

TOWN OF DANVERS



Department of Planning and Human Services
Board of Health
Town Hall
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PET OWNER'S MANUAL

Responsibilities to your Pet and your Community

5th Edition - Summer 2007

***** Did You Know? *****

Many laws on the books have been passed to assure the protection of public health and safety, as well as you pet. These laws can be found in Chapters 129 and 140 of the Massachusetts General Laws. They address a wide scope of issues ranging from sanitation standards for kennels to quarantine requirements.

The Town of Danvers has also adopted additional by-laws, at Town Meetings and through the Board of Health. These local laws assure humane, safe and sanitary treatment of pets is maintained.

This packet contains:

- Town By-Laws and Regulations applicable to pets;
- General enforcement procedures;
- Key personnel;
- Public health risk categories associated with domestic animals.

Owners have an awesome responsibility to their pets as well as the public. It may be helpful to become aware of the legal obligations - your pet and community will benefit.

CHAPTER XXI OF THE TOWN OF DANVERS BY-LAWS

DOG LEASH LAW

Section 1. The annual fee for each license issued under the provisions of Section 137 of Chapter 140 of the General Laws shall be twenty dollars (\$20). (AUTH: ARTICLE 39, TM 5/19/03.)

Section 2. No person owning, harboring or having custody and control of a dog shall permit such dog to be at large in the Town of Danvers at any time, elsewhere than a) on the premises of another person, if the dog is under the supervision of its owner or a person harboring or having custody and control of the dog. Elsewhere, any dog shall be controlled and restrained by a proper leash defined as: "a lease designed and marketed for the specific purpose of dog restraint."

No person owning, harboring or having custody and control of a dog or other animal shall suffer, permit or allow such a dog or other animal to leave feces in any park, playground, beach, public common, municipal recreation area, street, sidewalk, public area or any private property of someone other than the owner within the Town of Danvers. Any person having custody and control of a dog or other animal in any park, playground, beach, public common, municipal recreation area, street, sidewalk, public area or any private property of someone other than the owner within the Town of Danvers, shall carry with him or her proper equipment for the removal of such feces. For purposes of this section the means of removal shall be any tool, implement or other device carried for the purpose of picking up and containing such feces. This paragraph shall not apply to a guide dog accompanying a disabled person.

The first violation of this By-Law within a calendar year shall be punishable by a \$25.00 fine; the second and subsequent violations within the calendar year by a \$50.00 fine.

Section 3. The sum to be paid to the Dog Office for the sale of a dog which has been detained in accordance with the provisions of Section 151A of Chapter 140 of the General Laws, shall be an amount equal to two dollars (\$2.00) per day detained or \$20.00, whichever is less. The Dog Officer shall keep an account of all moneys received by him from such sales and shall forthwith pay over such sums to the Town Treasurer to be treated in the same manner as dog license money.

Section 4. The Dog Officer shall supervise and coordinate the enforcement of the Dog Control and Licensing By-Laws and the processing of violations thereof. Before a complaint is sought in a District Court under General Laws Chapter 140, Section 173A for such a violation, the Dog Officer shall cause written notice to be sent to the offender describing the violation and a schedule of established fines, ordering the offender to appear before the Dog Officer during specified office hours and containing the following notice. "This notice may be returned by mail, personally, or by an authorized person. A hearing may be obtained upon the request of the dog owner. Failure to obey this notice within twenty-one days after the date of its receipt may result in a complaint being sought against you in a District Court." Any person notified as provided herein may appear and confess the offense charged either personally or through an agent duly authorized in writing, or by mailing to such Dog Officer the notice and the fine provided therefor, such payment to be made to the Dog Officer. Should any person notified to appear hereunder fail to appear or to pay the appropriate fund, the Dog Officer may seek a complaint in the District Court under the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 140, Section 173A.

Section 5. In the event that the Dog Officer is called back on overtime to deal with emergency situations, the owner of the dog will be assessed a thirty dollar (\$30.00) call-back fee. For purposes of this section, emergency shall mean after hour call backs for injured animals, found animals, threatened animals and complaints of cruelty to animals. (AUTH: ARTICLE 5, TM 11/8/81, ARTICLE 23, TM 5/21/90, AND ARTICLE 5, TM 6/20/94.)

DANVERS BOARD OF HEALTH REGULATIONS

RESTRICTION OF CATS

In accordance with the authority of General Laws, Chapter 111, Section 31, and Chapter 111, Section 122, and in accordance therewith and in the interest of and for the preservation of public health,, the Danvers Board of Health hereby adopts the following regulations governing the keeping of cats and kittens.

1. No person, firm or corporation shall keep within the Town, in any building or on any premises on which he may be the owner, lessee, tenant or occupant, any more than ten (10) cats and/or kittens for a period of time exceeding six (6) weeks except when such person, firm or corporation shall be permitted by the Board of Health as an establishment for the keeping/sale of cats/kittens.

2. A person, firm or corporation seeking to be permitted by the Danvers Board of Health as an establishment for the keeping/sale of cats/kittens shall make application for such permit on a form supplied by the Board of Health, which shall be accompanied by the following documents.

- A. A letter from the Building Inspector/Manager of Code Administration, Town of Danvers, stating that the use of the proposed premises for the keeping/sale of cats is allowed.
- B. A letter from the applicant stating the anticipated use of the premises, the approximate maximum number and types and species of animals, and the means of providing proper sanitation of holding areas, cages, and other facilities and for the storage and disposal of waste products. The application shall be accompanied by a plan of the entire premises shown on sheets appropriate for filing with the application form.

DANVERS ZONING BY-LAWS

KENNELS

Kennels are prohibited in Danvers except as allowed by Zoning By-Laws. A Kennel is defined as:

One (1) pack or collection of dogs on a single premises, whether maintained for breeding, boarding, sale, training, hunting or other purposes and including any shop where dogs are on sale, and also including every pack or collection or more than three (3) dogs, three (3) months old or over, owned or kept by a person on a single premises irrespective of the purpose for which they are maintained.

Animal Control Responsibilities

Police Department

Board of Health

Emergency Response

Administration of Contracts
Issue Citations for violations

Issuing citations for violations of by-laws and general laws

Issue citations for dog by-law violations

First contact with citizen calls

Outreach; public notices, school sessions, license reminders, education

Data management

Vaccine clinics

Risk analysis

Non-Emergency Animal Response Protocol

- * Dispatcher receives a call for non-emergency animal incident
- * Dispatcher assigns call to first available officer
- * Officer meets with the caller, collects data, submits incident report to the operations officer for action. If known animal, communication with the owner regarding the issue follows. If no known owner and violation is repeated, the animal control contractor does surveillance to identify. Animal is impounded if observed. Animal control contractor may cite owner for any violations. Upon payment of violations, the animal is released to the owner.

RABIES PROTOCOL

MANAGEMENT OF DOGS & CATS EXPOSED TO WILDLIFE (Raccoon, skunk, fox, bat, woodchuck or any carnivorous wild animal)

Exposure Category	If Dog or Cat Currently Vaccinated	Dog or Cat NOT Currently Vaccinated
CATEGORY 1 Direct contact with or visible bite from a confirmed rabid animal (includes eating viscera)	1. Booster Immediately 2. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 3. Strict Confinement for 45 days	1. Euthanize, or 2. If owner unwilling a. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector b. Isolate for 3 months followed by 3 months strict confinement c. Vaccinate 1 month prior to release
CATEGORY 2 Direct contact with or visible bite from a suspect rabid animal which is unavailable for testing (includes eating viscera)	1. Booster Immediately 2. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 3. Strict Confinement for 45 days	1. Euthanize, or 2. If owner unwilling a. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector b. Strict confinement for 6 months c. Vaccinate 1 month prior to release
CATEGORY 3 Wound of unknown origin suspected to be caused by another animal (e.g. cat abscesses)	1. Booster Immediately 2. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 3. Strict Confinement for 45 days	1. Euthanize, or 2. If owner unwilling a. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector b. Strict confinement for 6 months c. Vaccinate 1 month prior to release
CATEGORY 4 Exposure by proximity seen near or in close proximity to a confirmed rabid animal (no contact or wounds)	1. Booster Immediately 2. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 3. Strict Confinement for 45 days	1. Vaccinate immediately 2. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 3. Strict confinement for 6 months

- Always wear gloves when handling saliva-contaminated wounds or fur.
 - Always advise owner of rabies risk.
 - Veterinarians must inform the local animal inspector of any potential rabies contact cases seen at their offices.
 - Protocol for ferrets is similar, but notification must be made to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.
1. Do not vaccinate any unimmunized dog or cat in categories 1, 2 or 3. Timing of vaccination should follow above schedule
 2. If most recent rabies vaccination was administered within one month, it is not necessary to booster.
 3. Dog or cat should be examined by a veterinarian to assure there are no wounds.
 4. Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife: (617) 626-1575

This document was prepared by the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Health Revised: 7/19/02.

RABIES PROTOCOL

MANAGEMENT OF DOGS AND CATS EXPOSED TO WILDLIFE DEFINITIONS:

1. Isolation

- a) Restricting a domestic animal from any direct human or other animal contact.
- b) Animal must be confined to a facility such as a dog pound, veterinary hospital, commercial kennel or quarantine facility for livestock approved by the Animal Inspector of the appropriate municipality; or isolation at home under conditions approved by the Animal Inspector of the municipality and the Department.

2. Strict Confinement

- a) Animal may be kept at home in an escape-proof, solid walled building with a roof, approved by the Animal Inspector of the municipality.
- b) Animal may be leash walked by an adult or under the direct supervision of an adult.
- c) Owner informed of potential rabies risk and given instructions in writing.
- d) Owner required to notify veterinarian and Animal Inspector of unusual behavior or change in health status of pet.

3. Exposed by Proximity - Seen near or in the vicinity of a confirmed rabid animal, but which had no physical contact with nor received any wounds from the confirmed rabid animal.

4. Quarantine - Confinement of a domestic animal from humans and other animals for the purpose of observing the animal for signs of rabies and minimizing chances of the animal spreading rabies to humans or other animals. This includes isolation and strict confinement.

5. Signs of Rabies - Unexplained aggression, impaired locomotion, varying degrees of paralysis, extreme depression or viciousness. The signs of rabies vary in animals. Some will display attack-like behavior while others appear sick or dazed.

For further information, contact the Animal Inspector in your city/town.

RABIES PROTOCOL

MANAGEMENT OF DOGS & CATS WHICH BITE HUMANS (Wolf Hybrids and other exotic pets are considered to be wild animals)

Exposure Category	Vaccination Status of Exposing Animal Not Relevant to Recommendations
CATEGORY 1 Visible bite or scratch from a dog or cat, which has been identified and is available for quarantine	1. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 2. Biting animal will be placed under strict confinement for 10 days 3. A) If biting animal is healthy at the end of 10 days, victim is not at risk for rabies. B) If biting animal begins to exhibit signs compatible with rabies, biting animal should be euthanized and submitted for rabies testing 4. A) If test results are negative, victim is not at risk for rabies B) If test results are positive, notify Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology
CATEGORY 2 Visible bite or scratch from a dog or cat, which has NOT been identified and is NOT available for quarantine	1. Animal must be assumed to be rabid 2. Notify Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology 3. Notify local director of health and local animal inspection 4. Furnish local Animal Control with a description of the dog or cat and location where animal was last seen

RABIES PROTOCOL

MANAGEMENT OF DOGS & CATS EXPOSED TO WILDLIFE (Raccoon, skunk, fox, bat, woodchuck or any carnivorous wild animal)

Exposure Category	Exposed Dog or Cat is Currently Vaccinated	Exposed Dog or Cat is NOT Currently Vaccinated
CATEGORY 1 Visible bite or scratch from another domestic animal which has been identified and is available for quarantine	1. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 2. Biting animal will be placed under strict confinement for 10 days 3. A) If biting animal is healthy at the end of 10 days, victim is not at risk for rabies. B) If biting animal begins to exhibit signs compatible with rabies, biting animal should be euthanized and submitted for rabies testing 4. A) If test results are negative, victim is not at risk for rabies B) If test results are positive, 1. Booster victim immediately 2. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 3. Strict confinement by owner for 45 days	1. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 2. Biting animal will be placed under strict confinement for 10 days 3. A) If biting animal is healthy at the end of 10 days, victim is not at risk for rabies. - Vaccinate victim B) If biting animal begins to exhibit signs compatible with rabies, biting animal should be euthanized and submitted for rabies testing 4. A) If test results are negative, victim is not at risk for rabies vaccinate victim B) If test results are positive, 1. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector. 2. Euthanize, or isolate for 3 months followed by 3 months strict confinement - vaccinate at 5 months
CATEGORY 2 Visible bite or scratch from another domestic animal which has NOT been identified and is NOT available for quarantine	1. Booster victim immediately 2. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 3. Strict confinement by owner for 45 days	1. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 2. Strict confinement by owner for 6 months - vaccinate at 5 months

- Any non-domestic animal biting a human needs to be reported to the Department of Public Health.
- Protocol for ferrets is similar, but notification must be made to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.
- Do not vaccinate any dog or cat which is under a 10-day quarantine.
- Any animal euthanized while under a 10-day quarantine MUST be submitted for rabies testing.
- If most recent rabies vaccination was administered within 30 days, it is not necessary to re-vaccinate.

1. Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology: (617) 983-6800
2. Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Health: (617) 626-1794
3. Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife: (617) 626-1575

This document was prepared by the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Health Revised: 7/19/02.

DANVERS POLICE DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY 777-1212

NON-EMERGENCY 777-1213

TOWN HALL

777-0001

Mon. - Wed. 8:00 - 5:00

Thurs. 8:00 - 7:30

Fri. 8:00 - 1:30

BOARD OF HEALTH PERSONNEL

Peter M. Mirandi, MPH
Director of Public Health
Inspector of Animals

Mark L. Carleo, CEHT
Public Health Inspector
Asst. Inspector of Animals

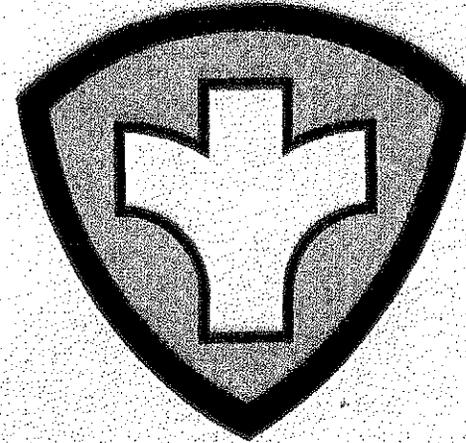
Jean Marcotti
Animal Care Specialist

Betty Heckman
Animal Control Officer

DANVERS BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

Edmund Kowalski
Robert Kellard, MD

Building Healthy Partnerships
... is what we're all about



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

TOWN OF DANVERS

Department of Planning & Human Services
Karen H.P. Nelson, Director

Board of Health

Peter M. Mirandi, Director