

CHAPTER 91: ANIMALS

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Statutory reference:

Dangerous dogs, see G.S. §§ 67-4.1 through 67-4.4

Rabies, see G.S. §§ 130A-184 et seq.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 91.01 BIRD SANCTUARY.

(A) The entire area embraced within the corporate limits of the town is hereby designated a bird sanctuary.

(B) It shall be unlawful to trap, hunt, shoot, or attempt to shoot or molest any bird or wild fowl or to rob bird nests or wild fowl nests; provided, if starlings, pigeons, or similar birds are found congregating in a particular area and constitute a nuisance or menace to health or property in the opinion of town authorities, those birds may be destroyed by or under the supervision of the Police Chief.

(1994 Code, § 91.01) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 91.02 KEEPING OF FOWL AND LIVESTOCK REGULATED; DANGEROUS OR OFFENSIVE ANIMALS.

(A) *Fowl.* No person shall maintain, harbor, or keep within the town limits any fowl, meaning any chicken, game rooster, goose, duck, guinea, or any other fowl.

(B) *Livestock.* No person shall maintain, harbor, or keep within the town limits any pig, hog, goat, sheep, horse, or other livestock.

(Ord. passed 6-28-1988; Am. Ord. passed 6-13-2011)

(C) *Dangerous or offensive animals.* No person shall maintain or harbor within the town limits any animal dangerous to persons or property or offensive to the senses, except by written authorization of the Board of Alderpersons.

(1994 Code, § 91.02) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 91.03 ABUSE PROHIBITED.

It shall be unlawful for any person to physically torture or abuse any animal.

(1994 Code, § 91.03) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 91.04 RABIES INOCULATION REQUIRED FOR DOGS AND CATS.

No dog or cat shall be permitted within the corporate limits of the town unless it has been inoculated against rabies as required by the General Statutes and proof of the inoculation shall be attached to the dog or cat.

(1994 Code, § 91.04) (Ord. passed 6-28-1988) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 91.05 PETS ON TOWN PROPERTY PROHIBITED.

(A) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any pet to allow it to be on the grounds of any town property where signs prohibiting the presence of the animals are erected or posted and the signs are unobstructed and clearly visible.

(B) This section does not apply to animals that are specifically trained to assist handicapped persons. (Ord. passed 4-5-94)

DOGS**§ 91.20 RUNNING AT LARGE PROHIBITED.**

(A) It shall be unlawful for the owner of a dog, male or female, to permit it to be off the owner's premises and not under control either by a leash, cord, chain, or some other mechanical device whereby the dog is physically held under the immediate control of the owner or other responsible person who is placed in charge of the dog.

(B) For the purpose of §§ 91.20 *et seq.*, the following definition shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

OWNER. Any person owning, keeping, or harboring a dog.

(1994 Code, § 91.15) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 91.21 CAPTURE AND CONFINEMENT OF AT-LARGE DOGS.

All dogs within the corporate limits of the town which are found running at large without being under control, as defined in § 91.20, shall be captured by the duly authorized personnel of the town and confined in the Catawba County animal shelter to be confined and disposed of as provided by the ordinances of the county.

(1994 Code, § 91.16)

§ 91.22 EXCESSIVE BARKING.

It shall be unlawful for the owner of a dog or the owner of a premises wherein a dog is kept within the town to keep a dog that habitually and repeatedly barks in a manner or to the extent it becomes a public nuisance.

(1994 Code, § 91.17) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 91.23 VICIOUS DOGS.

(A) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, have charge of, shelter, feed, harbor, or take care of any vicious dog within the corporate limits of the town.

(B) A vicious dog is any dog which has bitten 1 or more persons or a dog which has shown on at least 2 or more occasions a propensity to attack humans and that propensity is known or reasonably should be known to the owner.

(1994 Code, § 91.18) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 91.24 TEASING, MOLESTING, AND BAITING.

It shall be unlawful for any person to tease, molest, bait, or in any way bother any dog not belonging to him or her or legally under his or her control, unless it is in the act of injuring the property of the person.

(1994 Code, § 91.19) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 91.25 ENFORCEMENT.

The Town Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to employ the methods and means as he or she may deem necessary to implement and enforce this subchapter and to employ the personnel and make the expenditures as may be necessary in order to fully carry out the meaning and intent of this subchapter.

(1994 Code, § 91.21)

§ 91.41 RUNNING AT LARGE; CAPTURE; DISPOSAL.

All cats within the corporate limits of the town which are found running at large without being under control, as defined by § 91.40, shall be captured by the duly authorized personnel of the town and confined and disposed of in the same manner as dogs may be disposed of in the preceding subchapter.

(1994 Code, § 91.31) (Ord. passed 3-1-1977)

CATS**§ 91.40 DUTY OF OWNER TO RESTRAIN.**

(A) It shall be unlawful for the owner of a cat, male or female, to permit it to be off the owner's premises and not under control either by a leash, cord, chain, or by some other mechanical device whereby it is physically held under the immediate control of the owner or other responsible person who is placed in charge of it.

(B) For the purpose of §§ 91.40 *et seq.*, the following definition shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

OWNER. Any person owning, keeping, or harboring a cat.

(1994 Code, § 91.30) (Ord. passed 3-1-1977)
Penalty, see § 10.99