

**TITLE 10****ANIMAL CONTROL****CHAPTER**

1. IN GENERAL.
2. DOGS.

**CHAPTER 1****IN GENERAL<sup>1</sup>****SECTION**

- 10-101. Running at large prohibited.
- 10-102. Pen or enclosure to be kept clean.
- 10-103. Storage of food.
- 10-104. Keeping in such manner as to become a nuisance prohibited.
- 10-105. Hogs.
- 10-106. Seizure and disposition of animals.

**10-101. Running at large prohibited.** It shall be unlawful for any person owning or being in charge of any cows, swine, sheep, horses, mules, goats, or any chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or other domestic fowl, cattle, or livestock, knowingly or negligently to permit any of them to run at large in any street, alley, or unenclosed lot within the corporate limits. (1995 Code, § 10-101)

**10-102. Pen or enclosure to be kept clean.** When animals or fowls are kept within the corporate limits, the building, structure, corral, pen, or enclosure in which they are kept shall at all times be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. (1995 Code, § 10-102)

**10-103. Storage of food.** All feed shall be stored and kept in a rat-proof and fly-tight building, box, or receptacle.

**10-104. Keeping in such manner as to become a nuisance prohibited.** No animal or fowl shall be kept in such a place or condition as to become a nuisance because of either noise, odor, contagious disease, or other reason. (1995 Code, § 10-104)

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference  
Animals on sidewalks: § 16-111.

**10-105. Hogs.** It shall be unlawful for any person to raise or keep a hog within the corporate limits during the months of April, May, June, July, August, or September. (1995 Code, § 10-106)

**10-106. Seizure and disposition of animals.** Any animal or fowl found running at large or otherwise being kept in violation of this chapter may be seized by the health officer or by any police officer and confined in a pound provided or designated by the city council. If the owner is known he shall be given notice in person, by telephone, or by a postcard addressed to his last-known mailing address, and the animal or fowl will be humanely destroyed or sold if not claimed within five (5) days. If the owner is not known, a notice describing the impounded animal or fowl will be posted at the city hall and in at least two (2) other public places within the corporate limits. The notice shall state that the impounded animal or fowl must be claimed within five (5) days by paying the pound costs or the same will be humanely destroyed or sold. If not claimed by the owner within the specified time period, the animal or fowl shall be sold, humanely destroyed, or otherwise disposed of as authorized by the city council.

If an impounded animal or fowl is sold for more than enough to cover the expenses incurred by the city in impounding, feeding, and advertising, it, etc., the balance shall be paid to the owner, if known, otherwise into the general fund of the city. (1995 Code, § 10-107)

## CHAPTER 2

### DOGS

#### SECTION

- 10-201. Rabies vaccination and registration required.
- 10-202. Dogs to wear tags.
- 10-203. Running at large prohibited.
- 10-204. Vicious dogs to be securely restrained.
- 10-205. Noisy dogs prohibited.
- 10-206. Confinement of dogs suspected of being rabid.
- 10-207. Impoundment and disposition of dogs.
- 10-208. Summary destruction of vicious or infected dogs.

**10-201. Rabies vaccination and registration required.** It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, or harbor any dog without having the same duly vaccinated against rabies and registered in accordance with the provisions of the "Tennessee Anti-Rabies Law" (Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 68-8-101 through 68-8-113) or other applicable law. (1995 Code, § 10-201)

**10-202. Dogs to wear tags.** It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, or harbor any dog which does not wear a tag evidencing the vaccination and registration required by the preceding section. (1995 Code, § 10-202)

**10-203. Running at large prohibited.**<sup>1</sup> Any person having a dog within the city limits shall be required to confine the dog on the premises of the owner or on the premises of someone authorized by the owner. No dog, whether licensed or not, shall be permitted to run or be at large within the city unless such dog shall be secured by a leash, not more than eight feet (8') long and controlled by a person mentally and physically competent to hold, manage, and control such a dog while so leashed, so that it shall not bite or injure any person or animal or damage any property. A dog is considered to be running at large when it is off the premises of the owner and not under the control of the owner, either by leash or by cord or chain. (1995 Code, § 10-203)

**10-204. Vicious dogs to be securely restrained.** It shall be unlawful for any person to own or keep any dog known to be vicious or dangerous unless such dog is so confined and/or otherwise securely restrained as to reasonably provide for the protection of other animals and persons. (1995 Code, § 10-204)

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 68-8-108 and 68-8-109.

**10-205. Noisy dogs prohibited.** No person shall own, keep, or harbor any dog which, by loud and frequent barking, whining, or howling, annoys, or disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood. (1995 Code, § 10-205)

**10-206. Confinement of dogs suspected of being rabid.** If any dog has bitten any person or is suspected of having bitten any person or is for any reason suspected of being infected with rabies, the health officer or chief of police may cause such dog to be confined or isolated for such time as he deemed necessary. (1985 Code, § 3-206)

**10-207. Impoundment and disposition of dogs.** Any dog found running at large may be seized by the health officer or any police officer and disposed of in accordance with the provisions of § 10-107 of this code. However, no dog shall be released from the pound unless or until such dog has been vaccinated and has a tag evidencing such vaccination placed on its collar. (1995 Code, § 10-207)

**10-208. Summary destruction of vicious or infected dogs.** When, because of its viciousness or apparent infection with rabies, a dog found running at large cannot be safely impounded it may be summarily destroyed by the health officer or any policeman.<sup>1</sup> (1995 Code, § 10-208)

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<sup>1</sup>For a Tennessee Supreme Court case upholding the summary destruction of dogs pursuant to appropriate legislation, see the case of Darnell v. Shapard, 156 Tenn. 544, 3 S.W.2d 661 (1927).