

Dog Ownership Rules and Responsibilities

The City of Grand Junction requires all dog owners to put their dogs on a leash, have them under their control at all times, and to pick up after their dogs. Please review the following information to ensure you are abiding by those rules.

Per Mesa County Animal Control, the La Roche HOA Subdivision has common, shared areas that include the street around the subdivision. When a homeowner leaves their unit with a dog, they are required to have them on a leash. Homeowners can report a violation to Animal Control by submitting a picture with the date and time of the violation, and the homeowner will be issued a citation for the offense.

- **Sec. 6-57. Definitions**

At large means to be off the premises of the owner or custodian and not under direct physical control of the owner or custodian by means of a leash or other mechanism of control. This requirement does not apply to any dog while actually working livestock, locating or retrieving wild game in a lawful season for a licensed hunter, assisting law enforcement officers, or participating in an organized obedience training class, dog show or an obedience trial. Dogs tethered to a stationary object within range of a public street, sidewalk, or right-of-way shall be deemed at large if the owner or custodian of such dog is not immediately present.

- **Section 6-59. Dogs running at large.**

(a) *Confinement required.* No dog owner, or any person who harbors, keeps or is custodian of a dog, shall fail to physically, mechanically or electronically confine the dog. Such confinement shall ensure that the dog cannot leave the premises or be at large. No dog owner, or any person who harbors, keeps or is custodian of the dog, shall fail to prevent the dog from being or running at large. any dog off its owner's premises shall be under leash control by its owner.

(b) *Dogs in common and public areas.* No dog owner, or any person who harbors a dog, shall fail to prevent his dog from running at large in the yard of any multiple occupancy building which is occupied by other persons; or in the common areas of mobile home complexes, apartments, or condominium developments; or in open space areas of subdivisions; or in public or county parks or fairgrounds, unless permission is posted by public authorities allowing dogs at large.

Per Code Enforcement with the police department, all dog owners are required to clean up after their dogs. Since we are in a shared environment, the code that applies to this offense falls under the nuisance code. If a homeowner is witness to a violation, they can call 244-1593, and the officer will pay a visit to the offending dog owner. He asks that you leave a message if he is not there to answer the phone, and he prefers to talk to the dog owner before a citation is issued.