

TUCKER COUNTY

DOG ORDINANCE

SECTION

- 1. Areas of Tucker County which ordinance effect**
- 2. Annual Dog Head Tax**
- 3. Seeing Eye Dogs and Dogs Assisting the Handicap**
- 4. Offenses Concerning License Tags**
- 5. Dogs Running at Large**
- 6. Keeping a Vicious Dog**
- 7. Duty of owner of a Dog Biting Persons**
- 8. Inducing Dogs to Fight or Annoy Persons or Animals**
- 9. Bringing Dogs into the County**
- 10. Impounded Dogs**
- 11. Violations and Penalties**
- 12. Unwanted Dogs**

1. This ordinance upon passage, shall be enforced within all areas of Tucker County, excluding areas within the boundaries of, and under the jurisdiction of any Municipality within the county of Tucker. Municipalities with their own Dog Ordinance in effect, will be granted the services of the county dog warden, upon surrender of their dog tax fees to the county.

2. Annual Dog Head Tax: A duty of keepers, and/or dog owners of all dogs will be required to report said ownership and to pay the appropriate Head Tax to the Tucker County Assessor. Dog Tags will be issued following payment of said tax, and said dog tags must be affixed to the appropriate dog's collar.

(a) There is hereby imposed upon each person keeping a dog within that area of the county, not located within a municipality unless otherwise designated by that municipality, hereafter known as "the county". Any dog of the age of six months or older will be required by its owner to pay an annual head tax of \$6.00 within a municipality and \$3.00 outside municipality boundaries, this fee is to be paid to the Assessor of Tucker County.

(b) It shall be the duty of each person who owns, keeps, or harbors a dog above the age of six months in the said county of Tucker to report such ownership to the Assessor.

(c) Each person reporting a dog to the county assessor pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall pay to the assessor that amount of the head tax prescribed in subsection (a) of this section for each dog he is required to report, and he shall attach to the collar of each such dog the proper registration tag furnished to him by the assessor, and retain within his possession the certificate of registration furnished to him by the assessor for each dog.

(d) The annual head tax on dogs imposed by subsection (a) of this section is for a fiscal year rather than a calendar year.

3. All dogs which are used to aid a handicap person, such as a "Seeing Eye Dog" are exempted from the head tax imposed by subsection (a) of Section 1, but their owners or custodians shall annually apply for and be issued a dog license tags upon display of

proper rabies vaccination or inoculation or vaccination certificate, without charge to the owner.

4. Offenses Concerning License Tags: No person shall attach a license tag to any dog to which it was not issued or remove a license tag from the collar of any dog without the consent of the owner.

5. Dogs Not Permitted to Run at Large: No dog, whether wearing a license tag or not, shall be permitted to run at large within the county, if any complaints are received regarding said animal. Any dog in violation of this section, and shall be subject to impoundment.

a. Owners that permit there dogs to run at large, upon first complaint of a dog running at large will require the dog warden to contact the owner that a complaint has been reported.

b. Second complaint will require a visit from the dog warden at which time the owner will be required to show proof of current rabies vaccination and current proof of up to date county fees. If said dog has not had a rabies vaccination the owner will be given 14 days to show proof of rabies vaccination. After the 14 day period if proof has not been given the owner will be required to pay a fine of \$10.00.

c. Third complaint the owner will be required to pay a fine of \$25.00. Show proof that animal has been spayed or neutered, unless used for professional breeding. Owner of dog not yet spayed or neutered must pay a \$40.00 deposit to assure that animal will be spayed or neutered with in 60 days. Should same animal be reported an additional time and has not been spayed or neutered within 60 day period the owner shall forfeit the previous \$40.00 to the county and an additional deposit of \$40.00 will be required.

6. Keeping a Vicious Dog: No person shall own, keep or harbor any dog known to him to be vicious, dangerous or in the habit of biting or attacking persons, whether or not such dog wears a tag or muzzle, and, upon satisfactory proof that such dog is vicious, dangerous or in the habit of biting or attacking persons, the animal warden or any police officer may cause such dog to be impounded and disposed of in a humane manner.

7. Duty of owner of a Dog Biting Any Person: Any dog, whether licensed or not, who bites any person shall be taken by its owner or custodian forthwith to a veterinarian for confinement and observation, or shall be securely confined on the premises of its owner or custodian and in either case, the owner or custodian shall forthwith notify the county health officer of the county.

8. Inducing Dogs to Fight or Annoy Persons or Animals: No person shall entice, induce, urge or cause any dog to engage in or prolong a fight within the county, and no person shall induce or cause any dog to run after, bark at, frighten or bite any person or animal lawfully passing along or standing in or on any street or highway within the county.

9. Bringing Dogs into the County: Except for persons duly authorized herein, no persons shall entice any properly licensed dog into any enclosure for the purpose of taking off its collar, harness or tag, or, for such purpose, decoy or entice any dog out of the enclosure or house of its owner or possessor, or seize or molest any dog which is held or led by any persons, or bring any dog into the county for the purpose of impounding or killing such animal.

10. Impounded Dogs: Any dog caught in violation of Section 5 of this ordinance shall be impounded by the County Dog Warden, for a period of not more than 5 days.

Said owner of such animal shall have the opportunity to redeem, claim and regain ownership of the impounded dog by appearing at said dog shelter before the fifth day of impoundment, providing said owner/keeper fulfills the following procedures to redeem such animal.

- (a) Identify said animal and show proof of ownership.
- (b) Show or present proof of payment of current dog tax. If dog tax has not been paid, claimant must pay the full amount of tax before dog can be obtained.
- (c) Pay pick up and impoundment fee of \$25.00.

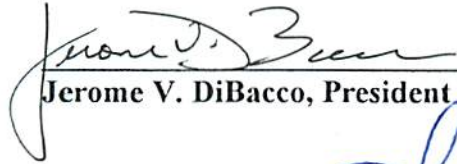
(d) Show proof that animal has been spayed or neutered, unless the animal is used for professional breeding purposes.

(e) The owner/keeper whose dog has not yet been spayed or neutered must pay a \$40 dollar deposit to assure that the animal will be spayed or neutered, within a period of 60 days of release. Said \$40 deposit shall be returned to owner/keeper following the presentation of proof of such surgery. If proper documentation (proof the animal has been spayed or neutered) from a Veterinarian is not received within said 60 days, the \$40 will be forfeited to the county.

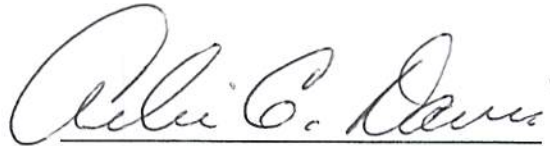
(11) Violations and Penalties: A violation of any section of this chapter shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$100.00 for each separate violation, unless otherwise prescribed.

(12) Persons wishing the dog warden to dispose of their unwanted dogs will be required to pay a fee of \$25.00.

This ordinance became effective on the date of passage which was the 25th of January, 1995. Revised on the 24th of June, 1998.



Jerome V. DiBacco, President



Arlie C. Davis, Commissioner



Sam Eichelberger, Commissioner