

TOWN OF GEORGETOWN, INDIANA

Ordinance No. G-05-25

Aug 18

DOG CONTROL ORDINANCE

Effective ~~July 17~~ 2005

AND SUPERSEDES G-04-28 & G-04-34

WHEREAS, the Town Board of Georgetown, County of Floyd, State of Indiana, recognizes the necessity of animal control within the town limits of Georgetown, the said Board does now establish and ordain the following Ordinance for such purposes:

SECTION I: ANIMALS CREATING A NUISANCE

All owners shall exercise proper care and control of his/her animals so as to prevent the following action by them:

- A. Molesting of passerby or chasing of passing vehicles;
- B. Attacking other domestic animals;
- C. Trespassing upon private property or school grounds;
- D. Damaging private or public property;
- E. Habitual barking or loud and continued noise which causes serious annoyance or disturbance to the neighborhood; or
- F. Unnecessarily foul or noxious odors that offend people in the town.

SECTION II: ANIMAL BITES OR SCRATCHES

Anyone bitten or scratched by an animal or the owner of any animal which bites or scratches a person or animal, and breaks the skin, is required to report the incident to the County Health Department or its designee.

SECTION III: ANIMALS RUNNING AT LARGE

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to allow any animal which he/she owns or harbors to run at large upon any public place or upon private property other than that of the owner within the town limits.
- B. However, police dogs and leader dogs which are actively engaged in activities for which such dogs are trained, need not be leashed when under the reasonable control of it owner.
- C. It shall be unlawful for any person to permit a dog which he/she owns or harbors to be at large in the town unless the dog is under leash not exceeding eight (8) feet in length, other than when on the premises of the person or upon the premises of the another with the knowledge, consent and approval of the owner of the premises.

D. No dog shall be tied within five (5) feet of any public thoroughfare.

E. All owners, custodians or keepers of a dog may have the dog on their own property so long as they:

(1) secure the dog from the public by confining the dog in manner that will preclude any release or escape of the dog and is adequate to confine all dogs living or staying on the premises,

(2) warn the public about the presence of a dangerous dog by posting visible legible signage on and around the property reading either "dangerous dog" or "beware of dog".

F. It shall be lawful for any person to seize any dog running at large in violation of this chapter and to turn such dog over to the animal control officer, town police or his assistants.

G. Any person found in violation of this ordinance may be fined up to \$100.

SECTION IV: ABANDONMENT PROHIBITED

No owner or keeper of a dog or any other domestic animal shall abandon such animal.

SECTION V: LIMITS AS TO NUMBER OF ANIMALS ALLOWED

It is unlawful to keep more than four dogs and/or cats over four months of age on the premises within the town limits unless a kennel license is obtained.

SECTION VI: ATTACKS / LIABILITY

A. A dog that is attacking or is about to attack may be killed by:

(1) the person being attacked or about to be attacked or any person witnessing the attack; or

(2) the attacked animal's owner or a person acting on behalf of the owner if the owner or person has knowledge of the attack.

B. A person who kills a dog as provided by this section is not liable for damages to the owner, keeper, or person in control of the dog.

C. A person who discovers a dog on their property known or suspected of having attacked a human being may detain or impound the dog and return it to its owner or deliver the dog to the local animal control authority. The owner of the dog is liable for all costs incurred in the capture and care of the dog and all damage done by the dog.

D. Any owner allowing a dog or other animal to endanger a human being may be fined, under this ordinance, up to \$100 for the first offense.

E. Endanger means put a person in fear of bodily injury or inflicting bodily injury.

The regulations of this chapter are minimum standards supplemental to the rules and regulations duly enacted by the State Board of Health and to the laws of the state relating to public health. Where any of the provisions of these regulations and the provisions of any other county or state ordinances or regulations apply, the more restrictive of any or all ordinances or regulations shall prevail.

SECTION XXIII: FINES & FEES

First Offense \$ 100.00
Second offense up to 250.00
Third offense up to 500.00

Fines are payable to the Town Clerk/Treasurer and due fifteen (15) days after the date the citation was issued. Unpaid fines will be referred to the Floyd County Court for further legal proceedings.

Should the offending owner elect not to pay the fine, and would rather go to the Floyd County Court, the fine structure for the Judge's discretion is set as follows:

First offense – shall be punishable by a fine of up to \$ 100.00.

Second offense – shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$100.00 but not more than \$250.00.

Third offense - shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$250.00, but no more than \$500.00, and/or, at the discretion of the court, the euthanizing of the offending animal.

ADOPTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GEORGETOWN, INDIANA,
THIS 18 DAY OF Aug, 2005.

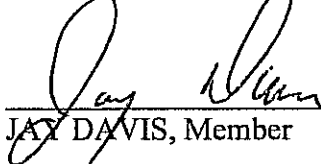
TOWN COUNCIL OF GEORGETOWN



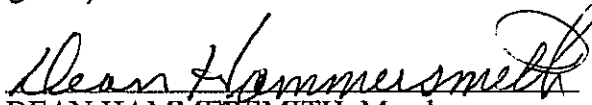
GARY SMITH, President




JEFF MC CAFFREY, Vice-President



JAY DAVIS, Member

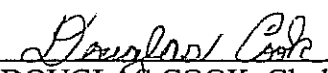


DEAN HAMMERSMITH, Member



CHRIS CARTER, Member

ATTEST:



DOUGLAS COOK, Clerk/Treasurer