

TOWN OF ORLAND

DOG ORDINANCE

Sec. 3-201 Definition of Words and Phrases

For the purposes of this article, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates another meaning:

Dog shall mean both male and female.

Owner shall mean any person or persons, firm, association or corporation owning, keeping or harboring a dog.

At large shall mean off the premises of the owner and not under the control of the owner or another person.

Sec. 3-202 License and Registration Required

All dogs kept, harbored or maintained by their owners in the Town of Orland shall be licensed and registered in accordance with the appropriate laws of the State of Maine.

Sec. 3-204 Tag and Collar

All dogs shall be provided with a suitable collar to which the license tag shall be attached as required by appropriate laws of the State of Maine.

Sec. 3-204 Running at Large Prohibited

No owner or keeper of any dog shall permit such dog to run at large at any time. This section shall not be construed, however, to prevent the use of dogs for lawful hunting purposes or for the use of dogs on a farm for any lawful purpose. When dogs are found running at large, and their ownership is known, such dogs need not be impounded, but the Town, through its duly authorized agents may, at its discretion, cite the owners of such dogs to appear in court to answer charges of violation of this article.

Sec. 3-205 Impounding

It shall be the duty of every police officer or the dog constable to apprehend any dog found running at large contrary to the provisions of Sec. 3-204 and to impound such dog in the town pound or other suitable place. The poundmaster, or other designated official, upon receiving the dog, shall make a complete registry, entering the breed, color and sex of such dog and whether licensed. If licensed, he shall enter the name and address of the owner and the number of the license tag. Licensed dogs shall be separated from unlicensed dogs.

Sec. 3-206 Impounding Unlicensed Dogs

The impounding of unlicensed dogs shall be done in accordance with the appropriate laws of the State of Maine. Said dogs shall not be released until a proper license tag is presented to the poundmaster or other designated official.

Sec. 3-207 Confinement of Certain Dogs

Dogs of fierce, dangerous or vicious propensities shall be properly confined or tied by the owner in a reasonable manner to prevent harm to the public. Female dogs in heat shall be confined in some reasonable manner to avoid the creation of a nuisance by other dogs congregating in the vicinity. If fierce, dangerous or vicious dogs and female dogs in heat are found in violation of this provision, they shall be impounded and shall not be released except upon the approval of the animal control officer after payment of all costs or charges incurred by the town. Dangerous, fierce or vicious dogs so found at large may be slain by any policeman or the animal control officer in accordance with appropriate State law where they cannot be safely taken up and impounded.

Sec 3-208 Notice of Impoundment

When any dog is impounded under the provisions of this article, notice shall be given to the owner, if known, by any reasonable means within three (3) days after the date of impounding. If the owner cannot be ascertained, a notice shall be posted at the Town Office describing the dog and the place and time of taking. If the owner does not reclaim the dog and pay the impounding and keeping charges within ten (10) days following notice of the impounding or posting of said notice, the dog may be placed up for adoption or destroyed by the town. The charges for impounding and keeping a dog and for posting notices shall be set by the Selectmen and shall be the responsibility of the owner.

Sec. 3-209 Barking or Howling Dogs

No person shall own, keep or harbor any dog which by loud, frequent or habitual barking, howling or yelping shall disturb the peace of any person or persons.

Sec. 3-210 Penalties

Any owner found violating any provision of this article shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars (\$10.00) nor more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) for such offense. All fines so assessed shall be recovered for the use of the Town of Orland.