

**VILLAGE OF CHATHAM, ILLINOIS**

---

ORDINANCE NO. 96-88

**AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO DOG CONTROL**

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ADOPTED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM, ILLINOIS  
THIS 23RD DAY OF APRIL, 1996

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Published in pamphlet form by the authority of the President and  
Board of Trustees of the Village of Chatham, Sangamon County,  
Illinois, this 23rd day of April, 1996

STATE OF ILLINOIS            )  
  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF SANGAMON        )

**CERTIFICATE**

I certify that I am the duly elected and acting Village Clerk of the Village of Chatham, Sangamon County, Illinois.

I further certify that on April 23, 1996, the corporate authorities of such Village passed and approved Ordinance No. 96-88 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO DOG CONTROL**

which provided by its terms that it should be published in pamphlet form.

The pamphlet form of Ordinance No. 96-88 including the Ordinance and a cover sheet thereof, was prepared, and a copy of such Ordinance was posted in the Village Hall, commencing on April 23, 1996 to continue for at least ten days thereafter. Copies of such Ordinance were also available for public inspection upon request in the office of the Village Clerk.

DATED at Chatham, Illinois, this 23rd day of April, 1996.

(SEAL)

  
Village Clerk

Ordinance No. 96-88

**AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO DOG CONTROL**

*BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:*

**SECTION 1:      Definitions:**

For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning:

**At Large.** Any dog shall be deemed to be at large when he is off the property of his owner and not under the control of a responsible person, or on the property of his owner and neither under the control of a responsible person nor under restraint.

**Dog.** Includes a female as well as a male dog.

**Fierce Dog.** Any dog that has bitten one or more persons shall be classified as a fierce dog.

**Inoculation Against Rabies.** The injection, subcutaneously or otherwise, as approved by the Department of Agriculture of the State of Illinois, of canine anti-rabic vaccine approved by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

**Owner.** Owner or keeper of a dog means a person having a right of property in a dog, or who keeps or harbors a dog, or who has a dog in his care or who acts as its custodian, or who knowingly permits a dog to remain on or about any premises occupied by him.

**Restraint.** A dog is under restraint if he is confined by a fence of sufficient height and security (which may be an electronic invisible fence system) to prevent the dog from leaving the area so encompassed, on a leash under the control of a responsible person, or on a leash securely fastened to an inanimate object and of a length which prevents the dog from leaving the property of its owner or keeper.

**Stray Dog.** A dog which does not have a sturdy collar with a license or owner's identification tag affixed thereto.

**Under the Control of a Responsible Person.** A dog controlled by a leash or under restraint within the property limits of his owner or keeper.

**SECTION 2:**            Inoculation; Certificate.

(A) Each calendar year, or at such intervals as may hereafter be promulgated by the Department of Agriculture, every owner or keeper of a dog three months or more of age shall cause such dog to be inoculated against rabies. The owner or keeper of such dog shall cause a serially numbered tag evidencing the inoculation to be attached to a collar or harness worn by the dog.

(B) The inoculation of dogs required by division (A) shall be performed by a veterinarian duly licensed to practice his profession in this state. Upon performing the inoculation, the veterinarian shall issue to the owner or keeper a certificate showing that fact and the date of the performance; and shall also deliver to the owner or keeper a metallic or other suitable tag to be attached to the collar or harness of the dog, which tag shall also certify to the fact and date of inoculation against rabies. The tag issued shall be in the form as shall be determined by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

(C) At any reasonable time upon request of any member of the Police Department, the owner or keeper of any unmuzzled dog shall exhibit his certificate issued under the provisions of division (B) showing the inoculation against rabies of any dog owned or controlled by him.

**SECTION 3:**            Collar and Tags.

Every owner or keeper of a dog, regardless of the age of the dog, shall cause said dog to wear a collar or harness and shall affix thereto a metallic or other suitable tag inscribed with the name, address and phone number, if any, of the owner or keeper of the dog.

**SECTION 4:**            Control of Dogs.

The owner or keeper of a dog shall keep the dog under control at all times and shall not permit the dog to be at large, off the premises of the property of the owner or keeper, unless the dog is under complete control as defined in Section 1. No dog shall be allowed upon the premises of another person without that person's permission. The owner or keeper of the dog shall not permit any dog to deposit any offal or noisome substance upon the property of another person, or upon any public place within the corporate limits of the Village to the prejudice of other persons or the general public.

**SECTION 5:**        Running at Large.    No dog shall run at large at any time within the corporate limits of the Village with or without a license tag fastened to its collar. Any dog running at large at any time within the Village shall be taken up by the Animal Control Officer or any employee of the Sangamon County Animal Shelter at the direction of any Animal Control officer of the Village.

**SECTION 6:**        Designation of Pound.

(A)    The Village may designate a suitable place or places for the impounding of dogs pursuant to this Section, which place may be a facility maintained and operated by the Village, licensed veterinarian having adequate facilities for confining and caring for dogs, or the Sangamon County Animal Shelter.

(B)    The person in charge of such facility shall be known as the "poundkeeper" for purposes of this Section, and in the case of a pound maintained and operated by the Village, the Chief of Police will be the poundkeeper; in the case of the County Animal Shelter, the administrator of the facility so designated by the Sangamon County Board of Trustees shall be the poundkeeper.

**SECTION 7:**        Notice of Impoundment.

In case of impounding, where the owner or keeper of a dog is disclosed by any tax or license tag worn by it, or is otherwise known to the officers impounding same, the animal control officer shall promptly give notice by mail to the owner or keeper, informing him of the impounding of his dog, and the place of the impounding, and shall cite the owner or keeper of the dog to answer charges of violation of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 8.**        Redemption of Impounded Dogs.

(A)    Any dog impounded under the provisions of this Ordinance, except a dog which may have bitten any person or constitutes a nuisance, as specified in Sections 10 and 11 of this Ordinance, shall, unless sooner redeemed, be held for the period of days specified by the policy of the Sangamon County Animal Shelter in order to afford opportunity to the owner or keeper thereof to redeem the same. The owner of any dog so impounded may claim the same within the period of time specified by the policy of the Sangamon County Animal Shelter have the same released upon compliance with Sections 2 and 3 of this Ordinance, and upon paying the Village Clerk \$50.00 for the first offense within a 12-month period; \$75.00 for the second offense within a 12-month period; and \$100 for the third offense within a 12-month period, along with, in each case, the costs incurred by the Village for the services of the County Animal Shelter or payment of charges of the licensed veterinarian, if any. On the fourth offense within a 12-month period, the dog shall be humanely destroyed, or otherwise disposed of by the poundkeeper.

(B) In case an impounded dog has not been inoculated against rabies for the current year, the owner shall also advance the fee required to have the dog inoculated by a duly licensed veterinarian as he shall elect and the poundkeeper shall forthwith cause the dog to be duly inoculated against rabies. No dog shall be released without having been inoculated for the current calendar year, or in accordance with the requirements of the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Upon payment of the required charges, the dog shall thereupon be released to the owner or keeper.

**SECTION 9:**        Destruction of Unredeemed Dogs.

Any impounded dog which shall not be redeemed in accordance with Section 8 shall be humanely destroyed, or otherwise disposed of by the poundkeeper.

**SECTION 10:**      Dogs Which Have Bitten Persons.

(A) Any dog which shall have bitten or otherwise injured any person so as to cause an abrasion of the skin shall be immediately taken, impounded, and kept separated from other dogs for 14 days. If, during that period, the dog develops symptoms of illness, a veterinarian shall be called to diagnose its condition. If the symptoms disclosed indicate the presence of rabies, the dog shall be destroyed in a manner to preserve intact the head, which shall thereupon be detached and immediately sent to the diagnostic laboratory of the Illinois Department of Agriculture. In case the dog cannot be safely taken up and impounded, it may be shot, care being taken to preserve the head intact, which shall thereupon be immediately detached and delivered to the diagnostic laboratory of the Department of Agriculture.

(B) If, at the expiration of the period of 14 days, no symptoms of rabies have developed in the dog so impounded, the same may be redeemed by the owner upon payment of the redemption fees, and charges specified by Section 8 of this Ordinance; provided, however, that in case any dog impounded for biting a person shall have previously bitten any person, the dog shall be humanely destroyed by the poundkeeper. After having been notified that the owner's dog has bitten or otherwise injured any person, the owner or keeper thereof shall not under any circumstances permit the dog to be at large unless securely muzzled.

**SECTION 11:**      Fierce Dogs; Nuisances.

(A) Any fierce dog running at large in the streets or public places of the Village or upon private premises of any other person not the owner or keeper, shall be taken up and impounded in the manner provided by this Ordinance for the impounding of dogs; provided, however, that if any fierce dogs found at large cannot be safely taken up and impounded, that dog may be slain by any Village police officer.

(B) Any dog which may continually disturb the quiet of any person's or neighborhood's property, or shall destroy or in any manner injure any animal, plant, shrub, or other property not on the premises of its owner or keeper, is declared to be a nuisance, and any dog which is a nuisance, and any fierce dog, shall be taken up and impounded and may be redeemed or disposed of in a manner provided for under Section 8 of this Ordinance; except, any fierce dog which has bitten more than one person shall be humanely destroyed.

**SECTION 12:**      Duties of Village Officials.

(A) Except as to the regulations concerning inoculation against rabies, the Chief of Police is charged with the duty of enforcing the provisions of this Section.

(B) It shall be the duty of the Village Clerk to determine that all fees herein provided or otherwise provided by law to be paid are properly accounted for to the Village Treasurer.

**SECTION 13:**      Unknown Owner.

When any animal is impounded and its owner is unknown, there shall be placed at the police department by the Chief of Police, or his designee, a notice describing the animal and where it is located.

**SECTION 14:**      Animal Control Officer.

The President may appoint an Animal Control Officer by and with the consent of the Board of Trustees. The salary shall be established in the annual appropriation ordinance.

**SECTION 15:**      Harboring of Certain Animals Prohibited.

Subject to the provisions of Section 16 of this Ordinance, and subject to the Village Zoning Ordinance, the keeping or harboring of any wild animal or fowl, horses, asses, mules, cattle, swine, sheep, goats, geese, ducks, rodents (except hamsters, guinea pigs, mice and other rodents commonly kept as pets) or chickens within the corporate limits of the Village is prohibited, and is hereby declared a nuisance.

**SECTION 16:**      Domestic Animals; Exceptions

This Ordinance does not prohibit the keeping and raising of domestic animals or domestic fowl on property located within the corporate limits of the Village and which, on the effective date of this Ordinance regularly was devoted for such use for six of the preceding 12 months, has a human population of not more than ten persons, and consists of more than four compact and contiguous acres located within the corporate limits of the

Village, until such time as such area is reduced to four or fewer acres or the human population thereon exceeds ten persons.

**SECTION 17:**     Penalty.

(A) Any owner or keeper of a dog who violates or fails to comply with the provisions of Section 1 through Section 14 shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than \$50.00 but not to exceed \$500.00 for each offense, in addition to any costs of the Village as are required to be paid in Section 1 through Section 14.

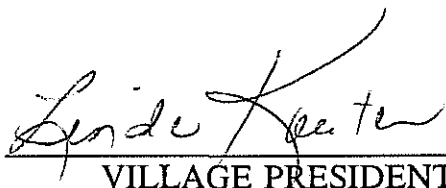
(B) Any violation of Section 15 and Section 16 is punishable by a fine of not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$500.00. Each day of a violation and each separate animal involved in a violation is a separate offense.

(C) In addition to the fine, any violation is a public nuisance and may be abated in the manner provided by law. The Village shall also have all remedies available to it under State statutes pertaining to dogs and animals.

**SECTION 18:**     Repealer; Effective Date.

Ordinance Nos. 86-24 and 82.27 are hereby repealed. This Ordinance shall be effective upon its passage, approval and publication as required by law. The Clerk shall forthwith publish this Ordinance in pamphlet form.

PASSED this 23rd day of April, 1996.

  
VILLAGE PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

  
Village Clerk

YES: 6

NO: 0



PASSED:  
APPROVED:

4-23-96  
4-23-94

ABSENT:

0