

Chapter 2

Animals

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Part 2**Dogs Running at Large****§2-101. Definitions.**

As used in this Part, the following terms have the meaning indicated, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

Owner - any person having a right of property in any dog or having custody of any dog, or any person who harbors or permits a dog to remain on or around his or her property.

Running at large - being on any public highway, street, alley, park or any other public land, or upon property of another person other than the owner or guardian of the animal and not under the control of the owner or guardian by means of a leash not to exceed 6 feet in length. [Ord. 2263]

(Ord. 1726, 10/14/1991, §2-101; as amended by Ord. 2263, 3/24/2008, §1)

§2-102. Unlawful to Allow Dogs to Run at Large.

No dog shall be permitted upon the public streets or upon public property unless restrained by a leash not to exceed 6 feet in length. It shall be unlawful for the owner or guardian of any dog to allow or permit such dog to run at large in the Township of Ross.

(Ord. 1726, 10/14/1991, §2-102; as amended by Ord. 2263, 3/24/2008, §2)

§2-103. Seizing of Dogs.

Any police officer or dog warden may seize any dog found at large in Township of Ross. Such dogs are to be impounded in a licensed kennel.

(Ord. 1726, 10/14/1991, §2-103)

§2-104. Licensed Dogs.

Owners of licensed dogs are to be notified by registered or certified mail, with return receipt, that the dog is impounded and will be disposed of in 5 days if not claimed. Five days after the return receipt has been received, and the dog has not been claimed, the dog may be sold or destroyed in accordance with the Dog Law, 3 P.S. §459-101 *et seq.*

(Ord. 1726, 10/14/1991, §2-104)

§2-105. Unlicensed Dogs.

Unlicensed dogs that are seized are to be held in such kennel for 48 hours and if not claimed may be destroyed in accordance with the Dog Law, 3 P.S. §459-101 *et seq.*

(Ord. 1726, 10/14/1991, §2-105)

§2-106. Threatening Dogs.

Dogs that, in the opinion of any police officer or dog warden, constitute a threat to

public health and welfare may be killed by the police or dog warden.

(*Ord. 1726, 10/14/1991, §2-106*)

§2-107. Penalty.

1. The first two times a dog is seized, the owner shall pay a fine of \$15 to the Township of Ross as well as reasonable fees for keeping the animal in a kennel.

2. Any person allowing an animal to run at large a third time in violation of this Part, upon conviction shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues shall constitute a separate offense. [*Ord. 2288*]

(*Ord. 1726, 10/14/1991, §2-107; as amended by Ord. 2288, 4/12/2010*)

Part 2**Keeping of Certain Animals****§2-201. Definitions.**

As used in this Part the following terms shall have the meanings indicated, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

Animal - any domestic animal or fowl, any wild animal or any household pet.

Domestic animal - any animal normally or ordinarily domesticated or raised in this area and climate as livestock or for work or breeding purposes, or normally or ordinarily kept as a household pet.

Household pet - any dog, cat or other domestic animal normally and ordinarily kept in or permitted to be at large in the dwelling of its owner. Except for the applicability of §2-205 hereof, this word shall not include "seeing eye dogs."

Large animal - any wild or domestic animal of the bovine, equine or sheep family.

Person - any person, firm, partnership, association or corporation.

Small animal - any wild or domestic animal such as a rabbit, hare, guinea pig, rat, mouse or chinchilla; and any wild or domestic fowl such as a chicken, turkey, goose, duck or pigeon (excepting homing pigeons).

Wild animal - any animal, including bird, fowl or reptile not normally or ordinarily domesticated; not normally or ordinarily raised in this area and climate as livestock or for work or breeding purposes; or not capable of being kept as a household pet.

In this Part, the singular shall include the plural, the plural shall include the singular and the masculine shall include the feminine.

(Ord. 1805, 8/9/1993)

§2-202. Certain Animals Prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep, maintain or have in possession or under control within the Township of Ross, any of the following:

- A. Poisonous animals.
- B. Apes, chimpanzees, gibbons, gorillas, orangutans or baboons.
- C. Bears.
- D. Bisons.
- E. Cheetahs.
- F. Crocodiles.
- G. Constrictor snakes.
- H. Coyotes.
- I. Deer.
- J. Elephants.

- K. Game cocks and other fighting birds.
- L. Hyenas.
- M. Jaguars.
- N. Leopards.
- O. Lions.
- P. Lynxes.
- Q. Ostriches.
- R. Pumas also known as cougars, mountain lions and panthers.
- S. Swine.
- T. Tigers.
- U. Wolves.
- V. Pigs.
- W. Hogs.

(Ord. 1805, 8/9/1993)

§2-203. Keeping of Animals Regulated.

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep any domestic animals, except household pets, except as provided in this Section:

A. Large animals shall be confined in quarters no part of which shall be closer than 100 feet from the exterior limits of any dwelling or of any property line.

B. Small animals shall be kept confined in quarters no part of which shall be closer than 25 feet from the exterior limits of any dwelling or of any property line.

C. The keeper of every such animal shall confine the same in an enclosure sufficient to prevent such animal from running at large, and such enclosure shall be of a size and construction conducive to the animal's health and adequate sanitary drainage facilities shall be provided.

D. Every keeper of any animal shall cause the litter and droppings therefrom to be collected daily in a container or receptacle that when closed shall be ratproof and flytight, and after every such collection shall cause such container or receptacle to be closed. At least twice a week, every such keeper shall cause all litter and droppings so collected to be disposed of in such manner as not to permit the presence of fly larvae.

E. Every keeper of any animal shall cause all feed provided therefor to be stored and kept in a ratproof and flytight building, box, container or receptacle.

(Ord. 1805, 8/9/1993)

§2-204. Nuisance. It shall be unlawful for any person to keep any animal, except as provided in this Section:

A. The same must be kept in a manner so as to not create offensive odors or unsanitary conditions or a menace to the health, comfort or safety of the public.

B. No animal shall be permitted to habitually bark, howl, screech, yelp or bay, thereby disturbing the quiet of any person or the community.

C. No animal shall be permitted to scratch, dig or defecate upon any lawn, tree, shrub, plant, building or other public or private property other than the property of the owner or person(s) in charge or control of the animal.

D. Any violation of the provisions of this Section are hereby declared to be a nuisance.

(Ord. 1805, 8/9/1993)

§2-205. Prohibition Against Commission of Nuisances.

No person shall keep or harbor a dog, cat or other animal in a manner which constitutes a nuisance. No person shall permit a dog, cat or other animal to commit a nuisance upon any school or other public property or upon any private property other than that of the owner or person(s) in charge of such animal; provided, however, if the owner or person in charge of such animal immediately removes all feces deposited by such animal and disposes of the same in a sanitary manner, such type of nuisance shall thereby be considered abated.

(Ord. 1805, 8/9/1993)

§2-206. Violation of State Law.

Any violation of this Part that would also violate any State law shall be prosecuted under that State law and not under this Part.

(Ord. 1805, 8/9/1993)

§2-207. Penalties.

Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this Part, upon conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. 1805, 8/9/1993; as amended by Ord. 2288, 4/12/2010)

Part 3**Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Dogs in Township Parks****§2-301. General Rule.**

It shall be unlawful for a person who owns, has an interest in, or has charge, care, control, custody or possession of a dog, to permit the dog to be in or upon any Township park.

(Ord. 2269, 8/11/2008, §1)

§2-302. Exceptions.

1. The above-stated general rule shall not apply to working service dogs including, but not limited to, seeing-eye dogs.

2. Dogs shall be permitted to be in and upon the upper walking trail at Ross Municipal Center Park.

A. It is required that any person who has charge, care, control, custody or possession of a dog, carry with them a bag or container suitable for picking up and disposing of the dog's waste.

B. A fine of \$150 shall be issued to any person found not to be carrying a suitable bag or container and/or not picking up or disposing of the dog's waste.

C. It is required that all dogs be under the control of the owner or guardian by means of a leash not to exceed 6 feet in length.

(Ord. 2269, 8/11/2008, §2)

