

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WASHINGTON



CO00023203

ORDINANCE NO 95-077

AMENDING SNOHOMISH COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 9.01 AND 9.04 RELATING TO
GENERAL PROVISIONS AND DOG AND CAT LICENSES

BE IT ORDAINED:

Section 1. Snohomish County Code Section 9.01.030 last amended by Ordinance 87-047, § 1, on July 8, 1987 is amended to read:

9.01.030 Definitions.

In construing the provisions as set out in this title, all words not otherwise given special definition herein shall be given their common and ordinary meaning, in addition, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) "Abatement" means the termination of any violation of this title by lawful and reasonable means as determined by the authorized Snohomish county animal control agency personnel in order that a person or persons presumed to be the owner of an animal comply with this title.

(2) "Adult dog or cat" means any dog or cat six months of age or older.

(3) "Agricultural pursuits" means where land is primarily used in the production of crops and livestock or fur farming.

(4) "Animal" means for purposes of this title, any member of the classes: reptile, bird, or mammal, except man.

(5) "Animal control agency" means the Snohomish county animal control agency created and perpetuated to enforce the provisions of the Snohomish county code and laws of the state of Washington as they pertain to animals welfare.

(6) "Animal control officer" means any individual employed, contracted or appointed by the animal control agency for the purpose of enforcing this code or any other code, or the laws of the state of Washington.

(7) "Animal run" means any fenced area commonly associated with a commercial or private kennel, providing a limited exercise area for cats and/or dogs which is accessible from the housing (not a dwelling unit) customarily provided for such animals.

(8) "Certificate of registration for dangerous dogs" means any document issued by the Snohomish county auditor pursuant to chapter 16.10 RCW and SCC 9.10.020.

(9) "Certification authority" means the Snohomish county auditor.

(10) "Commercial kennel" means a place where three or more adult dogs, cats, or combinations thereof whether or not for compensation, including facilities know and

operated as animal shelters, but not including small animal hospitals where pets are kept for treatment only, pet shops, private kennels, or zoological parks.

(11) "County" for purposes of this title, means the unincorporated areas of Snohomish county.

(12) "Dangerous dog" means any dog that according to the records of the county, (a) has inflicted severe injury on a human being without provocation on public or private property, (b) has killed a domestic animal without provocation while off the owner's property, or (c) has been previously found to be potentially dangerous, the owner having received notice of such and the dog again aggressively bites, attacks, or endangers the safety of humans or domestic animals; but, dogs shall not be declared dangerous if the threat, injury, or damage was sustained by a person who, at the time, was committing a willful trespass or other tort upon the premises occupied by the owner of the dog, or was tormenting, abusing, or assaulting the dog, or has, in the past, been observed or reported to have tormented, abused, or assaulted the dog or was committing or attempting to commit a crime.

(13) "Domesticated animal" means any animal including dogs, cats, rabbits, horses, mules, asses, cattle, lambs, sheep, or other animals made to be domestic.

(14) "Euthanasia" means the humane destruction of an animal by a method that is painless to such animal either causing instant painless unconsciousness and subsequent death or immediate death.

(15) "Grooming parlor" means any establishment, public or private, where animals are bathed, clipped, combed for a consideration, for purposes of enhancing their aesthetic value.

(16) "Licensing authority" means the Snohomish county auditor or his or her duly authorized representative.

~~((16))~~(17) "Owner" means any person, firm, corporation, organization, or department possessing, harboring, keeping, having an interest in, or having control or custody of an animal.

~~((17))~~(18) "Pack of dogs" means a group of three or more dogs running upon land, either public or private, not that of their owner, when such dogs are not restrained or controlled.

~~((18))~~(19) "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, trust, estate, or other legal entity.

~~((19))~~(20) "Pet shop" means person or establishment that acquires animals for the purpose of resale to the public.

~~((20))~~(21) "Potentially dangerous dog" means any dog that when unprovoked: (a) inflicts bites on a human or a domestic animal either on public or private property, or (b) chases or approaches a person in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack, or (c) any dog with a known propensity, tendency, or disposition to attack unprovoked, or to cause injury, or otherwise threaten the safety of humans or domestic animals.

~~((21))~~(22) "Private kennel" means a place at or adjoining a private residence where three but not more than 10 adult dogs, cats, or combination thereof, owned by natural persons residing on said property, are kept for the purpose of hunting, training, exhibition for organized shows, for field work and obedience trials or for the enjoyment

of the species. If three or more adult dogs, cats or combination thereof owned by the natural persons are kept on land other than that adjoining the private residence of their owner, they shall constitute a commercial kennel. If more than 10 adult dogs, cats or combination thereof are kept, they shall constitute a commercial kennel. Cats kept for pest or vermin control and in conjunction with an agricultural pursuit as defined, shall not be subject to this provision. No advertising displays shall be permitted.

~~((22))~~(23) "Proper enclosure of a dangerous dog" means, while on the owner's property, a dangerous dog shall be securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen or structure, suitable to prevent the entry of young children and designed to prevent the animal from escaping. Such pen or structure shall have secure sides and a secure top, and shall also provide protection from the elements for the dog and comply with all applicable provisions of the Snohomish county building and zoning code.

~~((23))~~(24) "Running at large" means to be off the premises of the owner and not under control of either the owner or competent person authorized by the owner.

~~((24))~~ (25) "Severe injury" means any physical injury that results in broken bones or disfiguring lacerations requiring multiple sutures or cosmetic surgery.

~~((25))~~ (26) "Under control" means the dog is either under voice, signal, or physical control so as to be restrained from approaching a bystander, from entering private property, or from causing damage to property. Said dog is presumed not to be under control if injuries, damages, or trespass result.

~~((26))~~ (27) "Vicious" means acting in an unruly manner or the propensity to do any act which might endanger the safety of any person, animal, or property of another.

Section 2. The heading of the Snohomish County Code Section 9.04.010 thru 9.04.070 is amended to read:

DOG AND CAT LICENSES

Sections:

- 9.04.010 Dog license required.
- 9.04.020 Exemptions.
- 9.04.030 Cats to be licensed on a voluntary basis.
- 9.04.040 License fee and term.
- 9.04.050 Issuance of license tags.
- 9.04.055 Contractual authority.
- 9.04.060 Late penalties.
- 9.04.070 License tag to be affixed.

Section 3. A new section 9.04.055 Snohomish County Code is added as follows:

9.04.055 Contractual authority. The licensing authority, with approval by the county executive, may enter into a contractual agreement with other government agencies, businesses or individuals to provide pet licensing services.

Passed this 20th day of Sept., 1995.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

Karen Miller
Chair

Approved as to form only:

[Signature]
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

ATTEST:

Barbara Sitorst
Asst. Clerk of Council

APPROVED

DATE: 9-21-95

VETOED

EMERGENCY

Joan M. Earl
County Executive

JOAN M. EARL
Deputy Executive

ATTEST:

[Signature]