

**TOWN OF PITTSFIELD
NEW HAMPSHIRE**

ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE

Section 1: Definitions

- a) **Compact Area of the Town:** Shall be any area where dwellings are located less than 500 feet apart.
- b) **Dog:** Shall be intended to mean both male and female.
- c) **Owner:** Shall be intended to mean any person, group, association, firm, corporation or organization maintaining, keeping, harboring or owning a dog.
- d) **Running at Large:** Shall be intended to mean off the premises, residence or property of the owner and not under the control of a responsible individual.
- e) **Livestock:** Poultry, cattle, (cows, bulls etc.) pigs, goats or any other animal or fowl which is domestically raised for the purpose of food or a food by product, as a pet or a mode of transportation such as a horse.

Section 2: Licensing

All dogs over three (3) months of age within the Town of Pittsfield shall be licensed and collared in accordance with NH RSA 466:1 on or before April 1 of each year.

Section 3: Dogs running at large

- a) The Town of Pittsfield hereby adopts a leash law in accordance to NH RSA 466:30.
- b) The Town of Pittsfield hereby enacts an ordinance prohibiting dogs from running at large in accordance to NH RSA 466:30-b.
- c) No dog shall be permitted to run at large within the compact area of the Town of Pittsfield.

Section 4: Impounded Dogs

- a) Any properly licensed dog found running at large off the property of its owner and within the compact area of the town shall be impounded by the Pittsfield Police Department. The police department shall promptly attempt to notify the owner of such dog and how the owner may reclaim the dog. Impounded dogs not claimed by the owners within twenty four (24) hours may be taken to the SPCA in Concord.

- b) Any owner claiming an impounded dog shall pay to the town of Pittsfield a fee of \$35.00, plus \$5.00 for each day the dog has been impounded.
- c) Any dog found running at large that is not properly licensed will be impounded as above. The police department will attempt to identify and notify the owner of such dog and how the owner may reclaim the dog. Any dog whose owner cannot be identified or who is not claimed within twenty four (24) hours may be taken to the SPCA in Concord.
- d) An owner reclaiming a dog not properly licensed in accordance with RSA 466:1 shall be issued a summons therefore to appear in Concord District Court; and, further, shall pay to the town the impounding fee of \$35.00, plus \$500 for each day the dog has been impounded.

Section 5: Animal Defecation

Owners of domestic animals must pick up any defecation deposited by their domestic animals in or on any public way, street, park, common, sidewalk or public property. Owners walking their domestic animals in public areas must have in their possession the means to remove any defecation deposited by their animals in such public areas specified herein. Failure of the owner of a domestic animal to remove any defecation shall be a violation of the provisions of this section.

Section 6: Animals excluded from certain town properties

No owner of a domestic animal shall allow the same to be on any town owned or public property, unless under the control of the owner by leash.

Section 7: Noise

The keeping of any animal or bird which, causing frequent or long-continued noise, disturbs the comfort and repose of any person in the vicinity.

Section 8: Livestock

No person, persons, company or corporation shall knowingly and willingly allow any livestock as defined above to roam unconfined off the property of its owner or keeper.

Section 9: Penalty

Any person found in violation of this ordinance shall be guilty of a violation and upon conviction shall be fined not less than \$25.00 for the first offense and not more than \$100.00 for each subsequent offense.

Section 10: Passage

- a) Section(s) 2, 3, 4 adopted by a vote of Annual Town Meeting on March 16, 1973
- b) Section(s) 2, 3-c, 4 amended by the board of selectmen on July 6, 1999
- c) Section(s) 5 & 6 adopted by a vote of Annual Town Meeting on March 14, 1998

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