property where the enclosure is located.

On the premises means the animal is on the parcel or in the home where it normally resides and which is the home of the person who owns or has possession, custody or control of the animal.

Off the premises means anywhere other than the parcel where the animal normally resides, including the immediately adjacent road or right-of-way and common areas of an apartment complex, other multi-family housing or neighborhoods.

A competent person means a person with the strength and ability to control the animal.

Direct voice command. To qualify as under direct voice command, the person must be 1) outside with the animal, 2) in close proximity to the animal, and 3) the animal must be demonstrably responsive to voice commands. A person inside a structure shall not be considered under this section to have voice command over an animal that is outside.

Close proximity shall mean within a distance where the animal can respond to spoken (not shouted) commands.

Tethering. Animals may only be tethered under the following circumstances:

-1

A person restraining an animal with a tether shall attach the tether to a properly fitting collar or harness worn by the animal. A person may not use choke collars, pinch collars, prong collars or similar devices, nor may a person wrap a tether directly around an animal's neck;

-2

A person may not restrain an animal with a tether in a manner that does not allow the animal to access necessary shelter and water, including shade when the temperature is above 80 degrees Fahrenheit;

-3

The length of the tether should be no less than five times the length of the animal, measured from the tip of the animal's nose to the base of its tail. In any event, a person may not restrain an animal with a tether less than ten feet in length;

-4

The animal must be tethered in a safe manner and not in a fashion that subjects the animal to tangling and choking risks; and

-5

A person restraining an animal with a tether shall ensure that the area in which the animal is confined is free of garbage, fecal matter, or other debris that can cause harm to the animal.

-6

A dog must not be tethered to a stationary point or object; only tethering to a running cable line or trolley line is permitted if a dog is tethered outside.

-7

Cables and devices used must be adequately matched to the strength and size of the dog to prevent breaking. The tether should have a swivel clasp on each end.

(c)

Tethering on public property. No person shall tie, stake or fasten any animal within any street, alley, sidewalk or other public place or in such manner that the animal has access to any portion of any street, alley, sidewalk or other public place.

(d)

Dogs in heat. Every female dog in heat shall be confined in a building or other enclosure in such manner that such female dog cannot come into contact with another animal except for planned breeding.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF TETHER RESTRICTIONS OR TETHER BAN SECTIONS

(e)

Animals in vehicles. No person shall leave or confine an animal in any unattended motor vehicle under conditions that endanger the health or well-being of an animal due to heat, cold, lack of adequate ventilation, or lack of food or water, or other circumstances that could reasonably be expected to cause suffering, disability, or death to the animal.

City of ALBANY - DOUGHERTY COUNTY

Sec. 10-5. - Humane treatment.

.....

Tethering.

- 1
Tethering dogs as a primary means of confinement is prohibited.
- 2
Tethered animals must wear collars.
- 3
Tethered animals must be secured in such a way as to prevent tangling, twisting, or wrapping.
- 4
Animals may not be tethered so that they can reach fences or any other structures by which they can hang themselves.
- 5
Animals may not be tethered so that they can reach any public area, including but not limited to alleys, streets, sidewalks, common areas, etc.
- 6
Each tethered animal must have access to its own shelter, food, and water, separate from other animals.
- 7
Animals may be tethered with cables or chains. Chains must be of minimal weight and thickness to secure the particular animal. Large, heavy chains are prohibited.
- 8
No animal shall be fitted with weights of any kind at any time.
- 9
Cats may not be tethered.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

(a)

An owner of a domesticated animal, whether vaccinated or not vaccinated, shall confine such domesticated animal within an adequate fence or enclosure or within a house, garage or other building to prevent the animal from running at large. No animal shall be tied or tethered as a permanent measure of restraint. No animal shall be left unattended on a chain, lead, runner, cable, rope, leash or similar tethering device.

City of Fitzgerald - Ben Hill County

Sec. 5-95. - Chaining and tethering of dogs and cats is prohibited.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for any person owning and/or controlling dog(s) or cat(s), whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, licensed or unlicensed, to leave dog(s) or cat(s) or to allow said dog(s) or cat(s) to be chained or tethered. The prohibitions of this subsection shall apply to the owner of any such dog(s) or cat(s) as well as to all persons with an ownership interest or a possessory interest in the property on which said animal is chained or tethered.

(b)

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit owners or others from walking dog(s) or cat(s) with a handheld leash.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF TETHER RESTRICTIONS OR TETHER BAN SECTIONS

MACON-BIBB COUNTY

Sec. 5-22. - Tethering and transport, prohibited conduct.

[(a)

It shall be unlawful for any owner or other person controlling or possessing any dog or cat to:]

- 1
Leave a dog or cat tethered outdoors while unattended by its owner.
- 2
Tether a dog or cat except by means of a properly fitting harness or collar of nylon or leather construction and a tether in proportion to the size of the animal. The tether must be at least fifteen (15) feet in length with a swivel at both ends.
- 3
Tether a dog or cat outdoors under conditions where the animal or tether can become entangled on the tether, another animal, or some other object or where the tether can restrict the animal's access to suitable, edible, and sufficient food, clean water (cool in summer and unfrozen in winter), and appropriate shelter.
- 4
Tether a dog or cat outdoors in unsafe or unsanitary conditions or when said tether does not allow the animal to defecate or urinate in an area separate from the areas where it must eat, drink or lie down.
- 5
Expose a dog or cat to any weather conditions that cause immediate imminent threat to the animal's physical well-being.
- 6
Transport any dog or cat in the bed of a pickup truck unless the dog or cat is secured inside of a commercially designed container intended for the safe transport of dog[s] and cats or otherwise secured so as not to allow the dog or cat the ability to escape from the vehicle.

(b)

A person who is convicted, or who pleads guilty or nolo contendere to a violation of this section shall suffer the following minimum punishment:

First offense, a minimum fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

Second offense within a one-year period, a minimum fine of three hundred dollars (\$300.00).

Third offense within a one-year period, a minimum fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), with a mandatory appearance in Municipal Court.

Fourth or subsequent offense, a minimum fine of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1500.00), with a mandatory appearance in Municipal Court.

In addition to the above fines, all fines, regardless of the number of the offense, shall include a five dollar (\$5.00) fee to be charged and dedicated to support the educational requirements mandated for Animal Welfare personnel.

HALL COUNTY

4.10.320. - Animal abuse—Food, exercise, space and air.

Any person who confines any animal shall be in violation of this chapter if the person:

- A.
Fails to supply it with adequate food and adequate water;
- B.
Keeps the animal in an enclosure without adequate space; or
- C.

Keeps the animal without wholesome exercise and change of air.

D.

It shall be unlawful for the owner of a canine or one who has a canine in his possession to restrain or leave unattended by means of anchoring with a chain, cable, rope, leash, runner, cord or similar tethering device.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF TETHER RESTRICTIONS OR TETHER BAN SECTIONS

BURKE COUNTY

Sec. 10-30. - Tethering requirements for dogs.

(a)

An owner may tether his or her dog with the following requirements:

Tether must be at least 15 feet in length or five times the length of the dog, whichever is longer;

Tether must permit the dog to reach shade, shelter and adequate food and water;

Tether shall be connected to the dog by a collar of sufficient size and tightness that shall adequately restrain the dog without embedding the collar in the dog's neck or impairing the dog's ability to breathe;

No animal shall be tethered during any declared weather advisories, warnings or emergencies;

The dog shall not be tethered in any area where the tether or dog can become entangled on the tether or some other object;

Tether shall weigh no more than $\frac{1}{8}$ of the dog's body weight;

Tether shall not unreasonably limit a dog's movement;

Tether shall not be in unsafe or unsanitary conditions; and

Tether shall provide a dog the ability to defecate or urinate in an area separate from the area where it must eat, drink, or lie

(b)

Exceptions to this section include:

-1

Animal is involved in a scheduled dog show or obedience demonstration or trial, or is legally involved in hunting or retrieving game animals; or

a.

The animal may be kept on a short tether during the event or training;

b.

The animal must be long enough to allow the animal to get up and down;

c.

The owner or agent responsible for the animal must make sure the animal is properly watered and feed;

d.

In the situation of bad weather the owner or agent responsible for the animal must move the animal to proper shelter to protect the animal from dangerous elements.

SAVANNAH

Sec. 9-5025. - Tethering.

It shall be unlawful for anyone to tether a dog as defined herein. The animal services officer is authorized to seize any dog so confined and impound the dog as if it were found at large. The same fees, fines and restrictions shall apply to the dog before it can be returned to the owner. An overhead run designed for natural and sufficient movement within a confined space that contains water and food is not considered tethering.

PORT WENTWORTH

Sec. 4-21. - Dog tethering prohibited.

(a)

No person shall tether, fasten, chain, tie, or restrain a dog, or cause a dog to be tethered, fastened, chained, tied, to a dog house, tree, fence, or any other stationary object as a means of confinement or restraint.

(b)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF TETHER RESTRICTIONS OR TETHER BAN SECTIONS

Notwithstanding section (a), a person may tether, fasten, chain, or restrain a dog for not more than one hour in a 24-hour period, provided that for the purpose of tethering a dog a chain, leash, rope or tether shall be at least ten (10) feet in length and shall weigh no more than one-eighth (1/8) of the animal's body weight; and further provided that the dog is not tethered by means of a choke collar, prong collar, or pinch collar or in a manner as to cause injury, strangulation, or entanglement of the dog on fences, trees, or other man made or natural obstacles.

(c)

A violation of any provision of this section is punishable upon conviction by a fine of up to two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) and/or up to five (5) days in jail as to each dog as to which such violation occurs.

POOLER

Sec. 14-41.1. - Tethering.

It shall be prohibited in the city to retain or confine dogs or cats in a manner achieved by stationary or non-stationary dog houses, barrels or other stationary object[s] as such means of confinement within the property.

SEMINOLE COUNTY

Sec. 10-32. - Tethering of animals.

(a)

It shall be unlawful to tether any animal on a chain, rope or cable, which is shorter than three times the length of the animal from the nose to the tip of the tail.

(b)

It shall be unlawful to tether an animal on a chain in which the weight of the chain would cause unreasonable pain or stress.

(c)

It shall be unlawful to attach a weight of any kind to any type of tether for the purpose of making the animal pull the weight.

PIKE COUNTY

§ 91.16 TETHERING OF ANIMALS

(1) It shall be unlawful to tether any animal on a chain, rope or cable, which is shorter than three times the length of the animal from the nose to the tip of the tail.

(2) It shall be unlawful to tether any animal on a chain in which the weight of the chain would cause unreasonable pain or stress.

(3) It shall be unlawful to attach a weight of any kind to any type of tether for the purpose of making the animal pull the weight, except in cases of utilizing or training sport and working dogs.

If the Animal Control Officer records any instances tethering while investigating other code cases relative to this Ordinance, these instances or violations are subject to a local warnings and citations independent of any other violations that may have occurred relative to this Ordinance.

Repeated tethering of animals can be considered a form of cruelty.

WARE COUNTY

Sec. 10-18. - Animal tethering and confinement.

(a)

It shall be unlawful to tether any animal on a chain, rope or cable, which is shorter than three times the length of the animal from the nose to the tip of the tail.

(b)

It shall be unlawful to tether an animal on a chain in which the weight of the chain would cause unreasonable pain or stress.

(c)

It shall be unlawful to attach a weight of any kind to any type of tether for the purpose of making the animal pull the weight.

(d)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF TETHER RESTRICTIONS OR TETHER BAN SECTIONS

Any animal that is confined must be provided appropriate care, sufficient quantities of good and wholesome food and water on a daily basis, kept in sanitary conditions, provided with sufficient room to stand up, turn around, and sit comfortably, proper air ventilation and quality of air, and protection from the elements and from excessive exposure to fleas, ticks, other harmful insects or external parasites.

(Res. of 12-12-2011)

TROUP COUNTY

Sec. 14-10. - Restraint of animals.

(a)

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this code section, unless otherwise specifically stated:

Leash or lead means a rope, chain, cord, strap or webbing, cable or similar device that is attached to an animal's collar or harness for purposes of restraining the animal and is held by or attached to a competent person.

Swivel means pivoting hardware that can be used in a trolley system to attach a cable run to a tether or a tether to an animal's collar or harness in order to minimize twisting and tangling of the tether.

Tether means a rope, chain, cord, strap or webbing, cable or similar device that is attached to an animal's collar or harness for purposes of restraining the animal.

Trolley system means a method of restraining an animal which utilizes a cable run, swivel and tether attached to an animal's collar or harness.

(b)

No animal may be restrained by tether in such a manner as to subject it to unreasonable pain, stress or risk of tangling and choking.

(c)

The only manner that any dog may be physically restrained outdoors, other than by leash or lead or fenced area, shall be by a trolley system in which the tether:

-1

Is attached to a properly fitting collar, which may not be a choke collar, pinch collar, prong collar or similar device, or harness worn by the dog; and

-2

Is ten feet in length or five times the length of the dog, measured from the tip of the dog's nose to the base of its tail, whichever is greater.

City of LAGRANGE - TROUP COUNTY

Sec. 10-30-31. - Tethering of dogs.

(a)

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this code section, unless otherwise specifically stated:

Proper enclosure means any structure or device used to restrict a dog to a limited amount of space such as a fenced area, electronic animal confinement system, building, house, pen, or other device or structure out of which a dog cannot climb, dig, jump, or otherwise escape. Proper enclosures must have an adequate space for exercise based on a dimension of at least one hundred (100) square feet per each dog that weighs fewer than twenty (20) pounds and two hundred (200) square feet per each dog that weighs more than twenty (20) pounds. Proper enclosures shall also contain appropriate shelter of sufficient size to allow each dog to stand up, turn around, and lie down.

Tethered, also known as direct point chaining, means a dog attached to a stationary object by a chain, cable or similar device commonly used for the size and type of dog involved.

Electronic animal confinement system shall mean a commercially produced, functioning electronic fence which utilizes an invisible electrically generated perimeter, in which the animal within the perimeter wears an electronic collar that produces an electric shock when the animal approaches or exceeds the perimeter.

(b)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF TETHER RESTRICTIONS OR TETHER BAN SECTIONS

It shall be the duty of every owner of a dog to ensure that the dog is securely and humanely enclosed within a proper enclosure as a means of primary restraint. Such enclosure must be securely locked at any time the dog is left unattended. When outside the proper enclosure but on the owner's property, it shall be the duty of every owner of a dog to ensure that the dog is humanely secured by a leash or lead and under the control of a responsible and competent person; or off leash but under the direct control of a responsible and competent person who is physically present with the dog, provided that such dog is obedient to that person's command.

(c)

Any dog that is housed outside of its owner's house shall be housed in a proper enclosure that complies with the provisions of this

(d)

Direct point chaining or tethering of a dog is prohibited.

(e)

As a secondary means of restraint to a proper enclosure, a dog may be attached to a running cable line or trolley system providing that:

-1

Only one (1) dog may be attached to each running cable line or trolley system;

-2

Tethers and cables attaching the dog to the running cable line or trolley system must be made of a substance which cannot be chewed through by the dog (chains are not allowed as tethering material) and shall not weigh more than five (5) percent of the weight of the dog tethered;

-3

A running cable line or trolley system must have a swivel installed at each end and be attached to a stationary object that cannot be moved by the dog;

-4

The running cable line or trolley system must be at least ten (10) feet in length and positioned at sufficient distance from any other objects to prohibit the tangling of the cable/lead line; must not extend over an object or an edge that could result in injury of strangulation of the dog; and must be of sufficient distance from any fence so as to prohibit the dog from access to the fence;

-5

The length of the lead line from the running cable line or trolley system to the dog's harness should allow access to the maximum available exercise area and allow the animal free access to food, water, and shelter. In no event shall the length of the lead line allow for access to less than the square footage required within a proper enclosure as defined in subsection (a) above;

-6

The lead line must be attached (but shall not be padlocked) to a properly fitted harness not used for the display of a current rabies tag and other identification. Collars are prohibited for the purposes of securing a dog to a running cable line or trolley

(f)

If an electronic animal confinement system is used to confine a dog, it shall provide a properly fitted and working signal device that will be worn by the dog to be enclosed.

SPALDING COUNTY

Sec. 12-1005. - Keeping of animals; restraint; nuisances; and sanitation.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for any owner or possessor of any animal to fail to keep the animal under restraint or control or allow the animal to roam at large as provided for in this section.

(b)

It shall be the duty of the owner of any animal to keep the animal under control at all times while the animal is off of the real property limits of the owner. For the purposes of this section, an animal is deemed under control when it is confined within a vehicle, parked or in motion, is secured by leash of six (6) feet or less in length, held by a competent person, is under voice command of a competent person being present with the animal, or is properly confined within an enclosure with permission of the owner of the property where the enclosure is located.

(c)

Acceptable methods of restraint for dogs kept within the real property limits of the owner, other than those classified as dangerous or vicious dogs, include:

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF TETHER RESTRICTIONS OR TETHER BAN SECTIONS

-1

It is securely and humanely enclosed within a house, building, fence, pen or other enclosure out of which it cannot climb, dig, jump, or otherwise escape on its own volition, at any time the animal is left unattended;

-2

It is securely and humanely restrained by an invisible containment system. If using an invisible containment system, a sign must be posted on the property indicating that the system is in place;

-3

It is securely and humanely attached to a cable line or trolley/runner system:

a.

A cable line or trolley system must be attached to a stationary object that cannot be moved by the animal. The cable or trolley system must be at least ten (10) feet in length, and shall not allow the animal to come within five (5) feet of the edge of the property line of the property upon which such animal is tethered;

b.

Tethers attaching to the animal to the cable line or trolley system must be made of a substance which cannot be chewed by the animal and shall not weigh more than five (5) percent of the body weight of the animal;

c.

The tether attaching to the animal to the cable line or trolley system must have a swivel installed at each end;

d.

The tether must be at least ten (10) feet in length and mounted to the cable line or trolley system no more than seven (7) feet above the ground level;

e.

The length of the tether from the running cable line or trolley system to the animal's collar should allow access to the maximum available exercise area and allow the animal free access to adequate food, water, and shelter at all times;

f.

The animal must be attached to the tether by a properly fitted harness or collar with enough room between the collar and the animal's throat through which two (2) fingers may fit. Choke collars and pinch collars are prohibited for the purpose of tethering an animal to a cable line or trolley system;

g.

The trolley/runner system must be a sufficient distance from any other objects or animals to prohibit the tangling of the cable, to prohibit the cable from extending over an object or an edge that could result in injury or strangulation of the animal and be of sufficient distance from any fence so as to prohibit the animal from having access to the fence.

(d)

Except for temporary tethering during special events/occurrences, it shall be unlawful to tether an animal outdoors using a rope, wire, or chain attached to a stationary object.

(e)

Animals are not allowed in county owned buildings unless otherwise posted. This provision does not apply to service animals.

(f)

It shall be the duty of any person having custody of any animal in county parks, on county owned nature or walking trails, or on any other county owned property to keep such animal on a leash, six (6) feet in length or less; unless otherwise posted.

(g)

It shall be unlawful for any person having custody of any animal to allow the animal to enter or come within fifty (50) feet of concession or seating areas during and thirty (30) minutes prior to or after a sporting event on county owned property. This provision does not apply to service animals.

(h)

It shall be unlawful to allow a domesticated animal within twenty (20) feet of the boundary of athletic fields during and thirty (30) minutes prior to and after a sporting event on county owned property. This provision does not apply to service animals.

(i)

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Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF TETHER RESTRICTIONS OR TETHER BAN SECTIONS

It shall be the duty of any person having possession, custody or control of any animal, restrained or unrestrained, to immediately remove excrement deposited by the animal on any public right-of-way (street, sidewalk, or parkway between the street and sidewalk), on any public property, such as a municipal or county park, and from private property not belonging to the animal's owner or keeper. Such person shall have in their possession, while controlling their animal, a device or equipment for pick up and removal of the animal excrement and its proper disposal in a sanitary manner. Failure to pick up and remove animal excrement deposited off the owner or keeper's private property shall constitute a violation of this section which, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine for each violation. (Judge sets the fines.)

(j)

Any outside enclosure used for the keeping of domesticated animals shall be well-drained, free from accumulation of animal excrement and objectionable odors, and otherwise maintained in a clean and sanitary condition at all times. All dogs which are housed and enclosed within the enclosure shall be provided a source of potable water and adequate food at all times. The enclosure shall be constructed in such a manner as to afford suitable shelter for the dog from the elements during inclement weather; enclosures shall be designed and constructed to afford the domesticated animal(s) ample room to exercise, depending upon the

-1

Every enclosure for the keeping of less than five (5) dogs, ninety (90) days old or more, shall be located no closer than twenty (20) feet from a property boundary or fifty (50) feet from any dwelling unit on adjoining property, whichever is greater, unless the adjoining property owner gives written consent to a variance from this standard.

-2

Any enclosure for the noncommercial keeping of five (5) or more dogs, ninety (90) days old or more, on a property zoned or occupied for residential purposes shall be located not less than one hundred (100) feet from the nearest property boundary; there shall be no variance granted from this standard.

-3

Noncommercial enclosures for the keeping of five (5) or more dogs may only be permitted in residential zones by special use permit, in accordance with the zoning ordinance.

-4

Animals less than ninety (90) days old shall be confined to the owner's premises and not allowed to run at large, except when accompanied by the owner or person of responsible age.

(k)

It shall be the duty of the owner, keeper, or harbinger of any animal within the county to keep it from becoming a nuisance, from endangering or injuring any persons or property, or from creating a disturbance to the peace, tranquility and enjoyment of neighboring property owners.

(Ord. No. 2018-03, 3-19-18)

BUTTS COUNTY

Sec. 10-47. - Tethering.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog or anyone having a dog in his possession and control to restrain or anchor a dog for an excessive amount of time to a stationary object by means of a tether, chain cable, rope or cord. Employees of the animal control division maintain the right to interpret and enforce this section.

(b)

As a secondary means of restraint to a proper enclosure, a dog may be attached to a running cable line or trolley system providing

-1

Only one dog may be attached to each running cable line or trolley system;

-2

Tethers and cables attaching the dog to the running cable line or trolley system must be made of a substance which cannot be chewed by the dog and shall not weigh more than five percent of the body weight of the dog tethered;

-3

A running cable line or trolley system must have a swivel installed at each end and be attached to a stationary object that cannot be moved by the dog;

-4

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Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF TETHER RESTRICTIONS OR TETHER BAN SECTIONS

The running cable line or trolley system must be at least ten feet in length and mounted at least four feet and no more than seven feet above ground level;

-5

The length of the tether from the running cable line or trolley system to the dog's collar should allow access to the maximum available exercise area and allow the dog free access to food, water and shelter;

-6

Be attached to a properly fitted harness or collar not used for the display of a current rabies tag and other identification; and with enough room between the collar and the dog's throat through which two fingers may fit. Choke collars and pinch collars are prohibited for the purpose of tethering a dog to a running cable line or trolley system; and

-7

Be tethered at sufficient distance from any other objects to prohibit the tangling of the cable, from extending over an object or an edge that could result in injury or strangulation of the dog and be of sufficient distance from any fence so as to prohibit the dog access to the fence.

FORSYTH COUNTY

Sec. 14-32. - Duty to keep animal under restraint while on property—No tethering of dogs as primary means of restraint.

(a)

It shall be the duty of every owner of any animal to ensure that it is confined by way of a fence, restraint, or other enclosure including activated invisible fence or in some other physical manner under the control of a competent person so that it cannot wander off the real property limits of the owner, it being the intent of this article that all animals be prevented from leaving, while unattended, the real property limits of their owners.

(b)

The above requirement notwithstanding, it shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog to utilize a tether, chain, cable, rope, or cord as the primary method of restraining a dog, it being the intent of this section that tethering a dog shall be used only as a temporary restraint mechanism. In no event shall a dog be restrained by a tether, chain, cable, rope, or cord when the dog is not in the physical presence of and attended by the owner or adult custodian. The prohibition in this subparagraph shall have no application if the dog is in a park or recreational area where the rules of said park or recreational area require the tethering or physical restraint of dogs. Any tether used to temporarily confine a dog while attended by its owner or custodian must be attached to a properly fitted collar or harness and shall not be wrapped directly around the dog's neck, except that veterinarians, employees of the county's animal shelter, and professional dog handlers, trainers, and groomers may temporarily restrain a dog by a collar affixed around the neck if required as part of the commercial service being provided. Any such tether shall not be excessively heavy or weighted so as to inhibit the dog's movement. It shall be prima facie evidence that a tether is impermissibly heavy if the weight of a dog's tether exceeds ten percent of its body weight.

(c)

For purposes of this section 14-32, a dog handler shall be considered a person who, for compensation, trains, conditions, and shows dogs in competition.

(Ord. No. 11, § 11-4, 3-11-2002; Ord. No. 11-A, § 2, 8-6-2009; Ord. No. 11-G, § 1(Exh. A), 2-1-2018)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF "MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ANIMALS PER HOUSEHOLD" LANGUAGE

BARTOW

Sec. 14-17. - Maximum number of animals permitted.

(a)

Larger than one acre but equal to or less than two acres. On any residential property that is larger than one acre, but equal to or less than two acres, regardless of the designated zoning of said property, it shall be unlawful to possess or keep more than six dogs.

Equal to or less than one acre. On any residential property that is equal to or less than one acre, it shall be unlawful to possess or keep more than three dogs.

Multi-family units. For any dwelling unit in a multi-family development (e.g., apartment, condominium, townhome, mobile home parks, duplex, triplex, quadraplex or similar), it shall be unlawful to possess or keep more than three dogs. The overall acreage of the development or property shall not control.

(b) Cats. The following restrictions apply to the maximum number of cats that may be kept on any residential property, based on the area of the lot. Other applicable regulations, including the Bartow County Zoning Ordinance, shall still apply and should be consulted for restrictions on location of shelters and enclosures and other restrictions.

Larger than two acres. On any residential property that is larger than two acres, there shall be no restriction on the number of cats permitted provided other provisions of this chapter are obeyed.

Equal to or less than two acres. On any residential property that is equal to or less than two acres, it shall be unlawful to possess or keep more than six cats.

Multi-family units. For any dwelling unit in a multi-family development (e.g., apartment, condominium, townhome, mobile home parks, duplex, triplex, quadraplex or similar), it shall be unlawful to possess or keep more than six cats. The overall acreage of the development or property shall not control.

(c)

Other provisions. The limits on dogs and cats are independent. For example, a 1.5-acre parcel would allow up to six dogs and up to six cats. For litters of offspring, see section 14-18.

(d)

Livestock. The following restrictions apply to the maximum number of livestock animals that may be kept on any property based on the area of the lot. Other applicable regulations, including the Bartow County Zoning Ordinance (Appendix A to the Code of Bartow County), shall still apply and should be consulted for restrictions on location of shelters and enclosures and other restrictions. Nothing in these provisions shall authorize keeping of livestock in zoning districts where livestock are not permitted.

Larger than ten acres. On any property that is larger than ten acres, there are no restrictions in this chapter as to the number of livestock that may be kept. Other applicable provisions as to type, adequate shelter, humane care, and so forth must be obeyed. Furthermore, the

Larger than two acres but equal to or less than ten acres. On property that is larger than two acres but equal to or less than ten acres, limited numbers of livestock animals are permitted. No more than eight livestock animals total shall be permitted on property in this size range or no more than 20 chickens; if both chickens and other livestock animals are kept, no more than eight animals total shall be permitted. Further, either a single chicken coop, or a single minor livestock enclosure for up to eight animals, may be erected for housing livestock, but not both.

Equal to or less than two acres. On any property that is equal to or less than two acres, it shall be unlawful to possess or keep any livestock.

(e)

Definitions. For purposes of this section, "residential property" shall mean any property zoned to a residential classification under the Bartow County Zoning Ordinance, Appendix A to the Code of Bartow County, or any property containing or authorized to contain residential dwelling units (single or multi-family). "Possess or keep" shall mean owning, maintaining or raising, or otherwise keeping such animals on the premises.

MERIWETHER COUNTY

Sec. 4-20. - Number of dogs and cats per residential lot.

It shall be unlawful for there to be more than three (3) dogs and three (3) cats on any residential lot subject to the following exceptions:

Pet owners in compliance with any prior ordinance limiting the number of dogs and cats shall be allowed to continue to keep said number of animals:

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF "MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ANIMALS PER HOUSEHOLD" LANGUAGE

A litter of puppies or kittens will be permitted to remain on the owner's property for a period of twelve (12) weeks after their birth;

Residential lots of five (5) or more acres, lots zoned A-1 and RR are limited to five (5) dogs and five (5) cats;

Foster home operators ("foster home" means any place routinely or in the practice of providing temporary care for animals, except equine. A foster home must be under a written contract with a licensed animal shelter. A foster home will be considered an agent for the animal shelter, and not an animal shelter itself), kennels, or other individuals who have been granted a waiver under section 4-21.

Sec. 4-21. - Waiver to animal limitations.

(a)

Upon written application and upon review and approval based upon the criteria set forth below, the animal control board may grant a waiver of section 4-20. In order to grant a waiver, the board must find that:

- There are exceptional and extraordinary circumstances existing that a waiver should be granted; and
- Granting the waiver will not confer upon the applicant any special privileges that are denied to others; and
- The waiver will not be injurious to the neighborhood or to the general welfare of the neighborhood; and
- The waiver does not violate the Meriwether County Zoning Ordinance; and
- The applicant can demonstrate a special use or need to house animals in greater number than allowed under section 4-20. Examples of such special use or need include, but are not limited to, participation in a licensed animal rescue organization, use of animals for therapeutic or other purposes, and emergency care of pets owned by other persons.

(b)

The written application for waiver shall be accompanied by an application fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). The owner shall post a conspicuous sign large enough to be read from any public thoroughfare adjacent to the owner's property stating that a waiver of the animal limitation section of this chapter has been applied for and the date, time, and location of the hearing to be held on the application. The sign must be posted not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the hearing on the application.

City of Fitzgerald - Ben Hill County

Sec. 5-97. - Limitation on the number of dogs and cats.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for any person to own, harbor or keep more than four (4) dogs and cats of six (6) months of age or older, of which no more than two (2) of said animals shall be dogs, or three (3) of said animals shall be cats.

(b)

No person shall engage in the commercial business of breeding, buying, selling, trading, training, or boarding dogs or cats without having obtained approval and special permit from the city. The fee for such special permit, or any renewal thereof, shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

(c)

Any person engaging in the commercial business of breeding, buying, selling, trading, training, or boarding dogs or cats must adhere to the rules and regulations of the Georgia Animal Protection Act (O.C.G.A. Sections 4-11-1 et seq.), and the Department of Agriculture Registration, License, and Permit Act (O.C.G.A. Sections 2-5-1 et seq.).

SAVANNAH

Sec. 9-5039. - Limitation on cats and dogs.

(a)

No person who is the owner or custodian of any single family residence shall have greater than eight cats, unless all animals are permanently confined to the actual living space of the family residence. The owner or custodian in violation must also be in compliance with the provisions of this chapter. This prohibition shall not include any cat that has a litter less than four months of age which will be confined to the actual living space of the family residence.

(b)

No person who is the owner or custodian of any single family residence shall have greater than five dogs, unless all animals are permanently confined to the actual living space of the family residence. The owner or custodian in violation must also be in compliance with the provisions of this chapter. This prohibition shall not include any dog that has a litter less than four months of age which will be confined to the actual living space of the family residence.

(c)

Any cat or dog that resides in a residence but is allowed outside of said structure must be spayed or neutered.

(d)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF "MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ANIMALS PER HOUSEHOLD" LANGUAGE

Any cat or dog deemed a nuisance to adjacent property owners or animal services may be trapped and brought to animal services as an at large animal.

SEMINOLE COUNTY

Sec. 10-17. - Limiting number of animals.

(a)

With respect to all subdivisions (residential areas with six or more lots) located in the unincorporated area of Seminole County, there shall not be located upon any lot within such areas more than four animals (plus any offspring thereof less than six months of age) at any one time which are owned by one or more persons residing upon said lot. In addition, any animal residing at such location shall be maintained, except as otherwise permitted under the provisions of this chapter, at all times within a proper enclosure which shall be located no closer than ten feet from the nearest point of any property line. Any owner or occupier of any such premises who desires to keep or maintain more than four animals at such premises shall not be authorized to do so unless such owner or occupier obtains a kennel license as provided for under appropriate county ordinance.

(b)

The provisions of this section shall not apply to the following, nor shall such provisions apply to employees, agents and servants of the following while they are acting within the scope of their employment:

¹

Licensed veterinarians;

Animal shelters;

Any legitimate institution or agency of education, health or research; or

Any federal, state or local governmental entity, agency or instrumentality.

SPALDING COUNTY

Sec. 12-1006. - Maximum number of dogs and cats allowed without a kennel license.

(a)

Other than any state or county certified rescue group or organization, commercially licensed kennels, pet shops, veterinary clinics or hospitals, no person shall keep, harbor, or knowingly permit to remain on or about his premises or under his or her control more than four (4) dogs or cats or more than a combination of four (4) dogs and cats. Provided, however, that with a dealer's license issued by the Georgia Department of Agriculture, a person may exceed this limit for not more than six (6) months after the birth of a litter of puppies or kittens.

(b)

This section shall apply only to tracts of real property that are two (2) acres or less in size.

(c)

This section applies only to dogs or cats kept outside a residence.

City of Alma - BACON COUNTY

Sec. 10-17. - Number of dogs and cats limited.

(a)

Permitted number of dogs. No resident of the city may keep more than two dogs upon their residence at any one time; provided, however, this section shall not apply to puppies under the age of three months.

(b)

Housing authority properties. No dogs shall be permitted to be kept on any property owned by the housing authority of the city. This includes dogs inside or outside of any apartment or other residence.

(c)

Permitted number of cats. No resident of the city may keep more than two cats upon their residence at any one time; provided, however, this section shall not apply to kittens under the age of three months.

Sec. 9-5039. - Limitation on cats and dogs.

a. No person who is the owner or custodian of any single family residence shall have greater than eight cats, unless all animals are permanently confined to the actual living space of the family residence. The owner or custodian in violation must also be in compliance with the provisions of this chapter. This prohibition shall not include any cat that has a litter less than four months of age which will be confined to the actual living space of the family residence.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF "MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ANIMALS PER HOUSEHOLD" LANGUAGE

- b. No person who is the owner or custodian of any single family residence shall have greater than five dogs, unless all animals are permanently confined to the actual living space of the family residence. The owner or custodian in violation must also be in compliance with the provisions of this chapter. This prohibition shall not include any dog that has a litter less than four months of age which will be confined to the actual living space of the family residence.
- c. Any cat or dog that resides in a residence but is allowed outside of said structure must be spayed or neutered.
- d. Any cat or dog deemed a nuisance to adjacent property owners or animal services may be trapped and brought to animal services as an at large animal.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF BREEDING RESTRICTIONS LANGUAGE

BARROW

Sec. 14-37. - Backyard breeding.

In accordance with Georgia Department of Agriculture Rule 40-13-13-.07, no person shall be permitted to breed more than one litter in a 12-month period without proper licensing through the Georgia Department of Agriculture. Any person who applies for such licensing with the State of Georgia must also register as a small business with Barrow County.

CLAYTON

ec. 14-117. - Maximum number of pets allowed without a kennel license.

Other than licensed kennels, pet shops, veterinary clinics or hospitals, no person shall keep or harbor or knowingly permit to remain on or about his or her premises or under his or her control more than five dogs or cats or more than a combination of five dogs and cats. Provided however, that with a breeding permit issued by the county's animal control unit, a person may exceed this limit for not more than four months after the birth of a litter of puppies or kittens.

Sec. 14-118. - Breeding of dogs and cats, permit required.

(a)

The board of commissioners deems it in the best interest of the county to encourage pet owners to spay and neuter their pets to control the production of unwanted animals, to encourage the adoption of available animals from the county's kennel and to promote the health and wellbeing of our citizens and their pets.

(b)

It is unlawful and a violation of this section for a pet owner to allow by omission or commission their pet dog or cat to become pregnant without first securing a breeding permit from the county's animal control unit.

(c)

The animal control unit shall issue a breeding permit at the request of the pet owner. The first permit issued in a calendar year to the owner or for a particular animal shall cost \$25.00. A second permit issued in a calendar year to the owner or for a particular animal shall cost \$50.00. A third permit issued in a calendar year shall cost \$100.00 and be prima facie proof that the requester is operating as a professional breeder and will require a county business license and a professional breeder permit issued by the county's animal control unit.

(d)

The breeding permit shall name the owner, owners address, name of the female pet and the female pet's registration number and female and male pets breed. The breeding permit will authorize the pet owner to exceed the five pet maximum for no more than four months after the birth of the litter. The permit shall expire six months after the date of issue.

(e)

A professional breeder permit shall be issued to any person who has obtained a county business license to operate as an animal breeder. The annual permit fee shall be \$100.00. The professional breeder must obtain a kennel license from the animal control.

(f)

The pet owner must comply with all state laws regulating animal breeding.

(g)

Other than an animal establishment, humane society, commercial kennel, animal shelter, or animal breeder licensed by the county or state, it shall be unlawful for any person or entity to have for sale within this county any dog, puppy, cat or kitten without having first obtained a breeding permit from the animal control unit.

LAURENS COUNTY

Sec. 6-45. - Backyard breeders.

It shall be unlawful for any person who does not hold a license from the state department of agriculture pursuant to the Licensees Regulation 40-13-13-.02, as amended, to operate as an animal shelter, kennel, breeding establishment, cattery, grooming shop, pet breeder, or pet dealer.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF BREEDING RESTRICTIONS LANGUAGE

BARTOW COUNTY

under "Definitions":

Pet dealer means any person who sells, offers to sell, exchanges, or offers for adoption any of the following animals: dogs, cats, birds, fish, reptiles or other animals customarily obtained as pets in this state. A person who sells only animals that he has produced and raised, not to exceed one litter per household per year, shall not be considered a pet dealer; however, selling more than one litter, either from the same animal or different animals, in the same year shall make the seller a pet dealer. Operation of a veterinary hospital or clinic by a licensed veterinarian shall not make the veterinarian a pet dealer.

Pet dealing means acts such as selling, offering to sell, exchanging, or the offering for adoption of any of the following animals: dogs, cats, birds, fish, reptiles or other animals customarily obtained as pets in this state. Selling only animals that a person has produced and raised, not to exceed one litter per household per year, shall not be considered pet dealing; however, selling more than one litter, either from the same animal or different animals, in the same year shall constitute pet dealing.

Sec. 14-18. - Animal breeding; pet dealers.

(a)

Breeding restrictions. It shall be unlawful for any person to breed animals on non-agriculturally zoned property, except as specifically permitted in this chapter. However, it shall be permissible for any household to have one litter per year (total, not per animal). In instances where a new litter causes a violation of section 14-17, the new litter shall be exempt from the provisions of section 14-17 for up to 12 weeks from the date of birth. Any more than one litter per household per year shall make such person a pet dealer.

(b)

Livestock breeding restrictions. Persons breeding livestock shall comply with applicable state regulations and laws. Livestock shall not be bred on non-agriculturally zoned property, nor on any agricultural property under five acres in size.

(c)

Operations requiring licensing. It shall be unlawful for any person to act as a pet dealer or operate a kennel, stable or private animal shelter unless such person has a valid license issued by the Georgia Department of Agriculture, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 4-11-1 et seq., and applicable state regulations.

(d)

Care of operations. It shall be unlawful to fail to keep the pet dealership premises, breeding operation, animal shelter, kennel or stable in a good state of repair, in a clean and sanitary condition, adequately ventilated, or disinfected when needed.

(e)

Impoundment of animals from unlicensed operations. Animals kept by or at any unlicensed pet dealer, private animal shelter, stable, or kennel are subject to immediate impoundment, at the owner's expense.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

ARTICLE VI. - ANIMAL ESTABLISHMENTS

Sec. 5-60. - Permit required; term; removal; one per establishment; display.

(a)

No person shall operate an animal establishment without first obtaining a permit from the animal control department in compliance with this chapter, nor may any person operate an animal establishment in a manner in violation of any provision of this chapter.

(b)

The license period shall begin with the first day of the calendar year and shall run for one (1) year. Renewal application for permits shall be made thirty (30) days prior to and up to sixty (60) days after January first of each year. Application for a permit for a new establishment under the provisions of this chapter shall be made within sixty (60) days of the start of business or operation.

(c)

Every facility regulated by this article shall be considered a separate enterprise, requiring an individual permit (e.g., two (2) kennels at different locations but owned by the same person shall be considered as two (2) animal establishments).

(d)

Permits obtained in accordance with this article shall be displayed in a prominent location on the premises of the animal establishment.

(e)

It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, barter or gratuitously distribute any animal, fowl or reptile in a public place without a license or permit as set forth in this article. This prohibition shall include but shall not be limited to such distribution in commercial areas and along public roadways. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the gratuitous distribution of pets from private residential areas.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF BREEDING RESTRICTIONS LANGUAGE

Sec. 5-61. - Application procedure.

(a)

Each animal establishment shall annually file an application for permit with the animal control department within the time periods provided by this chapter, provided that all preexisting establishments shall have ninety (90) days from the effective date of this chapter to file such application.

(b)

The permit application shall be made on a form provided by and available from the animal control department.

(c)

Upon receipt of a completed application, the animal control department shall make an inspection of the facility to ensure that all animals are provided for in a humane manner and that the establishment is in compliance with all provisions of this chapter. The animal control department shall be permitted to make such inspection at any reasonable time during normal business hours.

(d)

The animal control department shall either issue or decline to issue a permit to the applicant. If a permit is not granted, it shall notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for denial.

(e)

Any animal establishment denied a permit may not reapply for a period of at least thirty (30) days. Each reapplication shall describe any previous denial or revocation.

(f)

If an applicant is shown to have withheld or falsified any material information on any application, the animal control department may refuse to issue or is entitled to revoke any permit.

Sec. 5-62. - Revocation of permits.

(a)

The animal control department may revoke any permit if the person holding the permit refuses or fails to comply with this chapter, or any other law or regulation governing the protection and keeping of animals, including refusal to allow inspection of the animal establishment as provided in this article.

(b)

Whenever a permit is revoked for cause, or pending any proceedings to contest such action, the animal control department shall have power of entry to inspect all premises where the animals are being kept and shall notify the owner in writing as to the period of time that reasonably shall be allowed for removal of animals from such premises and shall state the specific reasons for revocation. In the event any such owner shall fail to remove such animals as directed, the animal control department may impound such animals pursuant to the impoundment provisions of this chapter.

Sec. 5-63. - Compliance with Code.

(a)

An animal establishment shall not sell, trade or give away any dog or cat over three (3) months of age unless the dog or cat has been vaccinated as required by this chapter.

(b)

The animal control department shall be permitted to inspect any animal establishment and all animals and the premises where such animals are kept, other than those animal establishments exempted by section 5-66 hereof, at any reasonable time during normal business hours to ensure compliance with all provisions of this chapter.

(c)

Animal establishments exempted as provided in section 5-66 may be inspected by the animal control department upon receipt by the animal control department of a request to make inspection from any state and/or federal agencies which license and/or permit such establishments, which inspection may be made at any reasonable time during normal business hours to ensure compliance with all regulations pertaining thereto.

Sec. 5-64. - Standards for kennels.

All kennels shall, in addition to the other requirements of this chapter, comply with the minimum standards of this section. Failure to meet these standards shall be grounds for denial of a permit or revocation of a permit. Standards for kennels are as follows:

Enclosures must be provided which shall allow adequate protection against weather extremes. Floors of buildings, runs and walls shall be of an impervious material to permit proper cleaning and disinfecting.

Building temperature shall be maintained at a comfortable level. Adequate ventilation shall be maintained.

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EXAMPLES OF BREEDING RESTRICTIONS LANGUAGE

Each animal shall have sufficient space to stand up, lie down and turn around without touching the sides or top of cages.

Cages are to be of material and construction that permit cleaning and sanitizing.

Cage floors shall be of concrete, unless radiantly heated, and shall have a resting board or some type of bedding.

Runs shall provide an adequate exercise area and protection from the weather. Runs shall have an impervious surface.

All animal quarters and runs are to be kept clean, dry and in a sanitary condition.

The food shall be free from contamination, and shall be wholesome, palatable and of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to meet the normal daily requirements for the condition and size of the animal.

All animals shall have fresh water available at all times.

Sec. 5-65. - Standards for pet shops.

All pet shops, including pet shops operated in conjunction with another holding facility, shall in addition to the other requirements of this chapter comply with the minimum standards of this section. Failure to meet these standards shall be grounds for denial of a permit or revocation of a permit. Standards for pet shops are as follows:

-1

Water. There shall be available hot water at a minimum temperature of one hundred sixty (160) degrees for washing cages and disinfecting, and cold water easily accessible to all parts of the shop. Fresh water for consumption shall be available to all species of animals at all times. Containers are to be cleaned and disinfected each day.

-2

Room temperature. The room temperature of the shop shall be maintained at a level that is healthful for every species of animal kept in the shop.

-3

Cages and enclosures. All cages and enclosures are to be of a nonporous material for easy cleaning and disinfecting. Each cage must be of sufficient size that the animal will have room to stand, turn and stretch out to such animal's full length.

SAVANNAH

ec. 9-5021. - Breeder regulations.

(a)

Breeders of AKC, or similar registries as listed on the official website of animal services, registered animals must possess a business permit and comply with all state regulations. Any dog born that is not registered must be spayed or neutered as soon as medically possible as well as both parents, if possible. Any breeder of such animal who does not have AKC registration but has been intentionally a super breeder fee for failure to comply. In addition to the super breeder fee of \$250.00, the pet shall come into compliance within five days. Upon second conviction, the super breeder fee shall be \$1,000.00. If for any reason the animal is not capable of being spayed or neutered for a medically acceptable reason, the owner shall present proof of the same within five days of citation to the director of animal services.

(b)

Any non-registered animal in violation of this section must also be microchipped for identification purposes within the same five-day period and proof of the same must be presented to the director of animal services.

SPALDING COUNTY

Sec. 12-1007. - Unaltered animal permit.

(a)

Animal owners who wish to maintain an intact animal must apply for an unaltered animal permit with Spalding County, Georgia. Spalding County Animal Control will issue a permit if the owner complies with the requirements set forth in this article and pays the permit fee established by the board of commissioners. A certificate will be issued identifying the animal as a permitted unaltered animal and must be made available for inspection at all times.

(b)

Owners who apply for an unaltered animal permit must provide proof of rabies vaccination of the animal prior to issuance of the permit. An unaltered animal permit is valid for the same term as the rabies vaccination.

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Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF BREEDING RESTRICTIONS LANGUAGE

(c)

An unaltered animal tag will be provided to the owner of every unaltered animal. The owner of the unaltered animal is required to ensure that the unaltered animal tag is securely fastened to the animal's collar or harness at all times.

(d)

The cost of an animal permit shall be fixed by the board of commissioners.

Sec. 12-1010. - Animals in heat; restraint required.

It shall be a violation of this chapter for any owner, possessor, or custodian whose animal is in heat to permit or allow such animal to go upon or have access to the streets, roads, or public places of Spalding County, or allow such animal to run on the premises of another without permission and except to intentional breeding purposes, or allow such animal outside a proper enclosure.

The owner, possessor, or custodian of any animal whose animal is in heat shall confine such animal in a proper enclosure during the time such dog is in heat, regardless of location within the county.

LAURENS COUNTY

Sec. 6-6. - State license required for certain commercial animal establishments.

(a)

Definitions . The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Breeding establishment means any establishment where pets are bred and a fee or compensation is received for the breeding and maintenance of such pets, such as stud service.

Cattery means any establishment where a cat is maintained for breeding, boarding, training, holding, or similar purposes for a fee or compensation.

Grooming shop means any establishment, other than an animal shelter, where a person maintains a dog or cat for bathing, dipping, clipping, trimming, brushing, or similar care of the appearance for a fee or compensation.

Kennel means any establishment, other than an animal shelter, where dogs or cats are maintained for boarding, holding, training, or similar purposes for a fee or compensation. Similar purposes include, but are not limited to, activities of a breeding establishment, cattery, or grooming shop.

Pet breeder means a pet dealer who sells, offers to sell, exchanges, or offers for adoption only pets they have produced, except equine. This includes those produced for hobby, show purposes, breed improvement, or stock replacement.

Pet dealer means a person who sells, offers to sell, exchanges, or offers for adoption pets they have produced, bought, or otherwise obtained, except equine. Equine dealers require a livestock dealers license from the state department of agriculture.

(b)

License required. It is unlawful for any person to act as a pet dealer or operate an animal shelter, kennel, or stable unless such person has a valid license issued by the state commissioner of agriculture. Any person acting without a license in violation of this subsection.

Sec. 6-45. - Backyard breeders.

It shall be unlawful for any person who does not hold a license from the state department of agriculture pursuant to the Licensees Regulation 40-13-13-.02, as amended, to operate as an animal shelter, kennel, breeding establishment, cattery, grooming shop, pet breeder, or pet dealer.

HABERSHAM COUNTY

Sec. 10-45. - Breeding without a license.

(a)

No owner of an animal (whether one or more) shall have more than one litter **per household delivered during any 12-month period** unless said owner holds the required license from the Georgia Department of Agriculture and a valid business license.

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EXAMPLES OF PENALTIES & SENTENCING SECTIONS

BARTOW COUNTY

Sec. 14-123. - Violations and penalties; remedies.

(a)

Violations. It shall be a violation of this chapter to:

Fail to comply with any provision of this chapter;

Fail to comply with any lawful order of an animal control officer or law enforcement officer unless such order is lawfully stayed or reversed; or

Fail to pay costs imposed by the animal control officer unless payment thereof is lawfully stayed.

(b)

Multiple animals. When multiple animals are in violation of this chapter or are maintained in circumstances that violate this chapter, each animal shall constitute a separate violation, or in the alternative, a higher fine shall be imposed on the single violation. In addition, multiple violations on the same animal shall result in a higher fine.

(c)

Penalties. Any person violating the terms of this chapter, or rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, may be punished by civil penalty or by criminal citation and fine, not to exceed \$1,000.00. Separate offenses shall be deemed to be committed on each day during or on which a violation occurs or continues. Each animal shall constitute a separate offense, and each violation of a specific provision of this chapter shall constitute a separate offense.

(d)

Fines; minimum fine amounts. The following fines may be imposed pursuant to magistrate court criminal citation or superior court

Particular offense	Fine amounts		
	Level I	Level II	Level III
For violation of subsection 14-41(a) or section 14-43, inhumane care or cruelty	\$250.00	\$500.00	\$750.00
For violation of any other provision of this chapter (other than specifically discussed above)	\$150.00	\$300.00	\$450.00

Level I. Fines of Level I are the minimum required for the first violation of this chapter.

Level II. Fines of Level II are the minimum required for the second violation of this chapter, and they shall also be imposed when one animal is subject to two or more citations (e.g., a dog with no rabies tag, also running loose). Level II fines shall also be imposed when two or more animals are the subject of one citation (e.g., two dogs running loose).

Level III. Fines of Level III are the minimum required for the third or subsequent violation of this chapter. Level III fines shall be imposed when an animal is subject to aggravating circumstances, such as extreme cruelty.

Repeat citation. Level II and Level III fines shall be imposed when the same person is cited for further violations of any sort under this chapter, whether they be for the same offense or a different offense, or the same animal or different animals, provided they occur on a separate day.

(e)

Procedure; citations; civil actions. The animal control office may issue criminal citations to be heard in magistrate court with or without a prosecuting attorney as designated by the county attorney. The county attorney or other attorney as designated by the county may bring a civil action in superior court for civil fines, attorney's fees, injunctive relief to enjoin violations and prohibit future violations, and all other relief necessary to enforce this chapter, including mandamus or abatement of nuisance. The county shall be entitled to its attorney's fees for any successful action brought in superior court. Civil penalties may be imposed pursuant to citation issued by the animal control officer and heard in magistrate court with or without a prosecuting attorney.

(f)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF PENALTIES & SENTENCING SECTIONS

Restitution. Restitution for any injury inflicted on another by violation of this chapter may also be sought as relief and ordered by the magistrate or superior court, including recovery of costs incurred by the county for testing, housing, feeding and other costs.

(g)

Continuing civil penalty. In the event that an injunction or other equitable relief is instituted against a person under this chapter, and in addition to any finding of contempt by the superior court, the continued violation of the chapter shall result in the accrual of a civil penalty at the rate of at least \$250.00 per day so long as the violation continues. A higher rate may be imposed by the court.

(h)

Notice of felony issues. Under O.C.G.A. § 4-8-29(d), repeated violations of the dangerous dog provisions can constitute a felony. Such charges shall be referred to the district attorney.

(i)

Additional penalties. The magistrate court and superior court shall be authorized to impose additional penalties for violation of this chapter at its discretion, to include the following:

Confinement up to 60 days in the Bartow County Jail.

Training and/or pet education classes. The department shall maintain a list of approved training and/or pet education classes for obedience training and for education of pet owners. No training requirement costing more than \$250.00 shall be imposed.

Community service up to 240 hours.

For vicious animal convictions, the person may be required to relinquish control of the animal in question to animal control, and the animal will be dealt with in the discretion of the department.

HALL COUNTY

4.10.160. - Violations; penalty.

A.

Any person, firm, corporation, association or partnership violating any provision of this chapter as the same exists or as it may hereinafter be amended, or shall fail to do anything required by this chapter as the same exists or as it may hereafter be amended, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, amenable to the process of the magistrate or state court of Hall County, and upon conviction, shall be punished as provided in the Official Code of Hall County, Georgia § 1.50.020 for each violation in the discretion of the court. Each day such violation is committed or permitted to continue shall constitute a separate offense and shall be punishable as such hereunder.

B.

In addition to any other penalties allowed by law, the court, as a part of the sentence, may include conditions prohibiting the offender from owning, possessing, or having on the offender's premises any animal.

C.

A habitual violator or aggravated habitual violator shall be sentenced to at least a fine of twice the amount imposed on the defendant's last conviction for a violation of this chapter.

SEMINOLE COUNTY

Sec. 10-4. - Enforcement and penalties.

(a)

It shall be the duty of the animal control officer under the direction of the animal control department head to enforce this chapter.

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EXAMPLES OF PENALTIES & SENTENCING SECTIONS

(b)

Violations of the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed a misdemeanor. Upon conviction for the first offense, the court shall be authorized to impose a fine of up to \$1,000.00 per day for each day that such condition or violation shall exist. Upon conviction for a second or subsequent offenses within a twelve-month period, the court shall be authorized to impose a fine of up to \$1,000.00 per day for each day that such condition or violation shall exist. Appropriate actions and proceedings may be taken by law or in equity to prevent any violations of this chapter, to recover damages, and to restrain, correct or abate a violation; and these remedies shall be in addition to the other penalties described in this subsection.

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Sec. 10-27. - Enforcement and penalties for violation of chapter.

(a)

Any person violating this chapter may be issued a citation and summons to appear before a court of competent jurisdiction, and the offending animal may be immediately impounded by the marshal's office pending disposition of the citation by the court. Any person violating this chapter, may be deemed guilty of violating a county ordinance, and may be punished by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 and by imprisonment in the common jail of the county not to exceed six months, or both fine and imprisonment, in addition to the more stringent penalties that are provided for under state law for violations of this chapter.

(b)

Each act or omission in violation of this chapter shall constitute a separate offense. Each day that such violation continues to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

(c)

In addition to any other penalties allowed by law, the court, as part of any sentence, may do a combination of any of the following:

-1

Prohibit the offender from owning, possessing, or having on the offender's premises in Cherokee County any animal during the term of the sentence;

-2

Order that the animal be removed from the county;

-3

Order that the animal be surrendered to the county animal control facility;

-4

Order that the animal be humanely euthanized;

-5

Order restitution to the victim(s).

JACKSON COUNTY

Sec. 8-32. - Fees and costs.

(a)

It shall be the duty of the owner to pay all fees and costs incurred for services performed in connection with enforcement of this chapter.

(b)

The fees and costs established and collected under this chapter and pursuant to the state responsible dog ownership law are not penalties but are imposed for the sole purpose of defraying expenses borne by the county for animal control and welfare under this chapter and are subject to change at any time.

(c)

Fees. The fees with respect to all services performed in connection with enforcement of this chapter shall be set by the board of commissioners from time to time. A copy of such fee schedule shall be posted at county animal control headquarters and may be changed at any time and from time to time as determined by the board of commissioners.

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EXAMPLES OF PENALTIES & SENTENCING SECTIONS

(d)

Costs. In addition to the established fees provided by subsection (c) of this section, the owner shall be responsible for all veterinary and boarding costs incurred, including, but not limited to, the cost of treatment administered to the animal pursuant to this chapter.

(e)

Costs required to be paid in advance. When one or more domestic animals have been impounded as part of an investigation for a violation of this chapter and the anticipated veterinary and boarding costs exceed \$300.00, the owner shall be required to pay all anticipated costs within three business days of receiving notice of impoundment and an estimate of such costs. County animal control is authorized to enforce this paragraph by filing a petition in a court of competent civil jurisdiction pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 4-11-9.8 requesting a court order for the deposit of funds sufficient to secure payment of all anticipated costs in the registry of the court.

(f)

Waiver of fees and costs. All or part of the required costs and/or fees may be waived when, in the sole discretion of the animal control manager, the waiver will promote the just and efficient enforcement of this chapter.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Sec. 6-64. - Penalties for violations.

Any person convicted of a violation of this article shall, upon conviction, be punished as provided in section 1-8 of this Code, and/or perform public service work not to exceed 100 hours (work to be performed at the animal shelter), or any combination thereof. If such violation is continued each day's violation shall be a separate offense.

PAULDING

Sec. 14-8. - Penalties for violations.

Violators of this chapter (Chapter 14: Animals) shall be punished for a misdemeanor as follows:

- 1st violation resulting in a conviction, guilty plea, nolo contendere plea: a fine of not less than \$300.00 nor more than \$1,000.00, and, where deemed appropriate by the court, a period of incarceration not to exceed 60 days.
- 2nd violation resulting in a conviction, guilty plea, nolo contendere plea: a fine not less than \$500.00 nor more than \$1,000.00, and, where deemed appropriate by the court, a period of incarceration not to exceed 60 days.
- 3rd violation and all subsequent violations resulting in a conviction, guilty plea, nolo contendere plea: a fine of \$1,000.00, and, where deemed appropriate by the court, a period of incarceration not to exceed 60 days. Additional offenses shall be treated as third offenses.

No portion of the fine may be waived, stayed, deferred, withheld, suspended, substituted or otherwise excused or negated. Community service may be included in addition to any penalty, but not in lieu of the fine provided herein. Any violator shall be responsible for all court costs as determined by the court. If such violation is continued, each day's violation shall be a separate offense.

(Res. No. 18-22, § 1(Exh. A), 5-8-2018)

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EXAMPLES OF REPEAT OFFENDER PENALTIES LANGUAGE

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Sec. 10-55. - Limitation on ownership.

(a)

Any person who has been convicted of cruelty, neglect, abandonment or hoarding of an animal as provided in this chapter or has been required to or voluntarily relinquished ownership of such animal, may not own, possess, or have on his premises in Cherokee County any animal for one year from the date of conviction. A nolo contendere plea is considered a conviction for the purpose of this section.

Nothing in this section shall prohibit the court from imposing a greater length of time.

(b)

Any person who has been convicted of failure to keep an animal under restraint while on the owner's property as provided in this chapter and has been required to provide additional confinement requirements and has not complied with the court's order, may not be allowed to own a pet in their Cherokee County household for one year from the date of conviction.

BULLOCH COUNTY

Sec. 8-162. - Forfeiture of animals for repeated violations.

An animal seized by the county pursuant to the provisions of this chapter for the same violation of this article on two or more occasions during any 24-month period of time shall be conclusively deemed to have been abandoned and forfeited by the owner. Following seizure for the 2nd such violation within any 24-month period, any animal not destroyed pursuant to the provisions of this article may be delivered to the Statesboro/Bulloch Animal Shelter or other appropriate agency.

Sec. 8-163. - Forfeiture for inhumane treatment.

(a)

The owner of an animal seized pursuant to this article, or for violation of O.C.G.A. § 16-12-4, O.C.G.A. § 4-11-10 or any other statute, law or ordinance requiring humane treatment of animals, who shall plead guilty or nolo contendere to any such offense or who shall be found guilty of such offense shall be conclusively deemed to have abandoned and forfeited the animal. The animal thereafter may be delivered to the Statesboro/Bulloch Animal Shelter or other appropriate agency pursuant to the provisions of this article.

(b)

The failure of the owner or custodian of any animal which has been seized pursuant to the provisions of this article to strictly comply with any condition, limitation, prohibition or restriction imposed with respect to the animal by the court pursuant to the provisions of this article shall be conclusively deemed to effectuate the abandonment and forfeiture of the animal by the owner or any custodian and the animal shall be seized and thereafter may be delivered to the Statesboro/Bulloch Animal Shelter or other appropriate agency pursuant to the provisions of this article.

CITY OF COMMERCE - JACKSON COUNTY

Sec. 10-24. - Limitation on ownership.

(a)

Any person who has been convicted of cruelty, neglect, abandonment or hoarding of an animal as provided in this Code or has been required to or voluntarily relinquished ownership of such animal, may not own, possess, or have on his premises in the City of Commerce any animal for one year from the date of conviction. A nolo contendere plea is considered a conviction for the purpose of this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the court from imposing a greater length of time.

(b)

Any person who has been convicted of failure to keep an animal under restraint while on the owner's property as provided in this Code and has been required to provide additional confinement requirements and has not complied with the court's order, may not be allowed to own a pet in their City of Commerce household for one year from the date of conviction.

City or town of Alto - HABERSHAM COUNTY

Sec. 6-41. - Violations; penalties.

(a)

Any person violating this article may be issued a citation and summons to appear before a court of competent jurisdiction, and the offending animal may be immediately impounded by the animal control unit pending disposition of the citation by the court. Any person violating this article, may be deemed guilty of violating a town ordinance, and may be punished by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 and by imprisonment in the common jail of the town not to exceed six months, or both fine and imprisonment, in addition to the more stringent penalties that are provided for under state law for violations of this article.

EXAMPLES OF REPEAT OFFENDER PENALTIES LANGUAGE

(b)

Each act or omission in violation of this article shall constitute a separate offense. Each day that such violation continues to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

(c)

In addition to any other penalties allowed by law, the court, as part of any sentence, may do a combination of any of the following:

Prohibit the offender from owning, possessing, or having on the offender's premises in Alto any animal during the term of the

Order that the animal be removed from the town;

Order that the animal be surrendered to the county animal control facility;

Order that the animal be humanely euthanized;

Order restitution.

HALL COUNTY

4.10.220. - Limitation of ownership.

A.

Any person who has been convicted of a violation of Article III of this chapter or who is a habitual violator under the provisions of this chapter shall not own, possess, or have on his premises with him any animal for one year from the date of conviction without a written waiver from the Hall County Animal Services Director. A nolo contendere plea is considered a conviction for the purpose of this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the court from imposing a greater length of time as a part of any sentence imposed for a violation of this chapter.

B.

Any person who is an aggravated habitual violator under the provisions of this chapter shall not own, possess, or have on his premises with him any animal for three years from the date of conviction without a written waiver from the Hall County Animal Services Director. A nolo contendere plea is considered a conviction for the purpose of this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the court from imposing a greater length of time as a part of any sentence imposed for a violation of this chapter.

BURKE COUNTY

Sec. 10-18. - Forfeiture of animals for repeated violations.

An animal seized by the county pursuant to the provisions of this chapter for the same violation of this article on three or more occasions during any 24-month period of time shall be conclusively deemed to have been abandoned and forfeited by the owner. Following seizure for the third such violation within any 24-month period, any animal not destroyed pursuant to the provisions of this article may be delivered to the Burke County Animal Shelter or other appropriate agency. The department of animal services will access each case and determine if the owner(s) are making an honest efforts to make the recommended correction and determine to appropriate actions needed on a case by case basis.

CAMDEN COUNTY

Sec. 14-87. Protective custody

Whenever the Camden County Animal Control Officer finds that any animal is or will be without proper care under any section of this ordinance, whether or not through the absence of the owner, the Camden County Animal Control Officer may impound such animal for protective care; and in the event the animal is injured or suffering, the Camden County Animal Control Officer may take such action as called for to prevent undue pain and suffering, including immediate euthanasia of the animal.

(a) Animals seized under this section will be housed at the species appropriate agency, or appropriate place designated by Camden County Animal Control, until disposition is determined in a court of law or by owner surrender to the Humane Society for disposal through adoption or euthanasia. An owner is responsible to maintain the cost of the animal(s) while they are being maintained in a seized state until such disposition is reached.

(1) Should an owner fail to pay the boarding fees for housing their animal(s), after 15 days the animal(s) will be considered abandoned and become the property of the Camden County Humane Society to be disposed of at the discretion of the Humane Society Executive Board and the Shelter Manager. (Referenced O.C.G.A. § 17-5-54 (a) (4))

(b) Persons convicted of animal cruelty under the provisions of this ordinance shall upon a first conviction be prohibited from owning animals for a period of one year; upon a subsequent conviction said person shall be prohibited from owning animals for a period of five years within Camden County.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF REPEAT OFFENDER PENALTIES LANGUAGE

City of Warner Robbins - HOUSTON COUNTY

Sec. 5-23. - Limiting ownership.

Any person convicted of cruelty, neglect or abandonment of an animal shall not be allowed to adopt an animal from an animal shelter or rescue for at least three (3) years after the date of conviction, without written waiver from the city council or county commissioners; and

Any person who has been convicted of cruelty, neglect or abandonment of an animal as provided in this Code and has been required to or voluntarily relinquished ownership of said animal, shall not be allowed to own a pet in their household for at least three (3) years from the date of conviction; and any person who has been convicted of failure to keep an animal under restraint while on owner's property as provided in this Code and has been required to provide additional confinement requirements and has not complied with the court's order, shall not be allowed to own a pet in their household for at least three (3) years from the date of conviction.

HOUSTON COUNTY

Sec. 10-23. - Limiting ownership.

(a)

Any person convicted of cruelty, neglect or abandonment of animal shall not be allowed to adopt an animal from an animal shelter or rescue for at least three years after the date of conviction, without written waiver from the county commissioners; and

(b)

Any person who has been convicted of cruelty, neglect or abandonment of animal as provided in this Code and has been required to or voluntarily relinquished ownership of said animal, shall not be allowed to own a pet in their household for at least three years from the date of conviction; and

(c)

Any person who has been convicted of failure to keep animal under restraint while on owner's property as provided in this Code and has been required to provide additional confinement requirements and had not complied with the court's order, shall not be allowed to own a pet in their household for at least three years from the date of conviction.

WALKER COUNTY

Sec. 10-85. - Return of animal to owner.

- (a) *Return of animals at large.* If the name of the owner of an animal found at large is known or can be obtained with reasonable dispatch, and there are no other violations of this chapter, the animal control officer shall return the animal to the residential address of the owner. If there is no one present, the officer shall impound the animal and leave written notice of whom the owner must contact to reclaim the animal. The owner shall be cited for violation of this chapter.
- (b) *Return of animals with violations.* If an animal is impounded for a violation, and the procedure for return is not otherwise specified in this chapter or a hearing is not otherwise requested or required, the animal shall be returned once all fees for the violation and impoundment are paid and the conditions necessitating the impoundment have been cured or corrected, if applicable.
- (c) *Impoundment fees.* An owner reclaiming an impounded animal shall pay such fees as the animal control director may impose for impoundment, boarding and veterinary care if impounded at the shelter (or the actual costs of impoundment if impounded off-site).
- (d) *Second impoundment.* An owner reclaiming an impounded animal for a second impoundment within one year shall pay an impoundment fee double the amount of the fee charged for the first impoundment, plus such fees as the animal control director may impose for boarding and veterinary care (or the actual costs of impoundment if impounded off-site).
- (e) *Third and subsequent impoundment.* An owner reclaiming an impounded animal for a third or subsequent impoundment within one year shall pay an impoundment fee quadruple the amount of the fee charged for the first impoundment, plus such fees as the animal control director may impose for boarding and veterinary care (or the actual costs of impoundment if impounded off-site). If an animal is impounded for third time, the animal control director may withhold reclamation of the animal.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF RIGHT OF ENTRY LANGUAGE

City of SYLVESTER - WORTH COUNTY

Sec. 18-3. - Rights of officials to enter premises.

(a)

Whenever an animal control officer, a representative from the Worth County Health Department or its authorized representative, any law enforcement officer, or other city or county official has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in any building or upon any premises any violation of the provisions of this chapter or other applicable law, or whenever it is necessary for such official to make an inspection to enforce any provisions or perform any duty imposed by this chapter or any other applicable law, such person shall have the right to enter such property at any reasonable time to inspect and perform any duty imposed by this chapter or another applicable law; provided, that:

If such property be occupied, such person entering shall first present proper credentials to the occupant and request entry explaining the reason therefor; and

If such property be unoccupied, such person entering shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or the person having charge or control of the property and request entry, explaining the reason therefor; and

If such entry is refused or cannot be obtained because the owner or other person having charge or control of the property cannot be found after due diligence, recourse shall be had to every remedy provided by law to secure lawful entry and inspection of the property.

(b)

Nothing in this section shall affect or otherwise abridge the right of any animal control officer to pursue or impound an animal or to issue a citation when an animal is on property other than that of the owner of the animal or that of a person who has a right to control such animal.

Sec. 18-4. - Rights of officials for emergency entry.

If an animal control officer, health department representative, any law enforcement officer, or other city or county official has reasonable cause to believe that the keeping or maintaining of any animal is so hazardous, unsafe, or dangerous as to require immediate inspection to save the animal or protect the public health or safety, such person shall have the right to immediately enter and inspect such property and may use reasonable means required to effect such entry and make inspection whether such property be occupied or unoccupied and whether or not permission to inspect has been obtained. If the property be occupied, such person shall first present proper credentials to the occupant and demand entry, explaining the reasons therefor and the purpose of the inspection. Failure or refusal to permit inspection hereunder shall constitute a misdemeanor.

City of Fitzgerald - Ben Hill County

Sec. 5-36. - Right of officials to enter premises.

(a)

Whenever an animal control officer, any law enforcement officer, representative from local humane society, or other city official has reasonable cause to believe that there exists, in any building or upon any premises, a violation of the provisions of this chapter or other applicable law, or whenever it is necessary for such official to make an inspection to enforce any provisions or perform any duty imposed by this chapter or any other applicable law, such person shall have the right to enter such property at any reasonable time to inspect and perform any duty imposed by this chapter or another applicable law; provided that:

If such property is occupied, such person entering shall first present proper credentials to the occupant and request entry, explaining the reason therefor;

If such property be unoccupied, such person entering shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or the person having charge or control of the property and request entry, explaining the reason therefor; and

If such entry is refused or cannot be obtained because the owner or other person having charge or control of the property cannot be found after due diligence, recourse shall be had to every remedy provided by law to secure lawful entry and inspection of the property.

(b)

Nothing in this section shall affect or otherwise abridge the right of any animal control officer to pursue or impound an animal or to issue a citation when an animal is on property other than that of the owner of the animal or that of a person who has a right to control such animal.

Sec. 5-37. - Emergency entry.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF RIGHT OF ENTRY LANGUAGE

If an animal control officer, any law enforcement officer, representative with local humane society, or other city official has reasonable cause to believe that the keeping or maintaining of any animal is so hazardous, unsafe, or dangerous as to require immediate inspection to save the animal or protect the public health and safety, such person shall have the right to immediately enter and inspect such property and may use reasonable means required to effect such entry and make inspection whether such property is occupied or unoccupied and whether or not permission to inspect has been obtained. If the property is occupied, such person shall first present proper credentials to the occupant and demand entry, explaining the reasons therefor and the purpose of the inspection. Failure or refusal to permit inspection under this section shall constitute a misdemeanor.

SEMINOLE COUNTY

Sec. 10-6. - Rights of officials to enter premises.

(a)

Whenever an animal control officer, a representative from the health department, or their authorized representative, any law enforcement officer, or other county official has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in any building or upon any premises any violation of the provisions of this chapter or other applicable law, or whenever it is necessary for such official to make an inspection to enforce any provision or perform any duty imposed by this chapter or any other applicable law, he shall have the right to enter such property at any reasonable time to inspect and perform any duty imposed by this chapter or other applicable law: provided. that:

-1

If such property is occupied, he shall first present proper credentials to the occupant and request entry explaining his reasons;

-2

If such property is unoccupied, he shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or the person having charge or control of the property and request entry, explaining his reasons; and

-3

If such entry is refused or cannot be obtained because the owner or other person having charge or control of the property cannot be found after due diligence, recourse shall be had to every remedy provided by law to secure lawful entry and inspection of the property.

(b)

Nothing in this section shall affect or otherwise abridge the right of any animal control officer to pursue or impound an animal or to issue a citation when an animal is on property other than that of the owner of the animal or that of a person who has a right to control such animal.

Sec. 10-7. - Rights of officials for emergency entry.

If an animal control officer, health department representative, any law enforcement officer, or other county official has reasonable cause to believe that the keeping or maintaining of any animal is so hazardous, unsafe or dangerous as to require immediate inspection to save the animal or protect the public health or safety, he shall have the right to immediately enter and inspect such property, and may use reasonable means required to effect such entry and make inspection whether such property is occupied or unoccupied and whether or not permission to inspect has been obtained. If the property is occupied, he shall first present proper credentials to the occupant and demand entry, explaining his reasons and the purpose of the inspection. Failure or refusal to permit inspection shall constitute a misdemeanor.

WARE COUNTY

Sec. 10-6. - Rights of officials to enter premises.

(a)

Whenever an animal services officer, a representative from the health department, or their authorized representative, any law enforcement officer, or other county official has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in any building or upon any premises any violation of the provisions of this chapter or other applicable law, or whenever it is necessary for such official to make an inspection to enforce any provision or perform any duty imposed by this chapter or any other applicable law, he shall have the right to enter such property at any reasonable time to inspect and perform any duty imposed by this chapter or other applicable law; provided, that:

-1

If such property is occupied, he shall first present proper credentials to the occupant and request entry explaining his reasons;

-2

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF RIGHT OF ENTRY LANGUAGE

If such property is unoccupied, he shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or the person having charge or control of the property and request entry, explaining his reasons; and

-3

If such entry is refused or cannot be obtained because the owner or other person having charge or control of the property cannot be found after due diligence, recourse shall be had to every remedy provided by law to secure lawful entry and inspection of the property.

(b)

Nothing in this section shall affect or otherwise abridge the right of any animal services officer to pursue or impound an animal or to issue a citation when an animal is on property other than that of the owner of the animal or that of a person who has a right to control such animal.

City of Monroe - WALTON COUNTY

Sec. 10-6. - Enforcement.

(a)

Primary enforcement responsibility . The primary responsibility for enforcement of this chapter shall be vested in the animal control unit.

-1

The animal control unit shall consist of animal control officers, the number and identity of which shall be designated by the Board of Commissioners of Walton County.

-2

These officers shall be vested with the authority to issue citations for violation of this chapter.

-3

The officers comprising the animal control unit may also call upon any law enforcement officer as may be necessary for the enforcement of this chapter.

(b)

Issuance of citations . Upon information known to any officer or member of the animal control unit, or the city police department, that any owner or possessor of a domesticated animal is in violation of this chapter, a citation may be issued requiring the owner or possessor of such domesticated animal to appear before the judge of the municipal court of the city on a day and time certain to stand trial for the violation of this chapter.

(c)

Right of officer to defend himself in performance of duty . In the performance of his duties pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, any animal control officer or any law enforcement officer assisting in enforcing this chapter may use such force as is necessary to defend themselves from attack by an animal; provided, however, that all efforts shall be made to impound an attack animal without undue harm, injury or danger to the animal, the officer, or to any other persons and property.

(d)

Right of entry . Any animal control officer or other authorized officer is hereby authorized to enter upon any property for the purpose of investigating alleged violations of this chapter, or to seize and impound any animal found to be in violation of this chapter. The animal control unit may use any appropriate means necessary to remove an animal in distress locked in a closed vehicle.

(e)

Testimony of witnesses . If a violation of this chapter has not been witnessed by an officer of the animal control unit or other employee of Walton County or the city, a subpoena shall be issued to the person possessing sufficient evidence of a violation requiring such person to appear on the day and time set to testify on behalf of the city.

(f)

Impoundment of animals . Animals within any of the following classes may be impounded by the animal control unit:

-1

Animals at large in violation of this chapter;

-2

Animals that have been abandoned;

-3

Animals subjected to inhumane treatment in violation of section 10-19;

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF RIGHT OF ENTRY LANGUAGE

- 4
Animals which have bitten a person or animal or which have been bitten by an animal suspected of having rabies;
- 5
Animals not wearing current vaccination tags;
- 6
Animals suspected of having rabies; and
- 7
Unconfined dogs in quarantine areas.

PAULDING COUNTY

Sec. 14-5. - Right of entry.

- (a)
The animal control officers, sheriff's deputies and other enforcement officers of the county are hereby authorized to enter upon any premises or parcel of land for the purpose of seizing and impounding any animal found therein or thereon to be in violation of this chapter, including, but not limited to, an animal that has bitten a person within ten days of the biting incident.
- (b)
An animal control officer or law enforcement officer may use any force necessary to remove any animal locked in a closed vehicle or trailer if the animal exhibits distress, including, but not limited to, lethargic behavior, excessive panting or drooling, seizures, state of unconsciousness, or hyperactivity. If the vehicle is damaged during such removal, the animal control officer or law enforcement officer shall not be liable for any damage to the vehicle.
- (c)
An animal control officer or law enforcement officer who is responding to the notification of abandoned animal may enter the property by reasonable means under the circumstances to remove or render aid to the abandoned animal.

LANIER COUNTY

Sec. 6-9. - Authority.

- (a)
It shall be the duty of the sheriff's department and the animal control services, to seize and impound, subject to the provisions of this chapter, all animals whether domesticated or undomesticated, found in violation of the provisions of this chapter within this county, whether the animal shall be in the immediate presence of its owner or custodian or otherwise.
- (b)
The county animal control officer shall have the authority to issue summons for violations of ordinances pertaining to animals and said violations shall be prosecuted through the magistrate court of the county. Said fines for such violations shall be set by the county in accordance with state and federal law. Any person who is issued a summons, must appear in magistrate court. Failure to appear will result in a bench warrant being issued by the court.
- (c)
The county animal control officer shall have the right to prosecute all violators of state animal cruelty laws or those who are in violation of the state law (O.C.G.A. § 4-8-20) through the superior court of the county.

Sec. 6-10. - Right of entry.

- (a)
The officers and animal control services for the county are hereby authorized to enter upon any unfenced lot, tract or parcel of land for the purpose of seizing and impounding any animal found thereon in violation of this chapter.
- (b)
It shall be unlawful for any person to obstruct, interfere, or hinder an animal control officer or a dog control officer in the lawful discharge of his official duties pursuant to this chapter. Any person convicted of a violation of this Code shall be punished as provided in O.C.G.A. § 16-10-24(b).

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

HALL COUNTY

4.10.320. - Animal abuse—Food, exercise, space and air.

Any person who confines any animal shall be in violation of this chapter if the person:

- A.
Fails to supply it with adequate food and adequate water;
- B.
Keeps the animal in an enclosure without adequate space; or
- C.
Keeps the animal without wholesome exercise and change of air.
- D.
It shall be unlawful for the owner of a canine or one who has a canine in his possession to restrain or leave unattended by means of anchoring with a chain, cable, rope, leash, runner, cord or similar tethering device.

4.10.330. - Animal abuse—Shelter and sanitation.

- A.
Any owner, custodian or possessor of any animal who fails to provide shelter of adequate size with at least a roof, a floor and three sides or an "igloo" type of structure for the animal it is intended for and sufficient to protect said animal from the elements shall be in violation of this chapter. Examples of inadequate shelter include, but are not limited to, lean-tos, metal or plastic drums, boxes, abandoned vehicles, porches, decks, or material that does not provide sufficient protection from the elements. All livestock maintained in pastures are exempt from this section.
- B.
Any owner, custodian or possessor of any animal who fails to maintain in a clean and sanitary condition and free from extreme and unreasonable objectionable odor all structures, pens, yards, and areas adjacent thereto wherein any animal is kept shall be in violation of this chapter. Unclean and unsanitary conditions shall include but not be limited to:

Crates, kennels and indoor premises where the animal is kept that are malodorous from more than a day's waste of urine and feces from said animal or whose floor of the container it is in is more than 25 percent covered in urine and feces; and

Premises where the animal is enclosed with garbage, trash outside of trash containers or sewage or effluent from human waste that can be reached by the animal.

in Definitions....

Necessary veterinary care means medical care of an animal from or under the direction of a licensed veterinarian and necessary to maintain the health of an animal based on the age, species, breed, etc., of the animal, or to prevent an animal from suffering from:

- 1
Ongoing infections;
- 2
Infestation of parasites;
- 3
Disease; or
- 4
Any other medical condition/injury where withholding or neglecting to provide such veterinary care would further endanger the health or welfare of the animal or promote the spread of communicable diseases.

BARROW COUNTY

Sec. 14-36. - Humane treatment of animals required; cleanliness of pens and yards.

- (a)
No person shall deprive an animal of adequate or humane care as defined in this chapter.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

- (b)
No person having an animal in his possession or control shall fail to provide such animal with sufficient food, water, shelter and adequate protection from the elements.
- (c)
No person shall beat, ill treat, torment, overload, overwork, or otherwise abuse an animal, or cause, instigate or permit combat between animals.
- (d)
It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly or willingly abandon or aid in the abandonment of any domestic animal within the unincorporated limits of the county. Any person violating this subsection shall be subject to punishment as provided in section 1-7.
- (e)
No person shall expose any known poisonous substance, whether mixed with food or not, so that such substance shall be liable to be eaten by any domesticated animal. It shall not be unlawful for a person to expose on his own property common rat and insect poisons. Any person violating any of the prohibitions set forth in this subsection shall be guilty of a county ordinance violation, amenable to the process of the magistrate court of the county, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$500.00 or by confinement in the county jail or correctional institution not to exceed 60 days. Fine or confinement, or both, is at the discretion of the court.
- (f)
Any animal control officer, or other officer empowered to act by law, may impound any animal found to be cruelly treated.
- (g)
It shall be the duty of the owner to maintain in a clean and sanitary condition and free from extreme or unreasonable objectionable odor all structures, pens, yards and areas adjacent thereto wherein any animal is kept.

BARTOW COUNTY

DIVISION 2. - PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE HUMANE CARE OF ANIMALS

Sec. 14-41. - Violations relating to caring for animals.

- (a)
Failure to provide humane care. It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of any animal to refuse or fail to provide such animal humane care.
- (b)
Animal suffering. It shall be unlawful for any owner or custodian of any animal to permit the animal to live in conditions that cause suffering to the animal, or to directly cause any suffering of an animal.
- (c)
Abandonment. It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of any animal to abandon such animal on any street, road, highway or public place, or on private property when not in the care of another person.
- (d)
Unattended animals. It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of any animal to leave such animal in any location unattended for longer than 24 hours. It shall be unlawful to keep or board animals on property that is not residentially occupied or is otherwise commercial property that is the location of an operating business, such that the property is visited daily during the week and at least once on the weekend.
- (e)
Accumulation of waste matter. It shall be unlawful for any owner or custodian of any animal to permit the accumulation of waste matter from animals to collect and remain on the property of the owner or custodian, or on the property of others so as to cause or create an unhealthy, unsanitary, dangerous or offensive living condition on the owner's or custodian's property, or to abutting property of others. It shall be unlawful to allow animal waste matter to run off into any river, stream, lake, pond or other watercourse in Bartow County, or to run off onto any other person's property.
- (f)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

Failure to provide adequate shelter. It shall be unlawful for any owner or custodian of any animal to fail to provide adequate shelter from the elements for that animal, as appropriate to the species. Providing adequate shelter requires providing sufficient food and water, disposing of waste, providing sufficient temperature control (whether heat, ventilation, or cooling) to prevent suffering by the animal, and not maintaining conditions conducive to disease and infection. In respect to dogs, adequate shelter means at least a dog house or shelter meeting the requirements of subsection 14-19(b). For example, tethering a dog outside during summer without shade or water would be a violation of this section, as well as potentially subsections 14-41(a) and (b).

(g)

Unsanitary, dangerous or offensive conditions. It shall be unlawful for any owner or custodian of any animal to permit or cause unsanitary, dangerous or offensive conditions by virtue of the size or number of animals maintained at a single location or due to the inadequacy of the facilities.

(h)

Rabies tag. Dogs and cats shall wear current, valid rabies tags attached to their collars at all times, except when removal is necessary for cleaning, grooming or other veterinary care. It shall be unlawful for any owner or custodian of a dog or cat to allow the animal to be outdoors without wearing a collar with a current rabies tag showing that the animal has been inoculated for rabies within one year of any such time as the rabies tag may be checked.

(i)

Proper disposal. It shall be unlawful for any owner or custodian of any animal to fail to properly dispose of that animal upon its death. Proper disposal means in a method provided by the Georgia Code at O.C.G.A. § 4-5-5, and includes burning, incineration, burial or rendering of the carcass within 24 hours after death or discovery. Dead animals that are buried must be buried at least three feet below the ground level, have not less than three feet of earth over the carcass, and must not contaminate ground water or surface water.

(j)

Separate violation per animal. Each animal kept in violation of this section shall count as a separate violation.

Sec. 14-42. - Sick, injured, or contagious animals.

(a)

Impoundment of sick or injured animals. In any situation deemed appropriate by the animal control officer involving a sick or injured animal whose owner cannot be located and the condition of such animal is such that death or great suffering to the animal is likely, the animal control officer may take custody of such animal and may secure veterinary services for such animal. The owner of such animal shall be responsible for reimbursement of all expenses related to treatment and boarding of the animal.

(b)

Destruction of sick or injured animals. Any sick or injured animal, deemed by a licensed veterinarian to be suffering to such an extent that the humane destruction of the animal is appropriate and the owner of the animal cannot be located, shall be humanely destroyed by the veterinarian in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 4-11-5.1.

(c)

Infected or contagious animals. Any animal impounded by the animal control officer that is, in the opinion of a licensed veterinarian, infected with a disease likely to cause death or great suffering to the animal, or which is a contagious disease, or which will likely spread to other animals, shall be isolated and the owner of such animal shall be notified. If the owner cannot be located or the owner fails to take immediate steps to remove the animal from impoundment, the infected animal shall be humanely destroyed in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 4-11-5.1.

(d)

Reimbursement. The owner of the animal shall be responsible for reimbursement to the county for all expenses involving the boarding, treatment and destruction of any such animal.

(e)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

Notification of bites. It shall be the duty of any person bitten by a wild or domestic animal to immediately notify the Bartow County Health Department and the Bartow County Animal Control Department. It shall be the duty of the owner, custodian, or any person having possession and knowledge of any animal which has bitten any person or animal, or of any animal which exhibits any signs of rabies, to notify the animal control department and the Bartow County Health Department and to confine such animal in accordance with this chapter.

(f)

Impoundment and quarantine. The animal control officer shall be authorized to impound and quarantine dogs that have been bitten by wild animals or bitten by dogs or cats that do not have current records of vaccination against rabies. Management of animals exposed to rabies shall be according to the procedures set forth in the Georgia Rabies Control Manual, latest edition, which is incorporated herein by reference as if set forth fully herein. The protocols for livestock, dogs, cats and ferrets possibly exposed to rabies, as well as the protocols for animal to animal exposure and human exposure shall be enforced as set forth in the Georgia Rabies Control Manual, latest edition. The animal control officer shall be authorized to take any and all steps set forth in said manual up to and including euthanizing and testing of animals.

(g)

Animals impounded for rabies quarantine. Animals impounded for rabies quarantine shall be isolated pursuant to the procedures of the Georgia Rabies Control Manual, latest edition. If the animal shows signs of rabies or dies during confinement, it will be sent off for testing. If the animal survives and does not show signs of rabies, it will be returned to the owner upon payment of fees.

(h)

Quarantine/isolation procedures. In certain circumstances, the animal control officer may allow the animal owner to quarantine the animal that has been bitten in lieu of the animal being euthanized and tested. The quarantine period varies depending on the circumstance, as set forth in the Georgia Rabies Control Manual, latest edition. In that case, the animal must be placed in a secure enclosure where no other animal or person can be exposed to the virus which can be transmitted into bite wounds, open cuts in skin, and onto mucous membranes. The animal must be kept in a secure enclosure approved by the animal control department and when deemed necessary may require two layers of fencing, separated by at least one foot. Food must be pushed in from a distance, and the animal cannot be approached by any person. Other protocols for quarantine shall be provided by the animal control officer and the Bartow County Health Department. If the animal escapes from the enclosure, it will be impounded and euthanized for testing.

City of Albany - Dougherty County

Sec. 10-5. - Humane treatment.

(a)

Animals shall be fed **no less than once daily** and shall be fed a diet that meets the basic nutritional needs of the animal according to its species and breed. Food shall be kept in clean containers and shall not be allowed to mold or spoil.

(b)

Clean drinking water of median temperature shall be provided **at all times** in a secured container; that is, a container that is stationary and cannot be spilled or overturned by the animal.

(c)

All animals shall be provided with shelter to protect them from the elements.

-1

Winter: shelter for dogs will be a structure with a roof and floor that is small enough to allow the animal's body heat to warm it and large enough that the dog can stand up and turn around. Metal barrels are prohibited. Plastic barrels are allowed so long as they are secured to prevent movement of the barrel.

-2

Summer: doghouses, barrels, or similar structures must be provided in addition to adequate shade.

(d)

All owners of diseased/injured/malnourished animals shall in a timely manner obtain veterinary care (by a licensed veterinarian) to the extent that the animal is free from excessive pain, suffering, and/or disfigurement.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

(e)

Tethering.

-1

Tethering dogs as a primary means of confinement is prohibited.

-2

Tethered animals must wear collars.

-3

Tethered animals must be secured in such a way as to prevent tangling, twisting, or wrapping.

-4

Animals may not be tethered so that they can reach fences or any other structures by which they can hang themselves.

-5

Animals may not be tethered so that they can reach any public area, including but not limited to alleys, streets, sidewalks, common areas, etc.

-6

Each tethered animal must have access to its own shelter, food, and water, separate from other animals.

-7

Animals may be tethered with cables or chains. Chains must be of minimal weight and thickness to secure the particular animal. Large, heavy chains are prohibited.

-8

No animal shall be fitted with weights of any kind at any time.

-9

Cats may not be tethered.

(f)

Any such physical abuse that is unlawful to commit against humans shall also be unlawful to commit against animals, including but not limited to striking, cutting, burning, shaking, throwing, strangling, terrorizing, or depriving of sustenance.

(g)

It shall be unlawful for the fur of long-coated animals to become matted to the point that the animal's skin is pulled, sores develop, and/or vision, hearing, normal walking, urinating, or defecating become impaired.

(h)

It shall be unlawful to incite animals or fowl to fight, or to attend, participate in, or watch any such fight.

(i)

It shall be unlawful for any person other than a licensed veterinarian to crop or attempt to crop the ears, tail, or any other body part of an animal.

(j)

It shall be unlawful for a motor vehicle owner or operator to place or confine an animal or allow it to be placed or confined or to remain in an unattended motor vehicle without sufficient ventilation or under conditions for such a period of time as may reasonably be expected to endanger the health or well-being of such animal due to heat, lack of water, or such other circumstances as may reasonably be expected to cause suffering, disability or death of the animal. Officers finding an animal under such conditions may rescue such animal from the vehicle. Any officer who acts in substantial compliance with the requirements of this section shall make the officer and/or the city immune from any criminal or civil liability.

POLK COUNTY

Sec. 10-4. - Caring for animals.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of any animal to willfully abandon such animal on any street, road, highway or public place, or on private property when not in the care of another person.

(b)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

It shall be unlawful for any owner or custodian of any animal to permit the accumulation of waste matter from animals to collect and remain on the property of the owner or custodian or on the property of others so as to cause or create an unhealthy, unsanitary, dangerous or offensive living condition on the owner's or custodian's property, or to abutting property of others.

(c)

It shall be unlawful for any owner or custodian of any animal to permit or cause unsanitary, dangerous or offensive conditions by virtue of the size or number of animals maintained at a single location or due to the inadequacy of the facilities.

(d)

It shall be unlawful for any owner or custodian of any cat to allow the cat to run free on the property of another, without permission of the owner or person in possession of that property and without wearing a collar with an identification tag, and a current rabies tag showing that said cat has been inoculated for rabies within one year of any such time as the rabies tag may be checked.

(e)

It shall be unlawful for any owner or custodian of any dog to allow the dog to run free on the property of another, without the permission of the owner or person in possession of that property.

(f)

It shall be unlawful for any owner or custodian of any dog to allow the dog to run free without wearing a collar with an identification tag and a current rabies tag showing that said dog has been inoculated for rabies within one year of any such time as the rabies tag may be checked.

(g)

It shall be unlawful for any owner or lessee of property located in a residential neighborhood, regardless of the designated zoning of said property, to keep or maintain livestock in said residential area, unless the applicable zoning expressly allows otherwise.

(h)

No owner or custodian of any animal shall fail to exercise proper care and control of such animal to prevent the same from becoming a public nuisance.

Sec. 10-5. - Emergencies involving animals.

(a)

Sick or injured animals.

-1

In any situation deemed appropriate by the animal control officer involving a sick or injured animal whose owner cannot be located and the condition of such animal is such that death or great suffering to the animal is likely, the animal control officer may take custody of such animal and may secure veterinary services for such animal. The owner of such animal shall be responsible for reimbursement of all expenses related to treatment and boarding of the animal.

Any sick or injured animal, deemed by a licensed veterinarian to be suffering to such an extent that the humane destruction of the animal is appropriate and the owner of the animal cannot be located, shall be humanely destroyed by the veterinarian.

The owner of the animal shall be responsible for reimbursement to the county for all expenses involving the boarding, treatment, and destruction of any such animal.

(b)

Contagious animals.

-1

Any animal impounded by the animal control officer that is, in the opinion of the animal control director, infected with a disease likely to cause death or great suffering to the animal, or which will likely spread to other animals shall be isolated and the owner of such animal shall be notified. If the owner cannot be located or the owner fails to take immediate steps to remove the animal from impoundment, the infected animal shall be humanely destroyed.

-2

The owner of any such animal shall be responsible for all expenses related to the impoundment, boarding, treatment and destruction of such animal.

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EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

Sec. 10-6. - Cruelty to animals.

- (a)
It shall be unlawful for any person to neglect to provide appropriate veterinary care to their animal when causing unnecessary pain, injury, suffering or death to an animal.
- (b)
No person, except under the direction of a licensed veterinarian for humanitarian purposes, shall intentionally administer poison to any animal, or knowingly leave any poisonous substance of any kind or ground glass in any place with the intent to injure any animal. This provision is not applicable to licensed exterminators using poisons as part of a pest control program or the use of commercial insecticides and rodent baits used to control insects and wild rodents.
- (c)
It shall be unlawful for any person to deprive an animal of its necessary shelter or beat, mutilate or kill any animal, or cause the same to be done, or leave unattended or carry in or upon vehicles without proper restraint or ventilation, or otherwise treat any animal in a cruel or inhumane manner.
- (d)
It shall be unlawful to fail to maintain in a clean and sanitary condition, free from extreme and unreasonably objectionable odor, any and all structures, pens, yards and areas adjacent thereto wherein an animal is kept.
- (e)
It shall be unlawful to fail to provide bedding and adequate shelter from the elements for any animal kept outdoors.
- (f)
It shall be unlawful to:
 - 1
Own, possess, keep or train any animal with the intent that such animal or any animal shall engage in an exhibition fighting.
 - 2
Build, make, maintain or keep a pit on premises owned by him or occupied by him, or allow a pit to be built, made, maintained or kept on such premises, for the purpose of any exhibition of animal fighting.
 - 3
In any manner encourage, instigate, promote or assist in an exhibition of animal fighting.
 - 4
Charge admission, act as an assistant or umpire, or participate or be physically present as a spectator to any exhibition of animal fighting.
- (g)
Any animal control officer shall impound any animal found to be cruelly treated.
- (h)
The animal control officer shall investigate complaints pertaining to cruelty to animals. The animal control officer may request the assistance of an appropriate law enforcement officer.
- (j)
No person convicted of an act of cruelty against an animal, as defined in this chapter or in state law, shall be allowed to keep an animal of the same species as that which the act was committed against.

PICKENS COUNTY

Sec. 14-28. - Keeping of sick or diseased animals.

It shall be unlawful for any person to own any domesticated animal which is seriously sick or injured and not provided proper veterinary care. This section shall not be construed to include animals under active veterinary care or veterinary hospitals.

WHITE COUNTY

Sec. 10-34. - Animal neglect, cruelty to animals; fighting animals.

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EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

No person shall by act, omission or neglect cause unjustifiable physical pain, suffering or death to any domestic animal. This section shall not apply to the killing of animals raised for the purpose of providing food nor does it apply to any person who shall hunt wild animals in compliance with the game and fish laws of the State of Georgia. Furthermore, this section shall not apply to the killing or injuring of animals for humane purposes or in the furtherance of medical or scientific research or in the necessary defense of one's person or personal property.

-1

Whoever willfully or purposefully kills, abuses, maims or disfigures any domestic animal or willfully or maliciously administers poison to an animal or exposes any poisonous substance with intent that the substance shall be taken and swallowed by a domestic animal shall be in violation of this article. Cropping, docking and dew claw removal performed by a veterinarian shall not be considered maiming or disfiguring.

-2

Whoever overloads, overdrives, tortures, torments or deprives a domestic animal of adequate food or beats, mutilates, hobbles or kills any animal or causes such acts to be done, or carries in or upon a vehicle or otherwise any domestic animal in a cruel or inhumane manner, shall be deemed in violation of this article. This section shall not prohibit the hobbling of a domestic animal for legitimate training or approved medical care purposes.

-3

Whoever confines a domestic animal and fails to supply adequate food, adequate water, sanitary conditions, and necessary vet care, fails to provide the domestic animal with access to adequate space, or causes unnecessary suffering or abandons any domestic animal shall be deemed in violation of this article.

-4

No person shall:

- a. Own, possess, keep, train or transport any domestic animal with the intent that such animal shall be engaged in an exhibition of unlawful fighting;
- b. For amusement or gain, cause any dog to fight with another dog or for amusement or gain, cause any dogs to injure each other;
- c. Wager money or anything of value on the result of such dogfighting;
- d. Knowingly permits any act in violation of paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection on any premises under the ownership or control of such person or knowingly aids or abets any such act; or
- e. Knowingly promotes or advertises an exhibition of fighting with another dog shall be guilty of a felony and, upon the first conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment of not less than one nor more than five years, a fine of not less than \$5,000.00, or both such fine and imprisonment. On a second or subsequent conviction, such person shall be punished by imprisonment of not less than one nor more than ten years, a fine of not less than \$15,000.00, or both such fine and imprisonment. Each act or omission in violation of this subsection shall constitute a separate offense.
- f. Any person who is knowingly present only as a spectator at any place for the fighting of dogs shall, upon a first conviction thereof, be guilty of a misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature. On a second conviction, such person shall be guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment of not less than one nor more than five years, a fine of not less than \$5,000.00, or both such fine and imprisonment. On a third or subsequent conviction, such person shall be punished by imprisonment of not less than one nor more than ten years, a fine of not less than \$15,000.00, or both such fine and imprisonment. Each act in violation of this subsection shall constitute a separate offense.

-5

Any dog subject to fighting may be impounded pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. §§ 4-11-9.2 through 4-11-9.6.

-6

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

This Code section shall not prohibit, impede, or otherwise interfere with animal husbandry, training techniques, competition, events, shows, or practices not otherwise specifically prohibited by law.

-7 Any animal control officer may impound any animal that has been treated in a cruel or neglectful manner.

-8 No person shall perform a cruel act on any dog; nor shall any person harm, maim, or kill any dog, or attempt to do so, except that a person may:

- a. Defend his or her person or property, or the person or property of another, from injury or damage being caused by a dog; or
- b. Kill any dog causing injury or damage to any livestock, poultry, or pet animal.
- c. The method used for killing the dog shall be designed to be as humane as is possible under the circumstances. A person who humanely kills a dog under the circumstances shall incur no liability for such death.
- d. This Code section shall not be construed to limit in any way the authority or duty of any law enforcement officer, dog or rabies control officer, humane society, or veterinarian.

COBB COUNTY

Sec. 10-121. - Cruelty to animals.

(a)

Any person who abuses an animal, or aids another person in abusing an animal, or causes or permits an animal to abuse another animal, by acting or failing to act, shall be in violation of this chapter. Cruelty to an animal includes but is not limited to:

- 1 Willfull neglect as defined by this chapter;
- 2 Failure to provide reasonable remedy or relief for any injured or diseased animal;
- 3 Overloading, overdriving;
- 4 Beating, torturing, tormenting or mutilating;
- 5 **Abandonment;**
- 6 Killing any animal or causing the same to be done;
- 7 **Failure to maintain adequate care;**
- 8 Failure to provide adequate food;
- 9 Failure to provide adequate water;
- 10 Failure to provide adequate shelter;
- 11 **Failure to provide adequate bedding;**
- 12 Failure to provide adequate primary enclosure;
- 13 **Failure to provide adequate exercise;**

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EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

-14

Failure to provide adequate space;

-15

Failure to maintain sanitary conditions;

-16

Failure to provide adequate ventilation;

-17

Failure to provide adequate temperature control;

-18

Hording or collecting animals as defined by this chapter;

-19

Owning, managing, obtaining, confining or caring for any number of animals in an animal mill as defined by this chapter; or

-20

Otherwise treating any animal in a cruel or inhumane manner;

(b)

Exceptions:

-1

Licensed veterinarians who perform surgery or euthanasia and CCAC personnel who euthanize animals under the direction of the CCAC manager per the guidelines of the Georgia Veterinary Medical Association, Georgia Department of Agriculture and this chapter are not in violation of this chapter.

-2

A person shall not be guilty of cruelty when the person is protecting his life, the life of another person or animal that is being attacked by an animal that is attempting to severely harm or kill him, provided that the person being attacked is not committing a crime or is not aggravating or inciting the animal to attack, and has not aggravated, injured, abused, or assaulted the animal in the past.

WARE COUNTY

Sec. 10-25. - Cruelty to animals.

(a)

General care; prohibited acts.

-1

It shall be unlawful for any person to inflict, cause or permit cruelty to or upon any animal, including without limitation, to negligently, willfully or maliciously strike, beat, physically or mentally abuse, overwork, overload, maim or disfigure, intentionally chase or run down with a vehicle, bicycle or motorized or powered implement, or otherwise engage in any act or omission causing, inflicting, or resulting in unnecessary pain, injury, physical or mental suffering, abuse or death to an animal, in each case taking into account the animal's age, size, physical condition, breed and species, except that reasonable force may be used in self-defense to destroy a vicious or dangerous animal or to drive away trespassing animals as authorized by Georgia law. Examples of such aforesaid prohibited acts or omissions regarding animals include, but are not limited to the following:

a.

Allowing a collar, rope, chain or other item to become embedded in or cause injury to an animal's neck or other portion of the body.

b.

Allowing a slip-type choke, or pinch-type collar to be used as a primary collar to tether an animal.

c.

Intentionally causing or allowing animals to engage in a fight.

d.

Allowing animals to live in unsanitary conditions.

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EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

- e. Allowing animals to live in regularly overcrowded conditions.
- f. Failure or refusal to obtain veterinary medical treatment for an animal when, in a veterinarian's, animal services officer's, or law enforcement official's opinion, such treatment is needed.
- g. Shooting a domestic animal, either on or off of the owner's property unless such domestic animal is then in the act of attacking or maliciously chasing a human being, horse, hog, goat, poultry, any other domestic animal or sheep or cattle and shooting such domestic animal is then the most reasonable action under the particular circumstance. An exception to this is allowed under the direction of a veterinarian or law enforcement official where the animal is hopelessly suffering.
- h. Inhumanely trapping an animal (except for nondomesticated animals for which the person conducting such trapping possess a valid and currently in effect permit for such trapping of such animal issued by the Georgia Department Natural Resources) with any trap other than a live trap which must be checked at least every 24 hours. The following trapping requirements must be followed:
 - 1. Trapping is not allowed with the intention to harm any animal or to abandon or relocate any animal upon public or private property (except, in each case, to the extent specifically authorized by a valid and currently in effect permit for trapping of such animal issued by the Georgia Department Natural Resources to the person conducting such trapping.
- i. Permitting any exhibit, function or activity where animals are not receiving humane care, are being cruelly treated, or such animals run the risk of causing injury to the public or themselves. Animal control, city, or state law enforcement officials, and representatives acting in their official capacity of the county or state departments of health or the state or federal departments of agriculture shall have the authority to inspect and to close down public exhibits in the city or county of animals, and/or impound any or all such animals, which are part of fairs, carnivals, festivals, fundraising events, petting zoos or any other activity or function carried out in the city or county if it is determined that animals in such activity or function are not receiving humane care, are being cruelly treated, run the risk of causing injury to the public or themselves, or do not in each case have are complying with all applicable lawfully required licenses, registrations and permits.

-2

It shall be unlawful for any person to intentionally administer poison to any animal, or knowingly leave any poisonous substance of any kind or ground glass or other harmful substance in any place with the intent to injure any animal. This provision is not applicable to licensed pest control exterminators using poisons as part of an insect pest control program or the use of commercial insecticides, rodenticides or rodent baits used to control insect and wild rodents, or to licensed veterinarians using veterinary pharmaceuticals in providing bona fide veterinary services.

-3

All animals shall be kept and treated under sanitary and humane conditions, and it shall be unlawful for any person to engage in one or more of the following acts or omissions (in each case taking into account the animal's size, age, physical condition, breed and species).

- a. Failure to provide adequate food and water and adequate shelter. Food, water and shelter shall be provided by the owner or custodian of an animal as follows:
 - 1. All animals shall be given at suitable intervals, not to exceed 24 hours, a quantity of adequate food.
 - 2. All animals shall be supplied and have access to a constant supply of adequate water.
 - 3. All animals shall be provided by its owner or custodian with adequate shelter from the weather at all times. Examples of inadequate shelter include, but are not limited to the following:

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EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

- i.
Underneath outside steps, decks and stoops.
- ii.
Underneath houses.
- iii.
Inside or underneath motor vehicles.
- iv.
Inside metal or plastic barrels.
- v.
Inside cardboard boxes.
- vi.
Inside temporary animal carriers or crates.
- vii.
Shelters located in flood-prone areas.
- viii.
Shelters surrounded by debris, obstructions or impediments that may endanger or harm an animal.

(b)

Medical care.

-1

It shall be unlawful for any owner or custodian of a sick, diseased, suffering or injured animal to fail or refuse to provide proper veterinary medical treatment for the animal.

-2

It shall be the duty of any person who allows a stray or abandoned animal to stay on their property to either:

a.

Notify animal control of its' sick, diseased, injured, suffering or abandoned condition for impoundment; or

b.

Provide proper veterinary medical treatment, adequate food and water and adequate shelter for the animal.

-3

It shall be the duty of any person who has knowledge of a sick, diseased, injured, suffering or cruelly or inhumanely treated animal to notify animal control or law enforcement officials as soon as possible.

a.

It shall be unlawful for any person to place or leave an animal in a closed vehicle or other enclosure at such internal temperatures (or where the internal temperatures that may reasonably be expected to occur or result) or other conditions and/or lack of air, ventilation or water will cause or result in, or reasonably be expected to cause or result in, harm or distress to the animal.

b.

Should an animal services officer or law enforcement official find an animal in a closed vehicle or other enclosure in violation of subsection i. above, or otherwise believes that such animal is in eminent danger, harm or distress, and the owner of the vehicle or enclosure is not immediately available to release such animal, then in such event, the animal services officer or law enforcement official may then use such reasonable force as necessary to extract the animal from such closed vehicle or other enclosure.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Sec. 6-57. - Cruelty to animals.

It shall be unlawful for any person, either by act or omission, to:

-1

Overdrive, overload, overwork, torture, beat, mutilate, kill needlessly, carry or confine in a vehicle in an inhumane manner, or otherwise mistreat, any animal;

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EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

-2

Fail to provide any animal with proper food and veterinary care;

-3

Fail to provide any animal with access to shelter to protect it from all types of weather, 24 hours daily;

-4

Fail to provide any animal access to good and wholesome fresh water at all times;

-5

Intentionally poison any animal;

-6

Allow or promote any fight between animals, or to allow or permit any fight in or upon any premises in that person's possession or under that person's control;

-7

Allow an animal to be kept in unsanitary conditions; or

-8

Knowingly or willingly permit or aid in the release of any animal on any property with the intention of abandoning the animal.

BLECKLEY COUNTY "all in one" LIST (for small jurisdictions perhaps or first pass at animal ordinance?)

Sec. 12-79. - Cruelty and neglect.

The following acts and omissions are prohibited:

-1

Keeping of sick or diseased animals. It is unlawful for any person to own or any animal that is seriously sick, diseased, or injured without providing proper treatment and care for such animal. This section shall not be construed to include animals under active veterinary care or veterinary hospitals.

-2

Putting out poison. It shall be unlawful for any person to scatter or put out or otherwise distribute on his premises within the county any poison in any form or manner whatsoever which is or may likely be sufficiently lethal or of such strength as to cause death to any animal without first obtaining a permit to do so from the office of commissioner of the county. The commissioner, in his discretion, may issue or refuse to issue such permit. If issued, no charge shall be made for the same.

-3

Failure to provide nourishment and shelter. It shall be unlawful for any owner of a cat or dog to fail, omit, or neglect to provide for such cat or dog adequate food, water, shelter, and protection from the elements.

-4

Inhumane treatment; abandonment. It shall be unlawful for any person to treat any cat or dog in a cruel and inhumane manner, to abandon it, or to release it upon public or private property with the intention of abandoning it.

-5

Maiming, killing. No person, other than the animal control or other county officer in the exercise of his power and performance of his duties, shall perform a cruel act on any animal or harm, maim, or kill any animal or attempt to do so; except that a person may:

a.

Defend his person or property, or the person or property of another, from injury or damage being cause by an animal; or

b.

Kill any animal causing injury or damage to any livestock or poultry.

-6

Animal fights. It is unlawful for any person to promote stage, hold, manage, conduct, carry one, train for, attend or own any animal for the purpose of participating in any game, exhibition, contest or fight in which one or more animals are engaged for the purpose of injuring, killing, maiming, or destroying themselves, or any other animal.

-7

Female dogs or cats in heat; running at large. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any female dog or cat to allow the animal to run at large while in heat.

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EXAMPLES OF HUMANE CARE SECTIONS

-8

Failure to comply with vaccination requirement. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog or cat to fail, omit, or neglect vaccinating such animal and attaching the proper tags to such animal evidencing the vaccination as provided in section 12-52.

State Law reference— Cruelty to dogs, O.C.G.A. § 4-8-5; female dogs in heat running at large, O.C.G.A. § 4-8-6; cruelty to animals, O.C.G.A. § 16-12-4; rabies control, O.C.G.A. § 31-19-1.

Sec. 12-80. - Penalties.

(a)

For violations of any provision of section 12-78, the owner shall be subject, upon the first offense, to the issuance of a warning from the animal control officer or magistrate court, and, upon the second offense, to penalties as provided in section 1-7.

(b)

For violations of any provisions of section 12-79, the owner shall be subject to penalties as provided in section 1-7.

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Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF IMPOUND/RECLAIMS LANGUAGE

WHITFIELD COUNTY

Sec. 4-9. - Owner reclaims.

(a)

An owner of an impounded intact animal, which has not been spayed or neutered, may reclaim such animal during normal business hours upon meeting all conditions set forth herein and upon the payment of a fee of \$150.00 per animal retrieved for a first offense. For each successive impoundment of the same animal, the fee shall double, but in no instance shall such fee exceed \$600.00. An owner of an impounded sterilized animal, which has been spayed or neutered, may reclaim such animal during normal business hours upon meeting all conditions set forth herein and upon the payment of a fee of \$25.00 per animal retrieved for a first offense. For each successive impoundment of the same animal, the fee shall double, but in no instance shall the fee exceed \$200.00.

(b)

The owner shall identify his or her animal.

(c)

The owner shall provide his or her address.

(d)

If the animal was not impounded near the address of the person seeking to reclaim the animal, then some further reasonable proof of ownership shall be required.

(e)

The owner shall provide proof that any animal to be reclaimed is currently vaccinated. If no proof shall be provided, then the owner shall be cited pursuant to this chapter.

(f)

If an owner indicates that an animal to be reclaimed has been stolen, the county animal control facility shall use discretion in determining whether any fees associated with reclaiming the animal shall be waived if the owner produces a copy of a police report filed regarding the disappearance of the animal.

LUMPKIN COUNTY

Sec. 8-18. - Impounded animals.

(a)

The animal control officer shall immediately notify the owner of each domestic animal impounded if the owner of the domestic animal is known or can be reasonably ascertained. The owner of any domestic animal impounded may reclaim such domestic animal by:

Payment of an impoundment fee of \$50.00 (\$150.00 for dangerous or vicious animals), plus a \$10.00 per day boarding fee (\$20.00 for dangerous or vicious animals) for each day that the animal was impounded;

Payment of the cost of the rabies inoculation, if required due to the animal not being inoculated or not wearing a current rabies inoculation tag;

Payment for the cost of a microchip implant and owner registration if not already "chipped";

Payment of any fines ordered for a violation of these regulations; and

Compliance with all applicable requirements of these regulations.

(c)

In the event that the owner has not reclaimed the animal within five days of the date that the owner receives notice of such impoundment said animal shall become the property of the animal shelter and shall be disposed of accordingly. At the discretion of the animal shelter director, the shelter impoundment may be extended at the request of the owner if pickup will be reasonably delayed.

Sec. 8-19. - Disposition of impounded animals.

When an animal has been confiscated and impounded in accordance with these regulations for the time periods described above such that the animal is deemed to be the property of the animal control unit, said animal shall be disposed of as follows:

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

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EXAMPLES OF IMPOUND/RECLAIMS LANGUAGE

If the animal is a stray, abandoned or other domestic animal which is not a dangerous animal, it shall be turned over to the Lumpkin County Animal Shelter. The animal shelter shall follow its then current internal procedures for care of the animal and its ultimate disposition. Any return to an owner or agent, or adoption as provided by procedures of the shelter, shall be subject both to costs as determined by the shelter plus any cost and procedures required by this chapter.

If the animal is a dangerous animal, it shall be destroyed in a humane manner.

Any person or agency adopting an animal shall pay any required license fees, costs of rabies inoculation, and shall comply with all other provisions of these regulations and with all provisions of the animal shelter policies and procedures. Any person or agency adopting a dangerous animal shall also show proof of compliance with the duties of owners of dangerous or vicious animals (section 8-17 herein).

ATHENS-CLARKE

Sec. 4-1-21. - Redemption of impounded animals.

(a)

It shall be the responsibility of the Athens-Clarke County Animal Control Division to attempt to notify the owner or feral cat colony caretaker, if known, or can be reasonably ascertained, of every animal impounded, by telephone if possible, or by mail or by written notice at the residence of the owner within two working days of the impoundment.

(b)

The owner or feral cat colony caretaker of the animal may claim and take custody of the animal within five days of such impoundment by the payment of required fees and the cost of inoculations and veterinary services, including microchipping if provided pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. After five days, the animal shall be deemed abandoned and shall be the property of Athens-Clarke County, and disposed of only pursuant to section 4-1-18 or section 4-1-22, as applicable.

(c)

From and after September 1, 2017, all animals other than feral cats reclaimed under this section shall be microchipped before leaving impoundment at the animal control division, with the identification number from the animal's microchip recorded in Animal Control Division records.

(d)

From and after September 1, 2017, no dog or cat, other than feral cats, shall be released from impound by the Animal Control Division, more than once unless, prior to release, it is spayed or neutered at the owner's expense, unless the reclaiming owner:

Shows proof of a breeding license issued by the Georgia Department of Agriculture and all local business permits or certificates applicable to a commercial dog or cat breeding business, or

Provides written certification from a licensed veterinarian citing a high likelihood that the dog or cat will suffer serious bodily harm or death due to age or specified infirmity if the dog or cat is spayed or neutered and the date, if any, on which such restriction shall end, in which case the owner shall, in writing, agree that such dog or cat animal will be sterilized within 30 days from such date with proof provided promptly to the animal control superintendent. If timely proof of spay or neuter is not received, the dog or cat shall be subject to confiscation unless prior to the expiration of the agreed period the owner provides an updated veterinary certification as set forth above and the owner enters into a new sterilization agreement under the same terms.

(e)

Any person reclaiming a dog or cat, other than a feral cat, that, after September 1, 2017, has been impounded for the first time, shall acknowledge in writing prior to taking custody of the dog or cat the requirements of this ordinance that upon any subsequent impound, the dog or cat animal shall not be released unless it is spayed or neutered at the owner's expense in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section.

City or Town of Alto - HABERSHAM COUNTY

Sec. 6-26. - Redemption of impounded animals.

If an impounded animal can be identified (rabies tag, ID collar, etc.), it shall be the responsibility of Alto Animal Control/Shelter or its agents to attempt to notify the owner by phone, if possible, or by mail within two working days of impoundment. The owner must claim his/her animal within 72 hours after notification. After five days from impoundment, with no contact from the owner, the animal will be disposed of in accordance with section 6-25 of this article.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF IMPOUND/RECLAIMS LANGUAGE

Sec. 6-27. - Impoundment; fees and penalties.

Any person reclaiming a neutered/spayed animal shall pay a fee of \$45.00 for the first impoundment, \$80.00 for the second and \$80.00 for each subsequent impoundment. In addition a \$10.00 a day boarding fee will be assessed. Any veterinary costs will be added to the fees. All dogs and cats must have a rabies shot before being released to the owner.

Any person reclaiming an unneutered/unspayed animal shall pay a fee of \$55.00 for the first impoundment, \$100.00 for the second, and \$100.00 for every subsequent impoundment. In addition a \$10.00 a day boarding fee will be assessed. Any veterinary costs will be added to the fees. All dogs or cats must have a rabies shot before being released to the owner.

Any person violating any section of this article shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$50.00 for the first offense. Subsequent offenses shall not be less than \$100.00. Each violation shall be a separate offense.

Sec. 6-28. - Property owner or injured party may impound.

Any person finding any animal or fowl upon his property to his injury or annoyance may take up same and remove it to any private or other animal shelter that will take possession of it. If no such shelter is available, he may hold the animal or fowl in his own possession, and as soon as possible notify the animal control officer of this custody, giving a description of the animal or fowl and the name of the owner if known.

Sec. 6-29. - Owner liable for costs of impoundment.

The owner of an animal impounded under the authority of this article shall be liable for the cost of maintenance of said animal during such impoundment provided that the cost for a small animal shall not exceed the amounts established by the shelter used by the town. Said costs shall be payable upon redemption of said animal.

BURKE COUNTY

Sec. 10-12. - Impoundment penalties.

(a)

Except as provided by section 10-11, any person reclaiming an animal shall pay \$50.00 for the first impoundment along with the cost of the animal to be microchipped and the cost of registering the microchip, \$60.00 for the second impoundment, and \$70.00 for each subsequent impoundment. In addition to the above, \$10.00 per day will be charged for boarding plus the cost of inoculations and/or veterinary services.

(b)

Except as provided by section 10-11, any person reclaiming a dog or cat, and provides confirmable proof of alteration of that dog or cat, shall pay a \$25.00 impoundment fee for the first impoundment, \$30.00 for the second impoundment and \$35.00 for each subsequent impoundment. In addition to the above, \$10.00 per day will be charged for boarding plus the cost of inoculations and/or veterinary services.

(c)

There shall be a registration fee of \$200.00 for all dangerous animals and vicious animals in the county. Such registration is to be renewed on an annual basis.

(d)

If a dog or cat is impounded three times or more within a 12-month period, animal services may provide a written order of alteration of that dog or cat if it is not altered at the time of impound. The owner will have 30 days to have the dog or cat altered (spayed or neutered) and provide proof of compliance to the order. This is subject to appeal to the board of commissioners by the owner within five days of receipt of the written order.

BUTTS COUNTY

Sec. 10-38. - Fees and fines.

The personnel of the animal control shelter shall not release any animal impounded until the owner of said animal has paid all fees and charges assessed as required by Georgia law and by county health department rules.

Schedule of Fees

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF IMPOUND/RECLAIMS LANGUAGE

	Amount
Dogs or cats	
First offense	\$35.00
Second offense	\$70.00
Third offense	\$105.00
Subsequent offense	\$150.00
Other animals, each offense	\$50.00
Animals impounded for rabies quarantine or use as evidence in a criminal prosecution, per day	\$70.00
In addition to the foregoing fees, the per day board for each day the animal is impounded in the animal shelter	\$10.00
Adoption fees for all animals	\$30.00
Owner surrender as follows:	
Adult animals—Per animal	\$25.00
Puppies and kittens—Per animal	\$15.00
Euthanization	\$40.00
Disposal/incinerator fee	\$40.00
Pick-up fee for animal control to pick up animals—Per call	\$15.00
Registration of potentially dangerous dogs—Annually	\$50.00
Registration of dangerous dogs	\$100.00

City of Bainbridge, DECATUR COUNTY

Sec. 10-6. - Impoundment of animals.

(a)

Upon impounding any dog or other animal, the director or his authorized representative shall cause to be made a prompt and reasonable effort to locate the animal's owner. If the owner does not claim the animal within three days (seventy-two hours) of impoundment it shall be the duty of the director or his authorized representative to offer the dog or other animal to the public for adoption or to dispose of the dog or other animal in a humane fashion.

(b)

The city or other party with responsibility for the operation of the animal shelter is authorized to charge a daily boarding fee for all animals housed at the animal shelter. This fee shall not exceed \$20.00 per day without prior approval of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Bainbridge. In no event shall its lawful possessor, owner or custodian redeem any animal unless this boarding fee is paid.

(c)

For the first time a dog, cat or other animal is found by animal control in violation of the leash law provisions, regardless of whether or not the animal is picked up and impounded by animal control, a fine of up to \$100.00 shall be imposed against the owner of such

(d)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF IMPOUND/RECLAIMS LANGUAGE

If a second offense occurs by the owner for the same animal within two years of a first offense, it is mandatory that the animal either be spayed or neutered within one week after the owner claims the animal, whether it is a purebred or mixed breed or permanently removed from the corporate limits of the city. If the animal is spayed or neutered a sworn, notarized statement from a veterinarian, licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the state, must be received by animal control within ten working days following the animal's release from animal control. Such statement must state that the animal has been spayed, neutered or euthanized by the veterinarian, in compliance with this chapter, or must explain in detail that for health reasons, the animal cannot be spayed or neutered. The owner of such animal will be considered in violation of this chapter for failure to remove the animal from the city or to submit a veterinarian's statement, and shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or imprisonment and jail for a period not to exceed 60 days, or both. A \$250.00 fine will be imposed for the second offense, and is in addition to the cost of any spaying or neutering.

(e)

Should the animal be impounded or the owner be cited for a third offense within two years of a first offense, or for any subsequent offenses within two years of two previous offenses, a \$500.00 fine will be imposed against the owner.

(f)

If for any reason an animal is impounded and not claimed after proper notification imposed by this section, and if the owner is identified by a rabies or license tag on the animal or can be identified by witnesses, the owner will be considered in violation of this chapter for the offense of abandoning the animal and shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or imprisonment and jail for a period not to exceed 60 days, or both.

(g)

If an animal is impounded and not claimed, the owner shall be conclusively presumed to have given his consent to the adoption of the impounded animal or to have given his consent to the disposal of the animal in a humane fashion in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 4-11-

(h)

If any animal is not claimed as provided within this chapter, the director of the animal shelter or his authorized representative, in his sole discretion, and after he has satisfied himself that such animal is in good health, may offer the animal for adoption. All animals offered for adoption must be spayed or neutered and must be given a rabies shot. A sworn, notarized statement from a veterinarian, licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the state, must be received by animal control within ten working days following the adoption. Such statement must state that the animal has been spayed or neutered by the veterinarian or must explain in detail that, for health reasons, the animal cannot be spayed or neutered. The owner of such animal will be considered in violation of this chapter for failure to submit a veterinarian's statement, and shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or imprisonment for a period not to exceed 60 days, or both.

FULTON COUNTY

Sec. 34-317. - Disposition of impounded animals.

(a)

Any animal impounded under the provisions of this article which is found upon arrival at the animal control shelter to be diseased or injured, and whose ownership is unknown or is relinquished in writing, may, at the discretion of Fulton County Government or its designee, be immediately euthanized if not accepted by a qualified adoption facilitator, rescue group or animal shelter, and provided such organization signs a receipt for the animal. In the event an owner cannot be contacted and the severity of the injury or disease of the animal dictates that euthanasia is a humane course of action, the animal may be euthanized and the owner, if known, notified as soon as possible.

(b)

If, in the opinion of Fulton County Government or its designee, the release of an impounded animal will impair the safety of the public, such animal will be held pending a court order disposition.

(c)

Any animal impounded under the provisions of this article shall be held a minimum of three days from the day of impoundment or such longer period of time as deemed reasonable by the director of animal control. Except as provided in paragraph (a) of this section, no impounded animal may be euthanized until five days from the date of impoundment. Animals under observation for rabies symptoms shall remain in the animal control shelter for such period of time as the Fulton County Government or its designee may deem necessary to protect the public health.

(d)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF IMPOUND/RECLAIMS LANGUAGE

Impounded animals not claimed within five days of the day of impoundment or at the end of the quarantine period may be euthanized in a humane manner as approved by Fulton County Government or its designee. No animal impounded under the provisions of this article shall be released to any person or organization for the purpose of live animal experimentation.

(e)

Before the release of any impounded animal, the owner shall pay the following:

-1

A vaccination fee on any unvaccinated animal when a vaccination is required by this article.

-2

A license fee for any unlicensed dog or cat in an area covered by this article.

-3

An impoundment fee.

-4

A daily boarding fee.

(f)

The county manager shall establish reasonable vaccination, license, impoundment, and boarding fees. In some instances the amount of impoundment and boarding fees will be on a cost-incurred basis.

(g)

Proceeds from license, impoundment, and boarding fees shall be applied to the annual operating budget of the Fulton County Animal Control for animal and rabies control, enforcement activity, and operation of the animal facility.

(h)

Fulton County Government or its designee shall exercise every reasonable care to prevent injury, illness, death, escape, or pilfering of any animal with which it deals but shall not be responsible for any such occurrence.

FORSYTH COUNTY**Sec. 14-81. - Business license verification regarding tip line.**

Any person applying for a county business license to operate an animal care facility shall be required to certify on a form provided by the county that they are familiar with the county sheriff's office and/or animal services division online and telephonic resources for reporting animal neglect or cruelty and, if observed, will report instances of same. A failure to report an instance of animal neglect or animal cruelty may result in (1) revocation of an existing business license, (2) inability to secure a future business license, (3) a citation for failure to report in violation of the certification to do so.

FRANKLIN COUNTY**Sec. 6-59. - Animal establishments.**

(a)

Permits.

-1

Required. No person shall operate an animal establishment without first obtaining a permit from the department, nor may any person operate an animal establishment in a manner in violation of any provision of this article.

-2

Term. The license period shall begin with the first day of the calendar year and shall run for one year. Renewal application for permits shall be made 30 days prior to and up to 60 days after January 1 of each year. Application for a permit for a new establishment under the provisions of this article shall be made within 60 days of the start of business or operation.

-3

Separate permit required. Every facility regulated by this article shall be considered a separate enterprise, requiring an individual permit (e.g., two kennels at different locations but owned by the same person shall be considered as two animal establishments).

-4

Display. Permits obtained in accordance with this article shall be displayed in a prominent location on the premises of the animal establishment.

(b)

Application procedure.

-1

Each animal establishment shall file an annual permit application with the department within the time periods provided by this article.

-2

The permit application shall be made on a form provided by and available from the department.

-3

Upon receipt of a completed application, the department shall make an inspection of the facility to ensure that all animals are provided for in a humane manner and that the establishment is in compliance with all provisions of this article. The department shall be permitted to make the inspection at any reasonable time during normal business hours. A \$40.00 nonrefundable inspection fee shall be paid directly to the department prior to the inspection.

-4

The department shall either issue or decline to issue a permit to the applicant. If a permit is not granted, it shall notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for denial.

-5

Any animal establishment denied a permit may not reapply for a period of at least ten days. Each reapplication shall describe any previous denial or revocation. A nonrefundable fee of \$10.00 shall be paid to the department for reinspection prior to each reinspection.

-6

If an applicant is shown to have withheld or falsified any material information on any application, the department may refuse to issue or is entitled to revoke any permit.

(c)

Revocation of permits.

-1

The department may revoke any permit if the person holding the permit refuses or fails to comply with this article, or any other law or regulation governing the protection and keeping of animals, including refusal to allow inspection of the animal establishment as provided in this section.

-2

Whenever a permit is revoked for cause, or pending any proceedings to contest such action, the department shall have power of entry to inspect all premises where the animals are being kept and shall notify the owner in writing as to the period of time that reasonably shall be allowed for removal of animals from the premises and shall state the specific reasons for revocation. If any owner shall fail to remove the animals as directed, the department may impound the animals pursuant to the impoundment provisions of this article.

(d)

Prohibited conduct. Any animal establishment shall not sell, trade or give away any animal over three months of age unless the animal has been vaccinated as required by this article.

(e)

Inspection. The animal control department shall be permitted to inspect any animal establishment and all animals and the premises where the animals are kept at any reasonable time during normal business hours to ensure compliance with all provisions of this article.

(f)

Standards.

-1

All animal establishments shall, in addition to the other requirements of this article, comply with the minimum standards of this subsection. Failure to meet these standards shall be grounds for denial or revocation of a permit. Standards for animal establishments are as follows:

a.

Enclosures must be provided which shall allow adequate protection against weather extremes. Floors of buildings, runs and walls shall be of an impervious material to permit proper cleaning and disinfection.

b.

Building temperatures shall be maintained at a comfortable level to ensure adequate ventilation.

c.

Each animal shall have sufficient space to stand up, lie down and turn around without touching the sides or top of cages.

d.

Cages are to be of a material and construction that permit cleaning and sanitizing.

e.

Cage floors shall be of concrete, unless radiantly heated, and shall have a resting board or some type of bedding.

f.

Runs shall provide an adequate exercise area and protection from the weather. Runs shall have an impervious surface.

g.

All animal quarters and runs are to be kept clean, dry and in a sanitary condition.

h.

The food shall be free from contamination, and shall be wholesome, palatable and of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to meet the normal daily requirements for the condition and size of the animal.

i.

All animals shall have fresh water available at all times.

-2

All pet shops, including pet shops operated in conjunction with another holding facility, shall, in addition to the other requirements of this article, comply with the minimum standards of this section. Failure to meet these standards shall be grounds for denial of a permit or revocation of a permit. Standards for pet shops are as follows:

a.

Hot water at a minimum temperature of 160 degrees shall be available for washing and disinfection. Cold water shall be easily accessible in all parts of the shop. Fresh water for consumption shall be available to all species of animals at all times. Containers are to be cleaned and disinfected each day.

b.

The room temperature of the shop shall be maintained at a level that is healthy for every species of animal kept in the shop.

c.

All cages and enclosures are to be of a nonporous material for easy cleaning and disinfecting. Each cage must be of sufficient size that the animal will have room to stand, turn and stretch out to the animal's full length.

(Ord. of 2-2-2017(1))

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF ABANDONMENT SECTIONS

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Sec. 10-30. - Abandoned animals.

It shall be unlawful for anyone to knowingly abandon or to aid in the abandonment of any animal. An animal relinquished through written agreement with the marshal's office, licensed rescue group, licensed shelter, licensed veterinarians, individual, or other entity shall not be deemed abandoned but shall be considered relinquished to the respective entity.

MACON-BIBB COUNTY

Sec. 5-13. - Abandonment of animals prohibited.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly and intentionally abandon any domesticated animal upon any public or private property or public right-of-way within Macon-Bibb County. Each person who does abandon, knowingly or willingly permits such abandonment, or aids in the abandonment of any domesticated animal shall be in violation of this section.

(b)

A person who is convicted, or who pleads guilty or nolo contendere to a violation of this section shall suffer the following minimum punishment:

First offense, a minimum fine of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00).

Second offense, a minimum fine of three hundred dollars (\$300.00).

Third offense, a minimum fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), with a mandatory appearance in Municipal Court.

Fourth offense, a minimum fine of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1500.00), with a mandatory appearance in Municipal Court.

In addition to the above fines, all fines, regardless of the number of the offense, shall include a five dollar (\$5.00) fee to be charged and dedicated to support the educational requirements mandated for Animal Welfare personnel.

HALL COUNTY

4.10.300. - Animal abuse—Abandonment.

It is unlawful for the owner of any domesticated animal or agricultural animal to knowingly abandon the animal or commit the act of abandonment within the jurisdiction of the governing authority. However, the following exceptions shall apply:

A.

A domesticated animal or agricultural animal that is deserted when premises are temporarily vacated for the protection of human life during a disaster or emergency hospitalization shall not be regarded as abandoned under this section where the owner or custodian lacked sufficient time or resources to make reasonable arrangements for the adequate care and custody of the animal.

B.

A domesticated animal or agricultural animal left unattended when its sole owner dies shall not be deemed abandoned, and shall be impounded by Hall County Animal Control until animal control can locate a family member to take custody of the animal. If a family member cannot be located within a period of seven days or does not claim the animal within three days, then the animal will be held in compliance with article IV of this chapter.

PICKENS COUNTY

Sec. 14-25. - Abandonment of domesticated animal.

It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly and intentionally to abandon any domesticated animal upon any public or private property or public right-of-way. No person shall intentionally abandon a dead domesticated animal on any private property belonging to another unless the person so doing shall have first obtained permission from the owner of the property on which the dead domesticated animal is being left and the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 4-5-3 are complied with.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF ABANDONMENT SECTIONS

It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly and intentionally to abandon any dead domesticated animal upon any public or private property or public right-of-way unless the place in which the domesticated animal is being left is a public dump or other facility designed for receiving such and has been designated by the local governmental authorities as a public facility for receiving trash or refuse and the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 4-5-3 are complied with.

WHITE COUNTY

Sec. 10-33. - Abandonment of animals.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for a person to abandon any domestic animal owned by him. No person shall put out or abandon any dog, cat or other domestic animal on public or private property. It shall be unlawful for anyone to abandon any domesticated animal within the county. Each person who does abandon, permits such abandonment or aids in the abandonment of any domesticated animal shall be in violation of the law and shall be punished as provided in this article.

(b)

It shall be unlawful for any person to abandon or to turn out at large any sick, diseased or disabled animal but such animal shall, when rendered worthless by reason of sickness or other disability, be disposed of by the owner thereof in accordance with the rules and regulations of the state.

(c)

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any animal or fowl that die or are killed within the limits of the county to fail to remove or bury the carcass of such animal within a reasonable time and, in no event, more than 24 hours after its death.

(d)

If the owner, possessor or custodian of an animal is not known and the animal is upon the public streets, alleys, sidewalks, school grounds or other public places or premises or property of another without the property owner's permission as prohibited by this section, any law enforcement officer or agent or employee duly authorized by the county shall be authorized to immediately take possession of such animal and impound it in accordance with the rules and regulations provided by law or by ordinance of the county for the detention, control and disposition of animals.

(e)

Once impounded, an animal shall be kept for a period of time as outlined in this article and, thereafter, if the animal is not claimed by anyone after a reasonable effort has been made to locate the owner, possessor or custodian of the animal as provided in this article, the animal may be disposed of via adoption, transfer to rescue group or licensed veterinarian, or if in the opinion of the shelter director or a licensed accredited veterinarian, such animal has a temperament or condition such that euthanasia is the only reasonable course of action, by humanely disposing of the animal.

FORSYTH COUNTY

Sec. 14-33. - Abandonment of animals.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for a person to abandon any domestic animal owned by him. No person shall put out or abandon any dog, cat or other domestic animal on public or private property. It shall be unlawful for anyone to abandon any domesticated animal within the county. Each person who does abandon, or permits such abandonment, or aids in the abandonment of any domesticated animal shall be in violation of the law and shall be punished as provided in this article.

(b)

It shall be unlawful for any person to abandon or to turn out at large any sick, diseased or disabled animal, but such animal shall, when rendered worthless by reason of sickness or other disability, be disposed of by the owner thereof in accordance with the rules and regulations of the state.

(c)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF ABANDONMENT SECTIONS

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any animal or fowl that die or are killed within the limits of the county to fail to remove or bury the carcass of such animal within a reasonable time, and in no event more than 24 hours after its death; provided that, except in property zoned agricultural under the county's unified development code, no horse, cow, ox, pig, sheep, goat, ostrich, llama, emu, or wildlife shall be buried within the limits of the county. All animals buried within the county shall be buried in accordance with regulations of the county board of health, if applicable.

(d)

If the owner, possessor or custodian of an animal is not known, and the animal is upon the public streets, alleys, sidewalks, school grounds or other public places or premises, or property of another, without the property owner's permission, as prohibited by this section, any law enforcement officer or agent or employee duly authorized by the county shall be authorized to immediately take possession of such animal and impound it in accordance with the rules and regulations provided by law or by ordinance of the county for the detention, control and disposition of animals.

(e)

Once impounded, an animal shall be kept for a period of time as outlined in this article, and, thereafter, if the animal is not claimed by anyone after a reasonable effort has been made to locate the owner, possessor or custodian of the animal as provided in this article, the animal may be disposed of in a humane fashion or in accordance with the rules and regulations of the state.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF HOT CAR LANGUAGE

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Sec. 10-49. - Animal neglect.

(a)

Any animal or livestock owner or possessor who fails to provide adequate drink, adequate food, adequate space, adequate shelter, sanitary conditions, necessary veterinary care, and/or who causes unnecessary suffering of any animal or livestock shall be deemed in violation of this section.

(b)

It shall be unlawful to leave animals unattended in a parked vehicle without proper ventilation to prevent the animal from suffering physical distress from heat exhaustion.

(c)

Any animal control officer or other officer empowered to act by law may impound any animal found to be neglected, as defined by this section.

Sec. 10-50. - Duty of animal owners to be responsible owners.

It shall be the duty of every owner or custodian of any animal to exercise reasonable care and take all necessary steps and precautions to protect other people, property, and animals from injuries or damage which might result from their animal's behavior. If the owner or custodian of any animal is a minor, the parent or guardian of such minor shall be responsible to ensure compliance with all provisions of this chapter.

Sec. 10-51. - Hoarders.

It shall be unlawful for any person to collect animals and fail to provide them with humane/adequate care, collect dead animals that are not properly disposed of as required by this article, or collect, house, or harbor animals in filthy, unsanitary conditions that constitute a health hazard to the animals being kept, and/or to the animals or residents of adjacent property.

Sec. 10-52. - Right of entry.

A law enforcement officer may use any force necessary to remove any animal locked in a closed vehicle when the ambient temperature is 80 degrees Fahrenheit or above, outside the vehicle. If the vehicle is damaged during such removal, the law enforcement officer shall not be liable for any damage to the vehicle.

BARTOW COUNTY

Sec. 14-14. - Control of animals.

(e)

Animals in vehicles. No person shall leave or confine an animal in any unattended motor vehicle under conditions that endanger the health or well-being of an animal due to heat, cold, lack of adequate ventilation, or lack of food or water, or other circumstances that could reasonably be expected to cause suffering, disability, or death to the animal.

City or Town of Alto, HABERSHAM COUNTY

Sec. 6-21. - Right of entry.

A law enforcement officer may use any force necessary to remove any animal locked in a closed vehicle when the ambient temperature is 80 degrees Fahrenheit or above outside the vehicle. If the vehicle is damaged during such removal, the law enforcement officer shall not be liable for any damage to the vehicle.

HALL COUNTY

4.10.350. - Animal abuse—Leaving in autos.

A.

Any person who transports any animal in any vehicle or leaves an animal in a vehicle unattended with the outside temperature higher than 80 degrees shall be in violation of this chapter unless sufficient ventilation is provided to prevent the animal from being in distress.

B.

No animal shall be transported in the closed trunk of a vehicle.

C.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF HOT CAR LANGUAGE

When the conditions inside a parked vehicle provide reasonable cause to believe the animal may die if not immediately removed as shown by the animal's physical appearance and a violation of paragraphs A. or B. is present, any animal left in a parked vehicle may be removed from that vehicle by animal control, any law enforcement agency or fire agency. Hall County shall not be liable for any damage caused to such vehicle in order to remove said animal.

COWETA COUNTY

Sec. 10-12. - Right of entry.

(a)

The animal services officers, county code enforcement officers, sheriff's deputies and other enforcement officers of the county are hereby authorized to enter upon any premises or parcel of land for the purpose of seizing and impounding any animal found therein or thereon to be in violation of this chapter, including, but not limited to, an animal that has bitten a person within ten days.

(b)

Animal services may take all necessary steps to remove any animal locked in a closed vehicle if the animal is subject to danger of injury because of temperature. **The operator of the vehicle will be charged with cruelty to animals as defined in this chapter.** No injunction or claim for damages may be placed against animal services or its officers for this action.

BURKE COUNTY

Sec. 10-26. - Right of entry into vehicle.

An officer charged with the responsibility of enforcing this chapter may use any force necessary to remove any animal confined in a closed vehicle that is not adequately cooled or ventilated **when the temperature outside the vehicle is 70 degrees Fahrenheit or above outside the vehicle or that officer determines that the animal contained inside the vehicle is in distress or eminent danger.** If the vehicle is damaged during such removal, the county, or the officer attempting the removal of said animal shall not be liable for any damage to the vehicle or its contents.

SAVANNAH

Sec. 9-5026. - Animals left in unattended cars.

It shall be unlawful to leave any animal unattended in a standing or parked motor vehicle in a manner that endangers the health or safety of the animal. Any animal services employee or other law enforcement agent may use reasonable force to remove the animal from the vehicle if such employee or agent believes the animal is in jeopardy of death or serious injury. Nothing herein constitutes a waiver of sovereign immunity. Any act of removing an animal from an unattended vehicle is within the sole discretion of the employee or agent pursuant to his or her training or experience.

XXXXXX???

Sec. 14-23. - Right of entry.

An officer charged with the responsibility of enforcing this chapter may use any force necessary to remove any animal confined in a closed vehicle when the ambient temperature is 70 degrees Fahrenheit or above outside the vehicle. If the vehicle is damaged during such removal, neither the county, or the officer attempting the removal of said animal shall be liable for any damage to the vehicle or its

COBB COUNTY

ec. 10-121.6. - Animals in motor vehicles.

Any person shall be in violation of this chapter who:

-1

Transports an animal in a pickup or other open vehicle unless the animal is either:

a.

Fully enclosed within the vehicle.

b.

Protected by a belt, halter, tether, cage, container or other device that will prevent the animal from falling, jumping or being thrown from the motor vehicle and that will protect the animal from harm.

-2

Leaves an animal in a parked vehicle when temperatures inside the vehicle may adversely affect the animal's health and welfare.

When the conditions inside a parked vehicle constitute an imminent threat to the animal's health or safety, any animal left in a parked vehicle may be removed from that vehicle by CCAC, any law enforcement agency, or fire agency.

-3

Leaves an animal unrestrained or unattended in any parked open vehicle.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF HOT CAR LANGUAGE

-4

Leaves an animal in any vehicle where it must stand, sit or lie on extremely hot or cold surfaces including but not limited to truck beds.

WARE COUNTY

Sec. 10-23. - Animals in vehicles.

(a)

An animal may not be placed or confined, or allowed to be placed or confined or allowed to remain in an unattended vehicle without sufficient ventilation, or under conditions or for such a period of time as may be expected to endanger the health or well-being of such animal due to heat, lack of water or such other circumstances as may be expected to cause suffering, debility or death.

(b)

An officer or animal services officer who finds an animal in a vehicle in violation of this section may enter the vehicle by using the amount of force reasonable necessary to remove the animal.

(c)

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prohibit the transportation of horses, cattle, sheep, poultry or other agricultural livestock in trailers or other vehicles designed and constructed for such purposes.

(d)

No person shall transport or carry on any public highway, roadway or thoroughfare any dog or cat or other animal in a vehicle unless the animal is safely enclosed within the vehicle, or, if, traveling in the bed of an open vehicle (including but not limited to convertibles, pickup and flatbed trucks without a topper), is confined by a secured, well-ventilated container of proper size or properly tethered to prevent the animal from falling or jumping from the vehicle.

CARROLL COUNTY

Sec. 14-60. - Interference with duties of department; right of entry onto property and into vehicles; equipment.

(a)

No person shall interfere with, hinder or molest the department or any other officer in the performance of its duty or seek to release any animal in the custody of the department, except as provided in this section.

(b)

The animal control officers, sheriff's deputies and other enforcement officers of the county are authorized to enter upon any premises or parcel of land for the purpose of seizing and impounding any animal found therein or thereon to be in violation of this article, including but not limited to an animal that has bitten a person within ten days.

(c)

The department may use any force necessary to remove any animal locked in a closed vehicle between the dates of May 1 and September 13. The operator of the vehicle will be charged with cruelty to animals as defined in this article. No injunction or claim for damages may be placed against the department or its officers for this action.

(d)

The animal department is authorized to employ any equipment it deems necessary to enforce the provisions of this article, including, but not limited to, humane wire box traps; and the department may, subject to conditions it may determine, lend such traps or other equipment to private persons for the purpose of preventing nuisances resulting from animals at large.

HEARD COUNTY

Sec. 6-32. - Animals locked in vehicles.

Animal control may take all necessary steps to remove any animal locked in a closed vehicle if the animal is subject to danger of injury due to the temperature. **The operator of the vehicle will be charged with cruelty to animals as defined in this chapter.** No injunction or claim for damages may be placed against the animal control or its officers for this action.

EXAMPLES OF ADOPTION RESTRICTIONS LANGUAGE**CLAYTON COUNTY****Sec. 14-302. - Regulations.**

(a)

Any public or private animal shelter, animal control agency operated by the state, county or a municipality, humane society, or public or private animal refuge shall make provisions for the sterilization of all dogs or cats acquired from such shelter, agency, society, or refuge by:

Providing sterilization by a licensed veterinarian before relinquishing custody of the animal.

Entering into a written agreement with the person acquiring such animal guaranteeing that sterilization will be performed by a licensed veterinarian within 30 days after acquisition of such animal in the case of an adult animal or within 30 days of the sexual maturity of the animal in the case of an immature animal; provided, however, that the requirements of the Code section shall not apply to any privately owned animal which any shelter, agency, society, or refuge may have in its possession for any reason if the owner of such animal claims or presents evidence that such animal is the property of such person.

(b)

All costs of sterilization pursuant to this section shall be the responsibility of the person acquiring such animal and, if performed prior to acquisition, may be included in any fees charged by the shelter, agency, society, or refuge for such animal.

A sterilization bond shall be paid by the adopting person at the time of adoption. The amount of the sterilization bond shall be determined by the chief, county police department, or his or her designee; it shall not exceed the amount of the highest cost of sterilization charged by veterinarians participating in the sterilization bond program.

The sterilization bond is redeemed by the licensed veterinarian who performs the sterilization and completes the written statement attesting the same, who should be a licensed veterinarian who has agreed previously to participate in the sterilization bond program.

The adopting person may redeem the sterilization bond upon presentation of satisfactory proof of sterilization, in a manner acceptable to the county animal control unit commander. The remaining cost of sterilization, if any, shall be the sole responsibility of the adopting person.

The sterilization bond will have a fixed expiration date, determined by the due date of the sterilization; however, such expiration date and due date may be extended in accordance with the provisions of section 302, subsection (i) below. Upon the expiration of the sterilization bond, the sterilization bond shall be forfeited to the Clayton County animal control unit.

(c)

Any person acquiring an animal from a public or private animal shelter, animal control agency operated by the state, county or a municipality, humane society, or public or private animal refuge, which animal is not sterile at the time of acquisition, shall submit to the animal shelter, animal control agency, humane society, or public or private animal refuge a signed statement from the licensed veterinarian performing the sterilization required by this section within seven days after such sterilization attesting that such sterilization has been performed.

(d)

Every public or private animal shelter, animal control agency operated by the state, county or a municipality, humane society, or public or private animal refuge selling or offering for sale or exchange any dog or cat shall maintain and furnish to any person acquiring an animal from such shelter, agency, society, or refuge a current list of veterinarians licensed in this state who have notified the shelter, agency, society, or refuge that they are willing to perform sterilizations and the cost for such procedures.

(e)

In the event of the death of an adopted cat or dog before the due date of the sterilization, the adopting person shall establish the death of said cat or dog: (i) by filing with the county animal control unit an affidavit attesting to the fact the animal has died; or (ii) by leaving the body of the dog or cat with personnel of the county animal control unit for verification of death; or (iii) by providing to personnel of the county animal control unit a statement from a licensed veterinarian attesting to the death of the animal. The proof of death of the cat or dog must be provided to the county animal control unit before the due date of sterilization. If the adopting person does not provide such proof within the period specified, he or she may be charged for failure to sterilize under this section.

(f)

In the event that the adopted dog or cat is stolen, the adopting person shall file a police report with the appropriate jurisdiction, stating the circumstances of the theft and a description of the animal in as much detail as possible. The police report shall be presented to county animal control before the due date of the sterilization to relieve the adopting person of the sterilization

EXAMPLES OF ADOPTION RESTRICTIONS LANGUAGE

(g)

In the event that the adopted dog or cat runs away, or is lost or is given away by the adopting person, the adopting person shall not be relieved from the sterilization requirement. However, upon disposition of a case where this subsection is applicable, the adopting person shall be relieved of future responsibility as to that dog or cat.

(h)

If the dog or cat is unable to be sterilized due to a medical condition or other reason which would affect the dog's or cat's well-being, the adopting person shall provide a written statement from a licensed veterinarian attesting to the condition preventing the animal's sterilization. If such written statement is not in the possession of the county animal control unit on or before the due date for sterilization, it shall constitute the offense of failure to sterilize against the adopting person.

(i)

It shall be the sole responsibility of the adopting person to provide proof of sterilization, on or before the due date of sterilization, to the county animal control unit. In the event of a dispute as to the due date of sterilization, a licensed veterinarian shall determine the due date of sterilization; said determination shall be in writing and in the possession of the county animal control unit on or before the previous due date of sterilization. If such proof or such determination is not in the possession of the county animal control unit on or before the due date for sterilization, it shall constitute the offense of failure to sterilize against the adopting person.

Sec. 14-303. - Penalty for violation.

Any person who violates any provision of this chapter [article] shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as provided in section 1-12 of this Code. Each and every violation of the provisions of this chapter [article] shall constitute a separate offense.

COWETA COUNTY

Sec. 10-8. - Impoundment.

(a)

The animal services officer or other law enforcement agency shall take unrestrained and nuisance or dangerous animals to the animal shelter for humane confinement.

(b)

Impounded animals shall become the sole property of the county after three business days. No animal will be destroyed prior to seven days unless it becomes necessary due to injury, sickness or the safety of staff or other persons/animals.

(c)

Any owner or potential owner of any animal impounded in the county animal shelter must show identification to animal shelter personnel prior to release showing the individual's photograph, full name and current address. Animal shelter personnel shall photocopy this identification and attach it to the impoundment/adoption certificate for further reference. All animals adopted from the shelter shall be accomplished by an adult of at least the age of 18 years. **If a person is considered a renter or tenant in a property owned by other parties such as an apartment or mobile home park, the written approval of the landlord or tenant representative must be obtained and presented to animal services prior to adoption.**

(d)

Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, animal services may humanely destroy any animal impounded in the animal shelter upon the verifiable opinion of a veterinarian that destruction of the animal is necessary to prevent disease or injury to the animals or to humans, the presence or threatened presence of contagious disease, the likelihood of danger or injury to humans or animals, or any other condition and/or due to overcrowding at the animal shelter.

(e)

Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, a veterinarian has determined that he/she may humanely destroy any animal impounded in the animal shelter when animal services reasonably believes the animal has sustained an injury or disease which will likely result in maiming, prolonged and/or severe suffering or death.

(f)

No person shall adopt from more than four animals in a 12-month period from animal services. Any person who adopts an animal from the shelter and does not complete the requirements of the adoption may be prohibited from adopting any further animals from the shelter unless the person can show cause as to why the animal adoption agreement could not be completed. Failure to comply with the adoption agreement is a violation of the provisions of this chapter and subject to the issuance of a citation and prosecution in magistrate court.

(g)

EXAMPLES OF ADOPTION RESTRICTIONS LANGUAGE

If any animal is identifiable by means of a tag, tattoo, microchip, or other means, the owner or keeper shall be notified by an impound notice conspicuously left upon the premises of the owner or keeper or by telephone by an animal services officer or shelter personnel, at the earliest practical time.

(h)

Any animal being reclaimed from the animal shelter will be microchipped at the owner or keeper's expense. (Registration will initially be completed by shelter staff and after the annual renewal will be the responsibility of the owner.) This is an invasive procedure by way of injection and shall be performed prior to release of the animal.

(i)

Any animal being reclaimed from the animal shelter which has not been spayed or neutered is subject to having to pay an additional \$100.00 fee if the animal is impounded for a second time, plus the animal will be spayed or neutered at the owner's expense. If the animal is impounded for a third time the owner will be subject to an additional fee of \$200.00, provided that any registered breeding animal that is impounded will be returned to the owner without being spayed or neutered but will be subject to the additional fee as described above.

(j)

The owner or keeper of an impounded animal shall pay all fees associated with the impoundment of the animal, including, but not limited to, impoundment fee, daily boarding charges, additional fees and any medical services rendered while in impoundment.

(k)

It shall be the animal services officer's discretion to return any animal in violation of this section to its owner or keeper, provided that the owner or keeper is present and is able to safely and humanely confine or restrain the animal, provided that the officer is still in the vicinity of the owner's location.

Sec. 10-9. - Adoption.

(a)

Animal services may convey ownership (permit adoption of) or transfer any animal which has become the property of animal services to a responsible person subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by animal services and enforcement including, but without limitation, the following:

-1

Payment of an adoption fee to be set by the county commission or other costs associated with the handling and care of the animal to be adopted including veterinary fees, microchipping and spaying or neutering, if applicable.

-2

Adoption fees for dogs and cats shall be as determined from time to time by the board of commissioners and listed in the schedule of fees and charges.

-3

For other animals, the fee is to be set by the director for animal services based upon fair market pricing.

-4

The adoption fee does not include costs for spaying or neutering, vaccinations or licensing; but an agreement must be signed by the adoptee that the animal will receive its spay/neuter within 14 days after the adoption, vaccination/shots within seven days after the adoption date unless otherwise provided for in this chapter.

-5

Should the county commissioners approve a spay/neuter program, animal services will charge a fee for the service prior to delivering the animal to the adopting owner. Spay/neuter and rabies vaccines will be completed prior to an adoptive owner receiving their new pet. The cost of which will be determined by an agreement with the veterinarian and the director of

(b)

Evidence must be presented to animal services that the animal has been examined by a veterinarian and vaccinations against rabies and other disease have been administered within seven days of the adoption date.

(c)

Evidence must be presented to animal services that the animal adopted has been neutered or spayed by a veterinarian within 14 days of the adoption date. The only exemption to this requirement is if a sworn statement from a veterinarian is presented that explains in detail that, for health or age reasons, the animal cannot be spayed or neutered and that shows a new date for spaying or neutering the

(d)

Any person adopting an animal from animal services shall be required to sign an adoption agreement and abide by its provisions.

(e)

EXAMPLES OF ADOPTION RESTRICTIONS LANGUAGE

Humane societies and rescue group members are required to provide proof of up-to-date licensing as a humane society or rescue group and an original of the Department of Agriculture Agency Transfer form. Adoption fees are waived but does not include charges for medications given or other veterinary charges including the microchipping of the animal(s).

(f)

The director of animal services shall be allowed to make adoptions waiving all or part of the fees for cause. Cause must be stated in the adoption agreement but does not waive any other requirements for spay and neuter nor does it waive the requirement for veterinary care or microchipping.

(g)

Persons failure to comply with the above requirements will be revoked from being allowed to adopt any more animals from the animal shelter and may be charged for failure to comply by issuance of a citation and prosecution in the magistrate court.

(h)

Animal services officers may impound any animal adopted from the shelter for failure to comply with adoption agreements.

COBB COUNTY

Sec. 10-69. - Adoption.

(a)

CCAC shall endeavor to locate adopters for adoptable animals. No adoption shall become final until the termination of the impoundment period or confinement period provided for in section 10-67. No person under 18 years of age may adopt an animal and all adopters must provide proper identification prior to the adoption.

(b)

As a condition precedent to adoption, all fees pursuant to section 10-37(a) shall be paid by the adopter.

(c)

The unit manager shall have the right to refuse adoption to any person or entity who, for any reason, in the discretion of the unit manager or his designee, may be deemed unsuitable as an adopter.

(d)

No transfer of any animal held at the animal shelter shall be valid without the written approval of CCAC.

(e)

All animals adopted from the animal shelter shall be neutered or spayed. Upon completion of neutering or spaying, within the period specified by CCAC, the veterinarian performing such operation shall submit to CCAC signed certification of such operation. The adopter shall be responsible for providing proof that the animal has been sterilized within seven days of the surgery or will insure that the licensed veterinarian responsible for the spay/neuter surgery submits signed verification to CCAC that the sterilization process has been accomplished.

(f)

No person residing in the same household, nor any corporation, institute or other entity, may adopt more than three animals within any 12-month period; however, nothing shall prohibit CCAC discretion to donate more than three animals in a 12-month period, if the donation is in the best interest or welfare of the animal or it is in the best interest of public safety.

(g)

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, CCAC shall have the right to keep any animal which could otherwise be adopted or sold.

JACKSON COUNTY

Sec. 8-41. - Adoption.

(a)

County animal control shall endeavor to locate adopters for adoptable animals. No adoption shall become final until the termination of the impoundment period provided for in section 8-37 and/or confinement period provided for in article VI of this chapter. No person under 18 years of age may adopt an animal and all adopters must provide proper identification prior to the adoption.

(b)

As a condition precedent to adoption, all fees and costs incurred pursuant to section 8-32 shall be paid by the adopter, unless such fees and/or costs are otherwise waived or reduced in the sole discretion of the animal control manager.

(c)

The animal control manager or his designee shall have the right to refuse adoption to any person or entity who is deemed unsuitable as an adopter.

(d)

EXAMPLES OF ADOPTION RESTRICTIONS LANGUAGE

No transfer of any animal held at animal control facilities shall be valid without the written approval of county animal control.

- (e) Prior to adoption, the animal must be spayed/neutered and microchipped. If the animal cannot be sterilized as required due to disease, medical condition, age, weight, or for other reasons as specified by a veterinarian, then a signed verification from a licensed veterinarian shall be delivered to county animal control by the adopter and the animal shall be sterilized upon recovery or as soon as recommended by the veterinarian. Any adopted animal not sterilized within the time specified may be reclaimed by county animal control.
- (f) No person residing in the same household, nor any corporation, institute or other entity, may adopt more than three animals within any 12-month period; however, nothing shall prohibit county animal control from exceeding this limit if the donation is in the best interest or welfare of the animal or it is in the best interest of public safety.
- (g) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, county animal control shall have the right to keep any animal which could otherwise be adopted or sold.

FORSYTH COUNTY

Sec. 14-77. - Adoption.

- (a) The county animal services division or personnel from its designated animal control shelter may offer for adoption or placement with any person or any organization approved by the county or its agent an animal otherwise scheduled to be disposed of (euthanized) under the provisions of this chapter. No animal impounded shall be released to any person or organization for the purpose of animal experimentation. Any person or organization adopting an animal from the county shall pay the county for rabies inoculation, necessary medical treatment, and any other administrative fees designated by the county. **Additionally, any person seeking to adopt an animal from the county shall provide a written certification disclosing any convictions for animal cruelty or animal neglect under any federal, state, or local laws. No animal may be adopted from the county shelter by any person who, within ten years from the conviction or plea date, was convicted or pled guilty (to include a plea of nolo contendere), to animal cruelty or animal neglect whether such conviction is a felony, misdemeanor, or ordinance-based conviction under any federal, state or local law.**
- (b) **The county will spay or neuter all dogs and cats at or immediately prior to the time of adoption if the animal is approximately eight weeks of age and weighing at least two pounds, unless otherwise recommended by a licensed veterinarian.**
- (c) The requirement set forth in section 14-77(b) shall not apply if the owner of the dog or cat claims or presents evidence that such dog or cat is the property of such person or organization.

CHATAHOOCHEE (CUSSETA)

Sec. 6-35. - Fees schedule and miscellaneous regulations.

- (a) A schedule of fees to be collected by the animal control officer shall be adopted from time to time by the commission and kept on file with the animal control officer. All fees collected shall be paid over to the unified government treasury on a weekly basis.
- (b) Dogs and cats adopted or reclaimed must have a current rabies certificate. Dogs and cats to be adopted or reclaimed without proof of a current inoculation must receive a rabies inoculation prior to adoption or reclaiming. The animal control officer shall require such inoculation to be accomplished before releasing the animal, and shall include the cost of the inoculation with other fees, and in addition to all other fees, to be paid at the time of adoption or reclamation.
- (c) Dogs and cats can be adopted only if sterilized at the time of adoption or by the age of six months in the case of dogs and cats younger than six months of age. The animal control officer shall collect the estimated cost of sterilization at the time of adoption, in addition to all other fees, give a receipt thereof to the person adopting the animal which receipt shall state that the fees represented thereby will be paid to a licensed veterinarian performing the procedure upon return of the receipt within 30 days to the animal control officer with a veterinarian's certificate as to the completion of the procedure.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

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EXAMPLES OF DOG LICENSE OR REGISTRATION LANGUAGE

CATOOSA COUNTY

Sec. 14-6. - Rabies inoculations.

All dogs and cats over 90 days old kept within the county shall be inoculated so as to provide immunity from rabies. Said inoculations shall remain current and shall be given with a vaccine approved by and according to a schedule approved by the Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control, 2005 Edition, as published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as amended from time to time and the provisions of which are expressly incorporated herein. Said inoculations shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.

Inoculations given outside the State of Georgia shall be recognized, provided the owner of said animal has within their possession a receipt showing the date of inoculation, the identity of the veterinarian administering the vaccine, the manufacturer of the vaccine and the lot number of the vaccine.

Sec. 14-7. - Rabies tags.

A valid rabies vaccination tag shall be securely attached to a dog or cat's collar or harness and must be secured to and on the dog or cat at all times, and it shall be the duty and responsibility of the owner to see that the tag is so attached and secured at all times.

Sec. 14-8. - County registration tag.

All dogs and cats over 90 days old and kept within the county shall have securely attached to their collar or harness a county registration tag. Such tag will have upon it engraved "Registered Catoosa County", the current year for which it is valid and an individual number to identify the animal and its owner. Such a tag will be valid for one year from the date of its issuance and will not be issued without proof of a current rabies inoculation. The cost of such registration will be borne by the owner of the animal and monies collected are to be used in the operations of the department of animal control.

Fee schedule is as follows:

Unaltered dog or cat: \$5.00.

Altered dog or cat: \$2.50.

Unaltered dog or cat (senior citizen/65 or older): \$2.50.

Altered dog or cat (senior citizen/65 or older): \$0.00 no charge.

Service animals/law enforcement animals altered or not: \$0.00 no charge

City of Fitzgerald - Ben Hill County

ARTICLE VI. - DOG LICENSES[5]

Sec. 5-141. - Dog license required.

(a) Any person owning or having custody of a dog, except tourists or visitors who stay less than thirty (30) days within the City of Fitzgerald, shall apply for and obtain from the animal shelter a separate dog license for each dog they own, possess, keep, or harbor, after it is four (4) months old. Such persons must possess the license at the time the dog is five (5) months old or thirty (30) days after obtaining or bringing any dog over four (4) months of age into the city.

Such persons shall renew the dog license before it expires for as long as they own, possess, keep, harbor, or otherwise have custody of the dog.

(b) Any person desiring to own or possess a dog kept within the city shall obtain a license on or before the thirty-first day of March of each year, or within thirty (30) days after dog is four (4) months of age.

(c) Licenses shall be valid for a period of twelve (12) months and must be renewed prior to the expiration term by the payment of the current effective fee for each renewal.

(d) The dog owner shall securely affix the current license tag to the collar or harness of the dog for which the license tag was issued and shall ensure that the dog wears such license tag at all times except when the dog is being exhibited at a dog show.

(e) A license tag issued for one (1) dog shall not be transferred or attached to any other dog.

(f) No unauthorized person shall remove a license tag from a collar or harness or remove the collar or harness bearing such tag from a dog.

(g)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF DOG LICENSE OR REGISTRATION LANGUAGE

Whenever a license tag is lost or damaged, the owner shall apply for and obtain a replacement from the animal shelter upon payment of the prescribed fee.

Sec. 5-142. - Application requirements; information.

(a)

The application shall include the name, address, home and/or business telephone number, occupation, name, variety, age, sex, color, weight of dog and further include the date on which the dog was last inoculated for rabies, the type (one-year or three-year) inoculation received, and number of other dogs, if any.

(b)

The owner of such dog shall provide proof that the rabies vaccination is valid, by presenting a valid rabies certificate as listed in section 5-116.

Sec. 5-143. - Change of address.

The address of the owner is presumed to be the address where the dog is kept. Any change of address must be report to the animal shelter within thirty (30) days following such change.

Sec. 5-144. - Change of ownership.

Whenever the ownership of a licensed dog changes, the new owner shall apply for and obtain a change of ownership license from the animal shelter and pay the applicable fee. Such persons must possess the license within thirty (30) days of acquiring a dog currently licensed by the animal shelter.

MACON-BIBB COUNTY

ARTICLE II. - LICENSING AND RABIES CONTROL

Sec. 5-10. - Licensing; rabies inoculation; tag; fees.

(a)

License required. Any person owning, keeping, harboring, or having custody of a dog or cat six (6) months old or older within the territorial limits of Macon-Bibb County for more than 120 days in a 12-month period is required to obtain a registration license tag for such animal by registering it with the Macon-Bibb County Animal Welfare Department.

(b)

Rabies inoculation. When initially registering an animal, the owner shall produce proof of current rabies vaccination and shall thereafter forward proof of vaccination renewal to the Macon-Bibb County animal welfare department. Failure to maintain current rabies vaccination records with Macon-Bibb County shall render the annual animal registration invalid. All dogs and cats must be inoculated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian before a license can be issued; provided, however, a license may be issued in cases where a licensed veterinarian certifies that a vaccination against rabies would be detrimental to the dog or cat.

(c)

Tag. The license tag and rabies tag may be combined in one metallic tag as prescribed by the regulations of the animal welfare department and shall be issued by the licensed veterinarian at the time the dog or cat is inoculated against rabies. In the event that the dog or cat is inoculated outside of Macon-Bibb County, a separate license tag may be issued for such animal. The license tag shall carry a serial number which shall be shown on the receipt given the owner of the dog or cat along with the breed of dog or cat, color and sex. A duplicate copy of this receipt shall be filed with the director of the animal welfare department in a manner and within the time prescribed by the department regulations.

(d)

Fees.

The amount of yearly license fees, duplicate tag fees, and transfer of license fees shall be provided for by regulations of the animal welfare department.

Prior to the filing of any revision of fees with the clerk of the commission such revision shall be published once each week for two (2) consecutive weeks in the publication used for the publishing of other notices to the public.

The animal welfare department may budget a portion of the fees received, up to fifty (50) percent of the total, to fund participation in a low cost spay/neuter program to be provided for by department regulations.

(e)

Term of license; time of inoculation. All dogs and cat licenses shall be issued for one (1) year and shall be renewed annually. All dogs and cats shall be inoculated for rabies prior to each annual renewal of their licenses. Newly born dogs and cats shall be given their initial inoculation within 16 weeks after birth, and the inoculation shall be renewed each year thereafter on or within thirty (30) days prior to the date of issue.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

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EXAMPLES OF DOG LICENSE OR REGISTRATION LANGUAGE

- (f)
Duplicate tag. If the metallic license tag or tags issued for a dog or cat shall be lost, the owner may obtain a duplicate tag or tags upon the payment of the required fee and the presentation of the original license certificate or proof thereof to the officer of the animal welfare department or a licensed veterinarian.
- (g)
Transfer of license. If there is a change in ownership of a dog or cat during the license year, the new owner shall have the current license transferred to his or her name upon the payment of the required transfer fee to the animal welfare department or licensed veterinarian.
- (h)
Unlawful use of license. No person shall use a license receipt or license tag issued for one (1) dog or cat on a different dog or cat.
- (i)
Exemptions. Working law enforcement dogs, registered service dogs, and service dogs in training shall be exempted from payment of an annual license fee. A veterinarian inoculating such exempt dog shall note the exemption on the record to be submitted to the animal welfare director along with the number of the tag issued to such dog. Any person falsely certifying an animal to be exempt under this subsection shall be guilty of a violation of this section.
- (j)
[In lieu of civil penalty.] In lieu of the civil penalty for violation, a person cited under this section may register his or her dog or cat with the Macon-Bibb County Animal Welfare Department within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of the citation and the civil penalty will be voided.

Sec. 5-11. - Tag and collar.

- (a)
Upon complying with the provisions of section 5-10, there shall be issued to the owner a numbered metallic tag or set of tags, stamped with the number and the year for which issued. The shape or design of such tag or tags shall be changed from year to year.
- (b)
The numbered tag tags so issued shall be attached to a collar or harness which shall be worn by the dog at all times. All cat and dog owners shall be required to furnish proof of their licenses upon a request by the officers of the animal welfare department and the Office of the Sheriff.

City or town of Alto - HABERSHAM COUNTY

Sec. 6-30. - Licensing of dogs and cats.

- (a)
Exemptions from article. The provisions of this article shall not apply to:
- 1
Any dog or cat belonging to any person on a sojourn through the town or for bench or show purposes in the town, or other temporary purposes; or
- 2
Any foster pet animal.
Owners of dogs or cats which have been sent to licensed kennels or eateries in the town for breeding purposes shall not be required to furnish a health and immunization certificate.
- (b)
Required—Generally.
- 1
It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep or harbor any dog or cat within the town or bring an animal into the town to function as a guard dog or watch dog, unless such dog or cat has been licensed by the town (through designated agents, hereinafter referred to as the "authority") as required by the provisions of this article; provided, however, that this section shall not apply to any dog or cat which has not reached the age of 16 weeks.
- 2
The owner, possessor or harbinger of any above described dog or cat over 16 weeks of age must have them vaccinated and must have a current rabies vaccination tag showing that such animals have been vaccinated. No license will be issued unless proof of inoculation is shown.
- 3

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF DOG LICENSE OR REGISTRATION LANGUAGE

The following classification of owners of dogs and cats shall be exempt from paying the higher license fee for fertile dogs and cats. The following exempt persons shall be required to purchase a license for their dog or cat but will pay a lower fee as determined by the county board of health:

a.

Any owner of a dog or cat who can furnish a statement from a licensed veterinarian that the animal, due to health reasons, could not withstand spay/neuter surgery.

b.

Any owner of one or more purebred dogs or cats who can furnish proof of participation in at least three nationally recognized confirmation or obedience shows within the past 12 months. The exemption only applies to the dogs or cats in the owner's household of the same breed that were shown. Proof of participation must go beyond records showing a filing fee was paid, and owner must validate actual showing of the animal.

c.

Any handicapped owner of a dog who uses the dog to assist in his disability and said dog is spayed or neutered shall obtain a license free of charge.

(c)

Date for obtaining license. Licenses required by the provisions of this article shall be procured on or before March 15 of each year.

-1

If a dog or cat is acquired by an owner, such license shall be acquired within 30 days after date of acquisition of such animal.

-2

If the owner becomes a resident of the town after March 15, he or she shall acquire such license within 30 days after he or she establishes residency in the town.

(d)

Fees—Generally. The annual fee for a license required by the provisions of this article shall be a sum according to the following schedule:

- (1) Each neutered male or spayed female dog
- (2) Each sterilized cat
- (3) Each intact male or female dog/cat
- (4) Handling fee
- (5) Alto administrative fee

Proof of sterilization and current rabies vaccination must accompany all license applications. Where written application is made to the town's designates, such designees may charge a handling fee, not to exceed \$5.00 per license.

Provided, however, that such fees shall not apply to a blind owner, keeper or harbinger of any dog or to the hearing-impaired owner, keeper or harbinger of a hearing-aid dog or other service dog.

All fees are subject to change year to year at the discretion of the town council.

(e)

Late charge. In the event an owner fails to voluntarily acquire a license under the provisions of this article within the time required, he or she shall pay a charge of \$50.00 in addition to the fees required by this article. The authority may, in its discretion, declare an amnesty period for such late charges.

(f)

Issuance; tag.

-1

Upon payment of the required fees, the authority shall issue a numbered receipt and tag as necessary to the owner for the dog or cat licensed.

-2

Such license receipt shall contain the owners name and address and such description of the dog or cat as may be required for purposes of identification, and the number of the tag issued therefore.

-3

Such tag shall be in such form and description as the authority shall determine from time to time.

(g)

Separate license required for each dog and cat. A separate license or tag is required under the provisions of this article for each dog or cat owned, kept or harbored by any person.

(h)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF DOG LICENSE OR REGISTRATION LANGUAGE

Identification required. Upon receiving a tag under the provisions of this article, it shall be the duty of the owner or other person keeping a dog or cat to ensure that the dog or cat bears such tag attached to a durable collar or harness worn at all times. Alternatively and in lieu of the above, the owner or other person keeping a cat or dog may have the cat or dog implanted with a microchip identification at his expense. Any person implanting a microchip identification shall timely provide the microchip identification number to the animal control authority, being the town or its agents.

- (i) Records. The authority shall keep a record of the name and address of each owner obtaining a license under the provisions of this article and the number of the license and tag issued.
- (j) Expiration. Licenses issued under the provisions of this article shall be valid until March 15 of the following year.
- (k) Misuse of tag. No owner shall permit or allow his/her dog or cat to wear any license, tag or microchip as provided by subsection (g) of this section other than the one issued for such dog or cat and for the period of the license year.

PORT WENTWORTH - CHATHAM COUNTY

Sec. 4-17. - Registration of dogs.

- (a) Required. Each owner or possessor and any person who harbors or keeps any dog within the limits of the city shall cause such dog to be registered in the office of the clerk of the Chatham County Commissioners and shall secure an annual license tag for such dog.
- (b) Dog license fee. The veterinarian's fee for vaccination of a dog or cat shall be set by each individual licensed veterinarian of the State of Georgia. A license tag will be issued in exchange for a four dollar (\$4.00) fee, which will be collected by the Animal Control Center of the Chatham County Police Department from the owner of each dog or cat who has received the antirabies vaccine and rabies certificate.
(Ord. No. 78-3, § 1, 4-13-78; Ord. No. 83-3, 9-22-83)

DAWSON COUNTY

Sec. 10-64. - State rabies vaccination tag; Dawson County license tag required for dogs.

- (a) Every dog or cat three months of age or older shall be vaccinated against rabies. Dogs and cats will be revaccinated one year later. When dogs or cats one year of age or older are vaccinated with vaccines accepted by the state, county or department for providing a three-year duration of immunity, boosters will be required every three years.
- (b) At the time a dog or cat is vaccinated for rabies a Dawson County license form will be filled out by the veterinarian. This form will contain the name of the owner, address, breed, sex and color of each animal and any other descriptive data. The rabies tag will also serve as the Dawson County license tag. The veterinarian will issue each cat or dog owner a copy of the Dawson County License for their dog or cat.
- (c) The license will be initially issued when the animal is vaccinated against rabies and renewed when the animal is revaccinated for rabies or receives a booster shot annually thereof.
- (d) Each license under this code section shall not be transferable from one animal to another or from one owner to another. It shall be unlawful for any person to attach a license/vaccination tag to an animal fur which it was not issued.
- (e) In the event that the owner of an animal receives veterinarian care from an office outside of Dawson County, the owner may supply the required information directly to the animal control officer at the Dawson County Sheriff's Office and obtain their Dawson County License, during normal business hours. In the event that an owner does obtain the license at the sheriff's office, proof that the animal has been vaccinated against rabies must be shown prior to the license being issued.
- (f) The cost of the license if purchased at a veterinarian's office shall be \$1.00 above the cost of the rabies vaccination. If the license is obtained at the sheriff's office it will be issued at no charge. Each veterinarian's office shall receive \$1.00 from each license sold to defray cost to the veterinarian for providing such service to the county. The cost of the license shall be waived for persons who have seeing-eye dogs or hearing-ear dogs or any other animal used to assist a handicapped person. Any animal used by a law enforcement agency is also exempt from the cost of the license as is any other animal utilized by a governmental agency.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF DOG LICENSE OR REGISTRATION LANGUAGE

Sec. 10-65 - Dogs to wear collar, Dawson County identification tag and state vaccination tag; exceptions.

(a)

The wearing of a vaccination/license tag is not required for show dogs where the wearing of such tag could damage the coat, and except dogs when boarded in kennels or veterinary clinics, or in an area zoned for agricultural purposes where the owner or custodian of the dog in question is using the dog for hunting purposes, and has on his/her person a valid hunting license. In the latter case, the owner, custodian or harbinger shall have the tag or vaccination certificate in his/her possession where it may be shown upon demand by any duly constituted authority.

(b)

Any dog being shipped or transported through the county or city, or any dog entering the county or city for the purpose of a temporary stay, when such stay does not exceed 15 days, shall be exempt from the licensing provisions of this article; however such dogs are subject to the restraint provisions of this article.

BEN HILL COUNTY

Sec. 10-21. - License fees.

In order to curtail irresponsibility by pet owners and decrease the drastic overpopulation, license fees must vary. A separate license fee shall be charged for spayed or neutered animals and for unspayed and unneutered animals. Such fees are set by the board of county commissioners by ordinance.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES OF ANIMAL OWNERS LANGUAGE

BURKE COUNTY

Sec. 10-15. - Duties of animal owners and citizens.

(a)

In addition to the other requirements of this chapter, it shall be the duty of every owner or custodian of an animal within the county

-1

Exercise reasonable care and take all necessary steps and precautions to protect other people and property from injuries and damage that might result from the animal's behavior, regardless of whether such behavior is motivated by mischievousness, playfulness, or ferocity.

-2

Ensure that the animal is restrained or controlled to prevent it from chasing vehicles or chasing, menacing, or attacking persons or other animals.

-3

Ensure that the animal is restrained or controlled to prevent it from acting or being aggressive.

-4

Ensure that the animal is restrained or controlled to prevent it from creating a public nuisance.

-5

Ensure that the animal bears adequate identification in the form of a tag worn on a collar, subcutaneous chip, or tattoo placed on the animal for the purposes of identification, which shall provide sufficient information for the contact of the owner of the animal.

-6

Recognize that domestic animals are additionally prohibited in those public areas so designated and posted by the county or other governmental entity or private entity (for example, a homeowner's association) having authority to do so.

(b)

It shall be unlawful for any owner to conceal or falsely deny ownership of an animal to any animal services officer or other authority empowered to enforce this chapter.

(c)

Feeding animals on property of another.

-1

Feeding animals other than those owned by the private property owner is expressly forbidden unless the property owner provided express permission.

-2

Feeding animals on public property is expressly forbidden.

(d)

A citation under this section shall not replace or be a substitute for enforcement of any other section of this chapter and an owner may be subject to enforcement under all sections.

WHITE COUNTY

Sec. 10-31. - Running at large prohibited; duties of animal owners.

(a)

It shall be the duty of the owner of any animal or anyone having an animal in his possession to keep the animal under control at all times while the animal is off the real property limits of the owner, possessor or custodian. For the purposes of this section, an animal is deemed under control when it is confined within a vehicle; is secured by a leash or other device held by a competent person; is under voice control or is properly confined within an enclosure with permission of the owner of the property where the enclosure is located.

(b)

The owner or custodian of any animal that is proven to be at large shall be in violation of this section, regardless of the precautions taken to prevent the escape of the animal and regardless of lack of knowledge of the offense at the time it occurs.

(c)

Any such animal at large may be impounded by the animal control officer or an authorized representative thereof.

(d)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES OF ANIMAL OWNERS LANGUAGE

It shall be the duty of every owner or custodian of an animal or livestock within the county to exercise reasonable care and take all necessary steps and precautions to protect other people and property from injuries and damage which might result from the animal's behavior, regardless of whether such behavior is motivated by mischievousness, playfulness or ferocity. Every animal shall be restrained or controlled so as to prevent it from chasing vehicles or chasing, menacing, or attacking persons or other animals. Citation under this section shall not replace or be a substitute for enforcement of the section of this chapter dealing with dangerous or vicious dogs, and an owner may be subject to enforcement under both sections.

(e)

It shall be the responsibility of every owner of a domesticated animal to notify animal control if an animal is missing.

(f)

It shall be the duty of any animal owner or person residing with an animal owner to respond within 24 hours, or no later than 10:00 a.m. of the next business day, whichever is later, to a notice or request for information from animal control left or posted at the premises on or near where an animal is living or kept. The notice, which shall not be a citation, shall be posted prominently in full view, or left with an adult on the premises, may be delivered as part of an investigation, as the result of a complaint, or part of a follow up, and requires a response, either in person or by telephone. If the response is by telephone, any message left must provide a return number or other reliable way to make contact. **Each notice that is ignored shall constitute a separate offense.**

(g)

Except as provided in the following section, every owner of an unsterilized animal, i.e., a dog, cat or ferret, is hereby required to confine the animal at all times. Confinement shall include keeping the animal within a fence, a proper enclosure, a house, other enclosure or structure that affords the animal humane care and in all cases prevents access to other animals not kept in the same enclosure. Any time an unsterilized animal is not confined, the animal must be on a secure and sturdy leash while being walked by a responsible person. **Any unsterilized animal that is unconfined or not on a leash shall be subject to confiscation and impoundment, and, in addition to being subject to citation, the owner shall be required to have the animal sterilized within 30 days. The burden shall be on the owner of a sterilized animal to have proof available that the animal is sterilized.**

(h)

Unsterilized working animals (including show dogs) are exempt from the above confinement requirements while working, but their owners are required to keep such animals under control. The burden shall be on the owners to prove the animal was working at the time of the citation. Owners who negligently allow working animals to roam and run free at any time shall be subject to citation and sterilization under this section and under any other applicable section of this article.

(i)

It is the policy of animal control that tethering an animal as a permanent means of confinement is an unsafe, unwise, and dangerous practice. In the event an owner uses a tether to confine an animal, it shall be of sufficient construction as to not constitute abuse or a danger to the animal and shall allow the animal sufficient freedom to safely perform its necessary activities and functions in the judgment of animal control. Improper, inhumane, and unsafe tethering as a permanent means of confinement shall be considered animal cruelty.

(j)

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog or anyone having a dog in his possession and control to permit the dog to be out of control off the premises of the owner, or upon the property of another person without permission of the owner or person in

(k)

A dog within the property limits of its owner or custodian shall be under the immediate supervision of a responsible party when invitees are allowed on the property by owner.

(l)

No person shall tie, stake or fasten any animal within any street, alley, sidewalk or other public place or in such manner that the animal has access to any portion of any street, alley, sidewalk or other public place.

(m)

Every female dog or cat in heat shall be confined in a building or other enclosure in such manner that such female dog or cat cannot come into contact with a male animal except for planned breeding. Appropriate confinement does not include, among other things, tethering. No owner or custodian of any dog in heat shall permit the dog to roam or leave the property of its owner.

(n)

Every animal shall be restrained or controlled so as to prevent it from chasing vehicles or attacking persons or other domestic animals.

(o)

Any animal with no known keeper (e.g., feral cats) shall be considered stray and subject to impoundment.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF "TRANSPORTING AN ANIMAL IN THE OPEN BED OF A TRUCK" LANGUAGE

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Sec. 10-53. - Animals transported in vehicles.

No animal shall be transported on a public road in an open vehicle including an open top vehicle or open truck bed, unless the animal is humanely secured so as to prevent the animal from escaping out of the vehicle, getting tangled, or having the ability to extend over the edge of the vehicle that could result in an injury or strangulation of the animal while the vehicle is in motion. No animal shall be transported in the trunk of a vehicle or under a pickup truck's tonneau cover.

city of COMMERCE - JACKSON COUNTY

Sec. 10-21. - Animal neglect.

It shall be the duty of every owner or custodian of any animal to exercise reasonable care and take all necessary steps and precautions to protect other people, property, and animals from injuries or damage which might result from their animal's behavior. If the owner or custodian of any animal is a minor, the parent or guardian of such minor shall be responsible to ensure compliance with all provisions of this article.

(a)

Any animal or livestock owner or possessor who fails to provide adequate drink, adequate food, adequate space, adequate shelter, sanitary conditions, necessary veterinary care, and/or who causes unnecessary suffering of any animal or livestock shall be deemed in violation of this section and such animal shall be deemed neglected.

(b)

It shall be unlawful to leave animals unattended in a parked vehicle without proper ventilation to prevent the animal from suffering physical distress from heat exhaustion and such violation shall be deemed neglected.

(c)

Any animal control officer or other officer empowered to act by law may impound any animal found to be neglected, as defined by this section.

(d)

It shall be unlawful for any person to collect animals and fail to provide them with humane/adequate care, collect dead animals that are not properly preserved or disposed of as required by this article, or collect, house, or harbor animals in filthy, unsanitary conditions that constitute a health hazard to the animals being kept, and/or to the animals or residents of adjacent property.

Sec. 10-22. - Animals in vehicle.

A law enforcement officer may use any force necessary to remove any animal locked in a closed vehicle when the ambient temperature is 80 degrees Fahrenheit or above outside the vehicle. If the vehicle is damaged during such removal, the law enforcement officer shall not be liable for any damage to the vehicle.

Sec. 10-23. - Animals transported in vehicles.

No animal shall be transported on a public road in an open vehicle including an open top vehicle or open truck bed unless the animal is humanely secured so as to prevent the animal from escaping out of the vehicle, getting tangled, or having the ability to extend over the edge of the vehicle that could result in an injury or strangulation of the animal while the vehicle is in motion. No animal shall be transported in the trunk of a vehicle or under a pickup truck's bed cover.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

Sec. 5-50. - Prohibited treatment; removal of mistreated animals; payment of expenses.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for any person, either by commission or omission, to:

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF "TRANSPORTING AN ANIMAL IN THE OPEN BED OF A TRUCK" LANGUAGE

Overdrive, overload, overwork, torture, beat, mutilate, kill needlessly, carry or confine in a vehicle in an inhumane manner, or otherwise mistreat, any animal;

Fail to provide any animal with adequate food and veterinary care;

Fail to provide any animal with access to adequate shelter consisting of not less than three (3) walls and a roof adequate to protect it from all types of weather, twenty-four (24) hours daily;

Fail to provide any animal access to adequate water at all times;

Abandonment of an animal;

Intentionally poison any animal;

Allow or promote any fight between animals, or to allow or permit any such fight in or upon any premises in such person's possession or under such person's control;

Allow an animal to be kept in unsanitary conditions;

Keep or confine an animal in other than a humane manner;

No animal may be transported in the back of a pickup truck without the pickup truck bed being enclosed or the animal confined so that it may not jump, fall or be injured in any manner.

MACON-BIBB COUNTY

Sec. 5-22. - Tethering and transport, prohibited conduct.

(a)

It shall be unlawful for any owner or other person controlling or possessing any dog or cat to:]

Leave a dog or cat tethered outdoors while unattended by its owner.

Tether a dog or cat except by means of a properly fitting harness or collar of nylon or leather construction and a tether in proportion to the size of the animal. The tether must be at least fifteen (15) feet in length with a swivel at both ends.

Tether a dog or cat outdoors under conditions where the animal or tether can become entangled on the tether, another animal, or some other object or where the tether can restrict the animal's access to suitable, edible, and sufficient food, clean water (cool in summer and unfrozen in winter), and appropriate shelter.

Tether a dog or cat outdoors in unsafe or unsanitary conditions or when said tether does not allow the animal to defecate or urinate in an area separate from the areas where it must eat, drink or lie down.

Expose a dog or cat to any weather conditions that cause immediate imminent threat to the animal's physical well-being.

Transport any dog or cat in the bed of a pickup truck unless the dog or cat is secured inside of a commercially designed container intended for the safe transport of dog[s] and cats or otherwise secured so as not to allow the dog or cat the ability to escape from the vehicle.

(b)

A person who is convicted, or who pleads guilty or nolo contendere to a violation of this section shall suffer the following minimum punishment:

First offense, a minimum fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

Second offense within a one-year period, a minimum fine of three hundred dollars (\$300.00).

Third offense within a one-year period, a minimum fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), with a mandatory appearance in Municipal Court.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF "TRANSPORTING AN ANIMAL IN THE OPEN BED OF A TRUCK" LANGUAGE

Fourth or subsequent offense, a minimum fine of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1500.00), with a mandatory appearance in Municipal Court.

In addition to the above fines, all fines, regardless of the number of the offense, shall include a five dollar (\$5.00) fee to be charged and dedicated to support the educational requirements mandated for Animal Welfare personnel.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF "MOTORIST HAS A DUTY TO REPORT HITTING AN ANIMAL WITH HIS/HER VEHICLE" LANGUAGE

LAURENS COUNTY

Sec. 6-44. - Duty to report accidents involving dogs and cats.

It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly injure a dog or cat by running over, or into same, or contacting same with an automobile, motorcycle, bicycle or other vehicle. It shall also be unlawful to fail to immediately notify the owner of the dog or cat if the animal has an identification tag or tattoo.

CITY OR TOWN OF ALTO - HABERSHAM COUNTY

Sec. 6-19. - Animals transported in vehicles.

Any person who strikes or causes injury to any domestic animal while operating a motor vehicle shall notify the owner of the nature of the injury and the location of the incident if the owner is unknown, the person striking or injuring the animal shall notify Habersham County Animal Control, the town police department, or any law enforcement agency.

PICKENS COUNTY

Sec. 14-31. - Duty of motorist to notify.

Any motor vehicle operator who strikes or runs down any domesticated animal shall immediately give notice to the owner of said animal, the county sheriff's office, or other appropriate law enforcement agency. If the animal needs veterinarian aid, the owner of said animal shall be responsible for costs of said service.

POLK COUNTY

Sec. 10-8. - Motorist hitting domestic animal to make report.

Any person who, while operating a motor vehicle, strikes or causes injury to any domestic animal shall notify the owner if known or ascertainable, as well as the animal control unit, or appropriate police department, of the injury to and location of animal.

COBB COUNTY

Sec. 10-136. - Motorist hitting domestic animal to make report.

Any person who strikes or causes injury to any domestic animal while operating a motor vehicle shall notify the owner of the nature of the injury and the location of the incident. If the owner is unknown, the person striking or injuring the animal shall notify CCAC, the county police department, or any law enforcement agency.

UPSON COUNTY

Sec. 14-7. - Cruelty.

(a)

No owner shall fail to provide his animal with sufficient, wholesome and nutritious food, water in sufficient quantities, proper air, shelter space and protection from the weather, veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering, and humane care and

(b)

No person shall beat, cruelly ill-treat, torment, overload, overwork, or otherwise abuse an animal or cause, instigate or permit any dogfight, cockfight, bullfight, or other combat between animals or between animals and humans.

(c)

No owner of an animal shall abandon such animal.

(d)

Any person who, as the operator of a motor vehicle, strikes a domestic animal shall stop at once and render such assistance as may be possible and shall immediately report such injury or death to the animal's owner. If the owner cannot be ascertained and located, such operator shall at once report the accident to the appropriate law enforcement agency or to the local Humane

(e)

No person shall expose any known poisonous substance, whether mixed with food or not, so that the substance shall be liable to be eaten by any animal.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF "MOTORIST HAS A DUTY TO REPORT HITTING AN ANIMAL WITH HIS/HER VEHICLE" LANGUAGE

City of Fitzgerald - BEN HILL COUNTY

Sec. 5-86. - Treatment of animals.

(a)

Except to the extent otherwise provided in this chapter, no person except the owner of an animal, a person authorized by the owner of an animal, a licensed veterinarian or an employee, agent or servant thereof, or a person acting pursuant to any privilege or authority granted pursuant to federal, state or local law, ordinance, rule or regulation shall kill any domestic animal within the city; provided, however, that an animal may be killed by a person in order to defend his person or property, or the person or property of another, from injury or damage by the animal; and further provided that no person shall kill any animal in any manner or by any method or means which is inhumane or which causes the animal unnecessary pain or suffering under the circumstances.

(b)

No person shall maim any animal without justification and necessity or cause any animal to suffer any cruel treatment, to be subjected to any unnecessary pain or suffering, to suffer any unnecessary fright or to otherwise be subjected to any inhumane treatment.

(c)

No person shall release or abandon any animal, either alive or dead, upon any public property or upon the property of any other person.

(d)

No person shall knowingly by neglect, omission or act allow any domestic animal to endure unnecessary pain or suffering or aid or assist in the causation of any unnecessary pain, suffering or injury by any animal.

(e)

No person shall by neglect, omission or act leave exposed any poisonous or toxic liquid or substance in any manner that any domestic animal may come in contact therewith.

(f)

No person who while operating any motor vehicle which has stricken or otherwise injured any domestic animal shall, following such incident, either fail to stop and render assistance to such injured animal or promptly contact appropriate authorities relative thereto.

(g)

It shall be unlawful for any person to procure, incite or cause a cock fight in the city.

GILMER COUNTY

Sec. 14-44. - Unlawful interference by third parties.

(a)

Holding animal without consent of owner. No person shall, without the knowledge or consent of the owner, hold or retain possession of any animal which he does not own for more than 72 hours without first reporting the possession of such animal to the animal control department. This section shall not apply to those nonprofit organizations whose purpose is the protection of

(b)

Causing animals to be in violation of article. No person shall willfully cause an animal to be in violation of any portion of this

(c)

Attack, assault, or interfere with an officer of the animal control department. It shall be unlawful for any person to attack, assault, or in any way physically or verbally threaten or interfere with an animal control officer in the performance of those duties required to enforce this article.

(d)

Motorist to notify animal control department and render assistance. Any motor vehicle operator who strikes or runs down any animal shall immediately give notice to the animal control department or appropriate law enforcement agency if unable to identify the owner immediately. If the animal needs veterinarian assistance, the owner shall be responsible for any veterinary bills under the circumstances.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF "MOTORIST HAS A DUTY TO REPORT HITTING AN ANIMAL WITH HIS/HER VEHICLE" LANGUAGE

(e)

Cruelty to animals prohibited; defense allowed. No person shall perform a cruel act on any animal nor shall any person harm, maim, or kill any animal except for the animal control department as provided under section 14-38 or attempt to do so, except that a person may:

-1

Defend his person or property, or the person or property of another, from injury or damage being caused by an animal; or

-2

Kill any animal causing injury or damage to any livestock or poultry.

The method used for killing the animals shall be designed to be as humane as is possible under the circumstances. A person who humanely kills an animal under the circumstances described herein shall incur no liability for such death.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF RETAIL SALES RESTRICTIONS

WHITFIELD COUNTY - Dalton

Sec. 14-37. - Sale of dogs and/or cats.

It shall be unlawful for any person to offer any dog or cat for sale at any flea market or other temporary sales location.

JACKSON COUNTY

Sec. 8-79. - Selling/giving away of animals.

It shall be unlawful to sell or give away animals in front of or on private property or public property, other than the animal owner's property, without the owner's permission. A licensed rescue group, licensed animal shelter, licensed veterinarian, licensed pet dealer, or licensed humane society which has all required governmental licenses, registrations and has obtained permission from the owner of the business or property, may sell or give away animals on private or public property, including, but not limited to:

- 1
Retail stores;
- 2
Businesses;
- 3
Flea markets;
- 4
Yard sales; and
- 5
County animal control property.

FULTON COUNTY

Sec. 34-213. - Restrictions on the sale of animals.

(a)

A pet shop may not sell, deliver, offer for sale, barter, auction, or otherwise dispose of dogs and cats, but may offer for adoption only those dogs and cats that the pet shop owner obtained from or displays in cooperation with:

- 1
An animal care facility; or
- 2
An animal rescue organization.

(b)

A pet shop shall not offer for adoption a dog or cat that is younger than eight weeks old.

Sec. 34-214. - Recordkeeping and disclosures.

(a)

A pet shop shall maintain records sufficient to document the source of each dog or cat the pet shop acquires, for at least one year following the date of acquisition. Such records shall be made available immediately upon request by any official or officer

(b)

A pet shop that offers space for the adoption of dogs or cats shall post, in a conspicuous location on the cage or enclosure of each such animal, a sign listing the name of the animal care facility or animal rescue organization from which the pet shop acquired each

Ball Ground, CHEROKEE COUNTY

Sec. 6-11. - Definitions.

As used in this article, the term:

Animal care facility means an animal control center or animal shelter, maintained by or under contract with any state, county or municipality, whose mission and practice is, in whole, or in significant part, the rescue and placement of animals in permanent homes

Animal rescue organization means any not for profit organization which has tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, whose mission and practice is, in whole or in significant part, the rescue and placement of animals in

Cat means a member of the species of domestic cat, *Felis catus*.

Dog means a member of the species of domestic dog, *Canis familiaris*.

Pet shop means a retail establishment where dogs and cats are sold, exchanged, bartered or offered for sale as pet animals to the general public at retail. Such definition shall not include an animal care facility or animal rescue organization, as defined.

Sec. 6-12. - Restrictions on the sale of animals.

(a)

A pet shop may not sell, deliver, offer for sale, barter, auction, or otherwise dispose of dogs or cats, but may offer for adoption only those dogs and cats that the pet shop has obtained from or displays in cooperation with:

-1

An animal care facility; or

-2

An animal rescue organization.

(b)

A pet shop shall not offer for adoption a dog or cat that is younger than eight weeks old.

(Ord. of 1-11-2018)

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF RIGHT TO SEIZE LANGUAGE

City of Sylvester, WORTH COUNTY

Sec. 18-71. - Confiscation of suspected abused animals.

If an animal control officer and/or any law enforcement officer has reasonable cause to believe that any animal is subject to abuse as defined in this chapter, he shall confiscate and impound the animal pending the conclusion of an investigation. Said investigation shall be completed prior to the end of the seventh business day, at which time a finding shall be issued by the animal control officer. If a finding is made that the animal is being abused, cruelty to animal charges shall be filed against the owner and the animal will become the property of the City of Sylvester. In the event that a determination is reached that the animal is not being abused, the animal will be returned to its owner, and follow-up investigations may be conducted by the animal control officer at the discretion of the animal control officer. The responsibility for costs related to the confiscation and impoundment during the investigation will rest with the owner, regardless of the determination reached.

DOUGHERTY COUNTY

Sec. 2-3.5-29. - Impoundment.

In addition to any other remedies provided in these regulations, an animal control officer or a police officer may impound and confine to an animal shelter any of the following animals:

Any animal at large;

Any animal constituting a public nuisance or considered a danger to the public;

Any vicious or dangerous animal;

Any animal that is in violation of any quarantine or confinement order of the chief health officer of the county;

Any unattended animal that is ill, injured or otherwise in need of care;

Any animal that is reasonably believed to have been abused or neglected;

Any animal that is reasonably suspected of having rabies;

Any animal that is charged with being potentially dangerous, or dangerous where an animal control officer or the county administrator determines that there is a threat to public health and safety;

Any animal that a court of competent jurisdiction has ordered impounded or destroyed; or

Any animal that is considered unattended or abandoned, as in situations where the owner is deceased, has been arrested or evicted from his regular place of residence.

MACON-BIBB

Sec. 5-18. - Investigation.

(a)

Investigation of alleged violations of this chapter and allegations of cruelty to animals shall be conducted in accordance with proper law enforcement procedures.

(b)

Upon receiving a report which requires an investigation, or observation of a situation that requires an investigation, the Animal Welfare Officer will produce the necessary identification, explain the need to enter the property and seek oral authorization to enter the property to conduct an investigation. If a property owner or resident fails to grant said authorization, the Animal Welfare Officer shall seek the necessary warrant where required by law, and upon production of said warrant, the owner shall be required to allow entry.

GEORGIA COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCACY 2020

Georgia Animal Ordinances, section examples

EXAMPLES OF RIGHT TO SEIZE LANGUAGE

(c)

It is further provided that any agent of the animal welfare department may take possession of the animal when, in his or her opinion, it requires humane treatment. Any animal taken into custody for inhumane treatment may be reclaimed by the owner upon compliance with the regulations of the animal welfare division, subject to and/or unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

BULLOCH COUNTY

Sec. 8-162. - Forfeiture of animals for repeated violations.

An animal seized by the county pursuant to the provisions of this chapter for the same violation of this article on two or more occasions during any 24-month period of time shall be conclusively deemed to have been abandoned and forfeited by the owner. Following seizure for the 2nd such violation within any 24-month period, any animal not destroyed pursuant to the provisions of this article may be delivered to the Statesboro/Bulloch Animal Shelter or other appropriate agency.

Sec. 8-163. - Forfeiture for inhumane treatment.

(a)

The owner of an animal seized pursuant to this article, or for violation of O.C.G.A. § 16-12-4, O.C.G.A. § 4-11-10 or any other statute, law or ordinance requiring humane treatment of animals, who shall plead guilty or nolo contendere to any such offense or who shall be found guilty of such offense shall be conclusively deemed to have abandoned and forfeited the animal. The animal thereafter may be delivered to the Statesboro/Bulloch Animal Shelter or other appropriate agency pursuant to the provisions of this article.

(b)

The failure of the owner or custodian of any animal which has been seized pursuant to the provisions of this article to strictly comply with any condition, limitation, prohibition or restriction imposed with respect to the animal by the court pursuant to the provisions of this article shall be conclusively deemed to effectuate the abandonment and forfeiture of the animal by the owner or any custodian and the animal shall be seized and thereafter may be delivered to the Statesboro/Bulloch Animal Shelter or other appropriate agency pursuant to the provisions of this article.

BALDWIN COUNTY

Sec. 14-50. - Cruelty prohibited.

Any person who overloads, overdrives, drives when overloaded, overworks, tortures, torments, beats, mutilates, maims, unnecessarily kills, or inflicts any other act of cruelty upon any animal or causes such to be done shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Sec. 14-51. - Neglect prohibited.

Any person having custody of an animal, as owner or otherwise, who neglects or refuses to supply such animal with necessary and adequate care, food, drink, air, light, space, shelter and protection from the elements as prescribed in this section shall be guilty of a **misdemeanor**.

-1

Food. The food shall be wholesome, palatable, and free from contamination. Food shall be of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to maintain all animals in good health. All food receptacles shall be kept clean and sanitary.

-2

Water. If potable water is not accessible to animals at all times then it shall be provided as often as necessary for the health and comfort of each animal. All water receptacles shall be kept clean and sanitary.

-3

Shelter. Natural or artificial shelter appropriate to the local climate conditions for the species concerned shall be provided for all animals kept outdoors to afford them protection and to prevent discomfort of such animals.

-4

Sanitation. Both indoor and outdoor enclosures shall receive periodic cleanings to remove excreta and other waste materials, dirt and trash so as to minimize disease hazards and to reduce odors.

Sec. 14-52. - Authorization to take custody of animal.

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The animal control unit or any other law enforcement officer is authorized to take **immediate** custody of any animal it deems the subject of violation set forth in this article until disposition of any case arising out of the violation.

WARE COUNTY

Sec. 10-7. - Rights of officials for emergency entry.

If an animal services officer, health department representative, any law enforcement officer, or other county official has reasonable cause to believe that the keeping or maintaining of any animal is so hazardous, unsafe or dangerous as to require immediate inspection to save the animal or protect the public health or safety, he shall have the right to immediately enter and inspect such property, and may use reasonable means required to effect such entry and make inspection whether such property is occupied or unoccupied and whether or not permission to inspect has been obtained. If the property is occupied, he shall first present proper credentials to the occupant and demand entry, explaining his reasons and the purpose of the inspection. Failure or refusal to permit inspection shall constitute a misdemeanor.

HEARD COUNTY

Sec. 6-33. - Removal of animals; costs and fees.

(a)

It shall be the duty of the animal control officer to remove any animal suspected of being mistreated by the owner, from the property of the owner, if the officer deems it hazardous to the animal's welfare to leave the animal under the care of said owner.

(b)

The cost of any veterinary fees, impounding fees, and transport fees are to borne by the owner of the animal.

EXAMPLES OF SHELTER REQUIREMENTS LANGUAGE**CLAYTON COUNTY****ARTICLE VII. - CRUELTY****Sec. 14-166. - Prohibited treatment.**

It shall be unlawful for any person, either by commission or omission:

To confine an animal in a vehicle in an inhumane manner such that the animal becomes overheated or lacks adequate ventilation or is otherwise harmed.

For any owner to fail to provide any animal under his control with adequate proper food, adequate fresh water, or veterinary care. For the purpose of this subsection, owner shall mean any person, legal entity, corporation, partnership, firm, or trust owning, possessing, or having custody and control of the premises where the animal is located. For the purpose of this subsection, adequate food shall mean food of a sufficient quantity of non-contaminated and nutritionally healthy sustenance that is appropriate to the species, breed, size, age and health of the animal, or at the direction of a licensed veterinarian; which is sufficient to prevent starvation, malnutrition, or risk to the animal's health. Garbage, spoiled, rancid, or contaminated food is not adequate food. Adequate water means clean, fresh, potable water sufficient to prevent dehydration and properly sustain health presented in a clean dish, free from contamination. Examples of inadequate water include, but are not limited to, snow, ice and rancid or

To fail to provide any animal under his care with access to adequate shelter to protect it from all types of weather, 24 hours daily. For the purpose of this subsection adequate shelter means a protective covering for a domestic animal that provides adequate space and protection to maintain the animal in a state of good health, and that prevents pain, suffering, or significant risk to the animal's health. Adequate shelter shall consist of a completely enclosed structure with four sides, a constructed floor, and a roof with a door opening. It must be maintained clean, dry and compatible with current weather conditions, in addition to age, size, species and condition of the animal. The structure must be of sufficient size to allow the animal to stand, turn around, lie down and go in and out of the structure comfortably. To be adequate, some type of bedding that is quick drying, such as hay or pine straw, must be provided to maintain comfortable temperatures within the structure during times when the ambient, outside temperature is below freezing. In addition, the structure shall include a heavy plastic or rubber flap to cover the door and/or window openings during the months of November through March. From April through October, the structure shall either be shaded or moved out of direct sunlight. If the shelter is made of wood, it shall be raised at least two inches off the ground to prevent seepage or rotting. Examples of inadequate shelter include, but are not limited to, pet carriers, lean-tos, metal or plastic drums, boxes, abandoned vehicles, porches, decks, or material that does not provide sufficient protection from the elements.

To abandon any animal.

To allow an animal under his control to be kept in unsanitary conditions.

To keep or confine an animal under his control in other than a humane manner.

To allow any animal to be transported in any moving vehicle without the vehicle being enclosed or the animal confined so that it may not jump or fall out or be injured in any manner.

To unjustifiably cause death or physical pain or suffering to any animal.

BARTOW COUNTY**Sec. 14-19. - Kennels; shelters and dog houses.**

(a)

Kennel and dog enclosure requirements. All kennels or other enclosures to house more than three dogs constructed or maintained in Bartow County after May 1, 2005, shall meet the following requirements:

They shall be built on a concrete slab, contain a drainage system that drains to an approved septic system or sewer line, and shall be totally enclosed and roofed. Chain-link animal runs are permitted as long as they are roofed.

They shall be well-ventilated and provide heat and running water to the animals.

-1

EXAMPLES OF SHELTER REQUIREMENTS LANGUAGE

They shall contain runs with facilities and size sufficient to provide a humane care for the animals. No more than two dogs per run shall be permitted, except for dogs or puppies under 15 pounds, of which no more than four shall be permitted in the same run. Runs shall contain a minimum area equal in square feet to one-half the weight of the dog(s) living within the run, or be at least 30 square feet (i.e., 5 x 6), whichever is greater. For example, a 100-pound dog shall require a run of a minimum of 50 square feet (i.e., 5 x 10). A run containing one 100-pound dog and one 80-pound dog shall be a minimum of 90 square feet ($180/2=90$). Four ten-pound dogs shall require the minimum run of 30 square feet.

The minimum height of all runs shall be sufficient for the dog to stand comfortably, head up, and they shall be of sufficient width for all dogs to turn around and lie down.

All kennels must also comply with any requirements of the applicable zoning ordinance.

Offices and facilities of licensed veterinarians, licensed groomers, and the county animal shelter are exempted from these requirements.

For requirements pertaining to dogs classified as dangerous or potentially dangerous under this chapter, see section 14-67.

(b)

Shelter and dog house requirements. Outside dogs shall be provided a dog house or similar structure for shelter (such as a garage). Shelters and dog houses shall be of sufficient height for the dog to stand comfortably, head up, and shall be of sufficient width for the dog to turn around and lie down. To qualify as a shelter or dog house, the structure shall consist of at least three sides and a roof, with a floor constructed off the ground to allow for unobstructed drainage and ventilation. For standard dog houses of under 15 square feet in area, no more than one animal per dog house is permitted, except litters for 12 weeks. For multiple-dog shelters (such as garages), at least 30 square feet per dog is required. Shelters and dog houses must also allow free access to a yard area of at least 80 square feet per dog. The roof of a dog house must be metal, shingle, plastic or some other composite material other than bare wood alone. Owner must provide insulation inside the dog house when weather and temperature determine the need for it. Material such as hay or shavings is sufficient.

(c)

Zoning requirements. Kennels for maintaining more than eight dogs are also regulated by the Bartow County Zoning Ordinance, which requires a conditional use permit and a minimum of 15 acres of land, among other requirements. See Code of Bartow County, Appendix A, Zoning Ordinance, Sec. 7.1.9. Prior to erecting such a structure, the applicant shall check with the zoning department and secure necessary permission.

City of Fitzgerald - Ben Hill County**Sec. 5-96. - Providing adequate shelter.**

(a)

It shall be unlawful for any owner(s) to keep, use, or maintain dog(s) or cat(s) on any premises unless the dog(s) or cat(s) is provided adequate shelter. Said shelter, if separate from the owner's dwelling, shall:

Provide protection from the elements and weather conditions.

Be maintained in a structurally sound and reasonably sanitary condition.

Be of adequate size to allow the dog or cat to turn about freely, sit and lay in a comfortable normal position.

Have a floor raised off the ground.

Provide sufficient shade to protect from the direct rays of the sun, when sunlight is likely to cause overheating or discomfort.

(b)

Any dog confined within an enclosure other than the owner's dwelling must:

Have exercise space of at least one hundred (100) square feet.

Have all sides enclosed.

EXAMPLES OF SHELTER REQUIREMENTS LANGUAGE

Be of sufficient height to prevent the dog from escaping from the enclosure.

PICKENS COUNTY**Sec. 14-29. - Shelter requirements.**

An owner may confine his or her dog by a chain, cable, or rope which is no less than 12 feet in length and which permits the dog to reach shade, shelter and adequate food and water. The chain, cable, or rope shall be connected to the dog by a collar of sufficient size and tightness which shall adequately restrain the dog without embedding the collar in the dog's neck or impairing the dog's ability to breathe. Dogs confined by chain or fence shall be provided shelter which shall meet the following minimum requirements:

The housing facilities shall consist of walls on at least three sides and a roof, shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the dog from injury and from the elements.

Enclosures shall be constructed and maintained to provide sufficient space to allow each dog adequate freedom of movement.

Minimum standards of sanitation necessary to provide humanely clean conditions for both indoor and outdoor enclosures shall include periodic cleaning to remove excretions and other waste materials, dirt, and trash, so as to minimize health hazards.

When sunlight is likely to cause heat exhaustion of a dog chained or caged outside, sufficient shade by natural or by artificial means shall be provided to protect the dog from direct sunlight.

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EXAMPLES OF

LIBERTY COUNTY

Sec. 6-6. - Mobile home parks, apartments and condominiums or townhouses.

The allowance of animals inside mobile home parks, apartments, and condominiums or townhouses is discouraged by this chapter. Where those property owners have not taken action to prohibit pets, they shall be charged a stray pickup fee when it is ascertained that the animal belongs to a tenant or occupant in the park, apartment, condominium or townhouse, especially when pet ownership by a tenant or occupant was known by the landlord.

(Code 1987, § 4.5-7; Ord. No. 2013-006, 4-2-2013)

EXAMPLES OF BREED SPECIFIC LEGISLATION LANGUAGE**ARTICLE II. – PIT BULL DOGS**

Sec. 4-21. – Definitions; standards.

(a) As defined and used in this article, the term “pit bull dog” shall refer to any dog which exhibits those distinguishing characteristics which:

(1) Substantially conform to the standards established by the American Kennel Club for American Staffordshire Terriers or Staffordshire Bull Terriers; or

(2) Substantially conform to the standards established by the United Kennel Club for American Pit Bull Terriers.

(b) The current standards of the American Kennel Club and United Kennel Club referred to in this article and incorporated herein shall remain on file in the office of the city manager.

(Ord. No. 2013-2, § 2, 9-9-13)

Sec. 4-22. – Registration; pit bull dog pups; fee.

(a) In order to insure and monitor compliance with the requirements of this article, **no pit bull dog shall be kept, harbored or maintained in the city unless such animal has been registered by the owner with the animal control officer** for the City of Hawkinsville. Owners shall have from the date of adoption of this amended ordinance until October 1, 2013 to register these dogs and comply with all of the requirements of this article. This prohibition shall not be applied to animals being transported through the city limits where the animal enters and leaves the city within a one-hour period of time.

(b) Each registration shall include the following:

(1) Name, address and telephone number of the dog’s owner;

(2) Address where dog is harbored, if different from owner’s address;

(3) A full description of the dog including the sex, color and any other distinguishing physical characteristics of same;

(4) Proof of inoculation and tag as required by Code section 4-4;

(5) Proof of liability insurance or adequate surety bond as required in this article; and

(6) Proof of proper enclosure as required in this article.

(c) Upon proper registration, city shall provide to the pit bull owner a tag to verify registration which shall be and remain attached to the dog’s collar.

(d) Pit bull dogs shall be subject to the provisions in this article and all other provisions in this chapter.

(e) A pup born to a female pit bull shall be licensed and registered pursuant to this article. The owner shall have six (6) months from the birth of the dog to register the animal with the animal control officer for the City of Hawkinsville.

(f) The fee for registration pursuant this article shall be ten dollars (\$10.00).

(Ord. No. 2013-2, § 2, 9-9-13)

Sec. 4-23. – Liability insurance; surety bond.

Every owner of a pit bull dog subject to this article shall at all times maintain either:

(1) A policy of insurance in the amount of at least fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) issued by an insurer authorized to transact business in the state insuring the owner of the pit bull dog against liability for personal injuries inflicted by the pit bull dog; or

(2) A surety bond in the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) or more issued by a surety company authorized to transact business in this state and payable to any person injured by the pit bull dog.

(Ord. No. 2013-2, § 2, 9-9-13)

Sec. 4-24. – Proper enclosure.

(a) Every owner of a pit bull dog subject to this article shall at all times maintain for said dog a proper enclosure. A proper enclosure means an enclosure for keeping a pit bull dog while on the owner’s property securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed or locked pen, fence or structure suitable to prevent the entry of younger children and designed to prohibit the dog from escaping said enclosure. Any such enclosure shall have secure sides and a secure top, and, if the dog is enclosed within a fence, all sides of the fence shall be of sufficient height and the bottom of the fence shall be constructed or secured in such a manner as to prevent the dog from escaping either from over or from under the fence. Any such enclosure shall also provide protection from the elements for the dog.

(b) At any time that a pit bull dog is not confined in a proper enclosure as described herein, the dog shall be muzzled in such a manner as to prevent it from biting or injuring any person or animal, and kept on a leash with the owner or custodian in attendance.

(c) An exception to this Code section is hereby provided for any pit bull dog being attended to by a veterinary professional, or while participating in any lawful dog show, contest or exhibition sponsored by a dog club, association, society, or similar organization.

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(Ord. No. 2013-2, § 2, 9-9-13)

Sec. 4-25. – Impoundment.

(a) Upon complaint or upon reasonable grounds to believe that a person owns or is keeping or harboring an unlicensed pit bull dog on any premises within the city, the Hawkinsville Animal Control Officer may cause the matter to be investigated.

(b) When a unlicensed pit bull dog is impounded by the city, the city shall give notice to the owner of the impoundment and advise the owner whether and under what circumstances the dog may be redeemed. The owner of any animal impounded, or confined pursuant to the terms of this article shall be responsible for all costs of such confinement and impoundment.

(Ord. No. 2013-2, § 2, 9-9-13)

Sec. 4-26. – Removal of unlicensed pit bull dog pending litigation.

Whenever any person is charged with harboring an unlicensed pit bull dog as defined in this article, that person shall, to the satisfaction of the Municipal Court, remove said dog from the city until the trial of the citation. If the owner fails to remove the dog within forty-eight (48) hours of the service of the citation, the animal control officer shall impound the dog until the trial on the citation. If the dog is determined by plea or trial to be an unlicensed pit bull dog provided by this article, it shall not be returned or

(Ord. No. 2013-2, § 2, 9-9-13)

Sec. 4-27. – Violation; penalty.

Any person who shall violate any provision of this article shall upon conviction in the municipal court of the City of Hawkinsville be punished as provided in section 1-12 of this Code.

A separate offense shall be deemed committed on each day during which a violation of any provision of this article occurs or continues. In addition to the foregoing penalties, any person who violates this article shall pay all expenses, including shelter, food, handling, veterinary care and expert testimony fees necessitated by enforcement of this article.

(Ord. No. 2013-2, § 2, 9-9-13)