

Chapter 157

ANIMALS

ARTICLE I

Dogs

§ 157-1. Statute adopted.

§ 157-2. License required.

§ 157-3. Dog license fee; late fee.

§ 157-4. Restrictions on keeping of dogs.

§ 157-5. Duty of owner in cases of dog bite.

§ 157-6. Impounding or killing of dogs.

§ 157-7. Violations and penalties.

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Washington as indicated in article histories. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Animal nuisances — See Ch. 273.

Animals in beaches or parks — See Ch. 281.

ARTICLE I

Dogs

[Adopted 6-19-1986 as Ch. 8, Subch. III of the 1986 Code]

§ 157-1. Statute adopted.

The definitions and provisions of Ch. 174, Wis. Stats., are adopted herein by reference except as modified herein.

§ 157-2. License required.

It shall be unlawful for any person in the Town of Washington to own, harbor or keep any dog more than five months of age without complying with the provisions of §§ 174.05 through 174.09, Wis. Stats., as amended.

§ 157-3. Dog license fee; late fee.

A. Dog license tax should be as provided in § 174.05, Wis. Stats.

B. Late fees. The collecting official shall assess and collect a late fee as set by the Town Board from every owner of a dog five months of age or over, if the owner failed to obtain a license prior to April 1 of each year, or within 30 days of acquiring ownership of a licensable dog or if the owner failed to obtain a license on or before the dog reached licensable age. All late fees received or collected shall be paid into the Town treasury as

revenue of the Town. Any person purchasing a dog license for a dog five months of age or over after April 1 shall pay an additional late fee as set by the Town Board.^{1 2}

§ 157-4. Restrictions on keeping of dogs.

It shall be unlawful for any person within the Town to own, harbor or keep any dog which:

- A. Habitually pursues any vehicle upon any public streets, alleys, roads or highways;
- B. Assaults or attacks any person;
- C. Is at large within the limits of the Town;
- D. Habitually barks or howls to the annoyance of any person or persons;
- E. Kills, wounds or worries any domestic animal; and/or
- F. Is known by such person to be infected with rabies or to have been bitten by an animal known to have been infected with rabies.

§ 157-5. Duty of owner in cases of dog bite.

Every owner or person harboring or keeping a dog who knows that such dog has bitten any person shall immediately report such fact to the Door County Health Department and shall keep such dog confined for not less than 14 days or for such period of time as the health officer shall direct. The owner or keeper of any such dog shall surrender the dog to the Door County Health Department or any Town law enforcement officer upon demand for examination.

§ 157-6. Impounding or killing of dogs.

In addition to any penalty hereinafter provided for a violation of this article, any law enforcement officer of the Town may kill, seize, impound or restrain any dog which is in violation of § 157-4 of this article. Possession of dogs impounded under this section may be obtained by paying to the Town Clerk/Treasurer the boarding fee established by the officer or other person impounding the dog. Such fee shall not exceed the actual average daily cost for caring for the dog. Dogs impounded for a period of seven days may be destroyed by the officer in a proper and humane manner.

§ 157-7. Violations and penalties.

The penalty for violating any provision of this article shall be a forfeiture of not more than \$500 for the first offense, together with costs of prosecution. The penalty for second and subsequent offense and continuing violations shall be as provided in § 1-5 of this Code.

1. Editor's Note: See § 174.05(5), Wis. Stats.

2. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. II).