

**Note from All Species Kinship (A.S.K.):** These are the neglect laws pertaining to animals in Calhoun County, Michigan; this is only a portion of the laws. Those that people most frequently report concerns about are highlighted in yellow just for ease in locating them. To see the complete list of ordinances, go to: [http://www.calhouncountymi.gov/government/board\\_of\\_commissioners/animal\\_ordinance/](http://www.calhouncountymi.gov/government/board_of_commissioners/animal_ordinance/)

**A.S.K. highly recommends reporting violators to Animal Control at 269-781-0911.** Demand a follow-up call; be proactive. Make sure that the animal concern is properly addressed and remedied. Additionally, contact A.S.K. at 877-596-7776 to report animals in need.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **PROHIBITIONS AND REGULATED CONDUCT**

#### **Section 8.1**

It shall be a violation of this Ordinance to:

- (1) Permit any animal to engage in any of the behaviors described in Article 9 (Dangerous Animals).
- (2) Permit a dog in heat (estrus) to be accessible to a male dog except for intentional breeding purposes.
- (3) Permit an animal to be within or on a motor vehicle at any location under such conditions as may endanger the health or well being of the animal, including, but not limited to dangerous temperatures, lack of food, water or proper care.
- (4) Abandon any animal or cause an animal to be abandoned.
- (5) Knowingly place food or item of any description containing poisonous or other injurious ingredients in any area reasonably likely to be accessible to any animal except rodents.
- (6) Physically mistreat any animal by deliberate abuse, by neglect to furnish adequate care and shelter, including veterinary attention, or by leaving the animal unattended for more than 24 hours without adequate care.
- (7) Offer as a prize or give away any live animal/fowl in any contest, raffle, promotional event, lottery, or as enticement for fund raising, or for entry into any place of business.
- (8) Allow any animal to leave the confines of any officially prescribed quarantine area.
- (9) Allow a dog not accompanied by its owner or owner authorized agent to come closer than three (3) feet from a public walkway, roadway, highway, or adjoining property, except when the dog is in an area that is completely fenced in.
- (10) Interfere with, hinder, resist, oppose, obstruct or molest an Animal Control Officer in the performance of his/her duties, or for any person to remove any animal from an Animal Control vehicle or Animal Shelter property without permission of the Animal Control Officer.
- (11) Fail to comply with the requirements of this Ordinance and of Federal and State statutes applicable to keeping of an animal or a facility where animals are kept.
- (12) Allow livestock or poultry to run at large upon the premises of another or upon any public street, lane, alley or other public ground in the County unless otherwise specifically allowed.
- (13) Remove a collar or tag from any dog or other animal without the permission of its owner, or decoy or entice any dog or animal out of an enclosure or off the property of its owner, or seize, molest, or tease any dog or animal while held or led by any person or while on the property of its owner.

(14) Refuse to identify oneself or to give a false name to the Animal Control Officer for issuance of a citation under this Ordinance or the State Statutes

### **Section 8.2**

It shall also be a violation of this Ordinance to:

(1) Fail to provide adequate shelter any time an animal is confined in such a manner that it is unable to seek shelter, no matter the length of time the animal is out in the weather.

(2) Fail to provide water and food which would thus cause the animal to suffer thirst or hunger.

(3) Kill any animal without just cause

(4) Torture, mutilate, maim, beat, or disfigure an animal.

(5) Allow an animal to be caged or chained in such a manner as to allow it to become tangled, injured or to suffer undue stress,

(6) Restrain an animal so that the weight of the animal's tether does not allow the animal to comfortably raise his/her head or move.

(7) Fail to keep an animal's area in good sanitary condition.

(8) Confine an animal in such a fashion that the animal does not have a dry area to rest.

(9) Confine or allow animals which are natural enemies, temperamentally unsuited or otherwise incompatible to be housed together or so near each other as to cause injury, fear, or torment.

(10) Cruelly drive, work, or beat an animal, or cause an animal to be cruelly driven, worked, or beaten.

(11) Keep a dog in a cage smaller than 32 square feet

(12) Tether dog by a choke collar or leash less than 12 feet in length

(13) To crop an animals ears, dock a tail, or any other surgical procedure unless this procedure is done by a licensed veterinarian.

### **Section 8.3**

It is unlawful for any owner to fail to provide medical care when an animal is In pain or distress, including but not limited to the following:

(1) In a state of emaciation.

(2) Unable to rise and walk

(3) Unable to urinate or defecate.

(4) Crying out in pain.

(5) Unable to eat or drink.

(6) Suffering from unattended broken bones, wounds, burns or contusions.

(7) Painful or difficult breathing.

(8) Passing blood in urine, feces and/or vomit

(9) Presence of maggots or infested with other parasites.

(10) Severe skin disease.

### **Section 8.4**

It is unlawful to intentionally run down or otherwise abuse, harass or worry any animal with any vehicle including, but not limited to, a bicycle or motor vehicle, including an ORV, a motorcycle or motorbike.

**Section 8.5**

It is unlawful for any person to transport or carry on any public roadway, any dog or other animal in a motor vehicle unless the animal is safely enclosed within the vehicle; or, if traveling in an unenclosed or partially enclosed vehicle (including, but not limited to convertibles, pick-ups and flat-bed trucks), shall be confined in a container case, or other device that is of proper and adequate size that will prevent the animal from falling from or jumping from the motor vehicle.

**Section 8.6**

In the event animals are used to give rides the following standards must be met and followed:

- (1) If the animal is not shod, it must be provided with footing (i.e.: grass, hay, wood shavings or dirt).
- (2) Twenty minute breaks shall be given every two (2) hours or less as needed, with water and shade provided.
- (3) No animal shall be used if it appears to be lame or in distress.

**Section 8.7**

Reporting of found animals:

- (1) Any person who finds and harbors an animal without knowing the identity of its owner shall notify the Animal Shelter and furnish a description of the animal within two (2) business days of finding the animal.
- (2) If the owner of the animal has not claimed it within seven (7) business days after the animal was reported found to the Animal Control Division, the finder may adopt the animal in accordance with applicable laws.

**Section 8.8**

Any person in physical possession and control of any animal in a public and private place shall remove excrement or other fecal waste deposited by the animal in any public area not designated to receive these wastes, including, but not limited to the following: streets, sidewalks, parking strips and lots, and public parks.