

Title 4 Chapter 2
Town of Lake Mills DOGS Ordinance

Dogs Ordinance

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4-2-1 State Law Adopted

The provisions of Chapter 174, Wisconsin Statutes, exclusive of any penalties, are adopted by reference and made a part of this Code, so far as applicable.

4-2-2 Licensing Requirements

- A. License Required: Every person residing in the Town who owns a dog shall annually obtain a license and pay a license fee for the dog. This shall apply to any dog which is five (5) months of age on January 1 of any year. It shall also apply to any dog which becomes five (5) months of age during the year. The license must be obtained during January or within thirty (30) days of the owner acquiring a dog requiring license. The owner of every dog required to be licensed shall display the license issued by the Town on the collar or in some other manner on such animal.

- B. License Fee: Refer to the Town of Lake Mills Fees, Bonds and Deposits Schedule for the license fee for each neutered male dog and spayed female dog, and the license fee for all other. The Treasurer shall collect an additional fee as recorded in the Town of Lake Mills Fees, Bonds and Deposits Schedule if the owner fails to obtain a license by April 1 or within thirty (30) days after the dog becomes five (5) months of age or within thirty (30) days after acquiring a dog which needs a license.

- C. It shall be unlawful for any Seeing Eye, Service, or Guide dog to reside within the Town of Lake Mills without being registered and licensed for that purpose.

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4-2-3 Impoundment Provisions

- A. Impoundment for No License: Any dog required to be licensed which does not display a current license as required by this Chapter and any dog running at large contrary to this Chapter may be seized by the police or any other person or persons appointed by the Council for that purpose and may be impounded.
- B. Notice of Impoundment: The owner of an impounded dog shall be notified by the facility, if possible, of the fact that said dog has been seized and that it is impounded. No person shall remove any dog so impounded without first having paid the Agent or Treasurer the fee recorded in the Town of Lake Mills Fees, Bonds and Deposits Schedule and having a receipt for such fee. The owner or person removing an impounded dog shall be responsible for the payment of any fees due and owing in addition to the minimum fee paid to the Town.

4-2-4 Running at Large

Dogs shall not run at large in the Town of Lake Mills. A dog shall be deemed to be running at large unless:

- A. It is on a leash and a person is controlling it on the other end of the leash; or
- B. It is upon the land of the registered owner; or
- C. It is hunting or being exercised in the immediate custody and supervision of its owner or same person having custody of the dog.

4-2-5 Noisy Dogs Prohibited

No person shall harbor or keep any dog which by growling habitually, frequent barking, yelping, or howling shall cause serious annoyance to the neighborhood or to people passing to and fro on the street.

4-2-6 Rabies Vaccination

The owner of a dog shall have the dog vaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian within thirty (30) days after the dog reaches four (4) months of age and re vaccinated within one (1) year after the initial vaccination. If the owner obtains the dog or brings the dog into the State of Wisconsin after the dog has reached four (4) months of age, the owner shall have the dog vaccinated against rabies within thirty (30) days after the dog is obtained or brought into the State of Wisconsin unless the dog has been vaccinated as evidenced by a current certificate of rabies vaccination from this state or another state. The owner of a dog shall have the dog re vaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian before the date that the immunization expires as stated on the certificate of vaccination or, if no date is specified, within 3 years of the previous vaccination. Owners who fail to comply with this subsection may be fined a minimum of fifty (\$50.00) dollars and a maximum of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars.

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4-2-7 Kennel License Option

Any person who keeps or operates a kennel may, instead of the license tax for each dog required by this chapter, apply to the collecting official for a kennel license for the keeping or operating of the kennel. Such person shall pay for the license year a license tax for a kennel of twelve (12) or fewer dogs and an additional fee for each dog in excess of twelve (12). Refer to the Town of Lake Mills Fees, Bonds and Deposits Schedule. Upon payment of the required kennel license tax and if required by the governing body of the county, city, village, or town, upon presentation of evidence that all dogs over five (5) months of age are currently immunized against rabies, the collecting official shall issue the kennel license and a number of tags equal to the number of dogs authorized to be kept in the kennel.

4-2-8 Kennel License Tags

Kennel license tags shall be made in a form so that they may be readily distinguishable from the individual license tags for the same year. The owner or keeper of a kennel shall keep at all times a kennel license tag attached to the collar of each dog over five (5) months old kept by the owner or keeper under a kennel license but this requirement does not apply to a dog during competition or training, to a dog securely confined indoors, to a dog while hunting or to a dog securely confined in a fenced area. These tags may be transferred from one dog to another within the kennel whenever any dog is removed from the kennel. The rabies vaccination tag or substitute tag shall remain attached to the dog for which it is issued at all times but this requirement does not apply to a dog during competition or training, to a dog securely confined indoors, to a dog while hunting or to a dog securely confined in a fenced area. No dog bearing a kennel tag shall be permitted to stray or to be taken anywhere outside the limits of the kennel unless the dog is on a leash or temporarily out for the purposes of hunting, breeding, trail, training, or show competition.

4-2-9 Penalty

Any person who shall violate any provision of this Chapter or any rules and regulations adopted hereunder shall be subject to a penalty as provided in Section 1-5-1 of this Code. Each violation and each day on which a violation occurs or continues shall constitute a separate offense. This Section shall not preclude the Town from maintaining any appropriate action to prevent or remove a violation of this Chapter

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4-2-10 Adoption and Amendments

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from its date of adoption and publication as provided by law.

- A. Adopted: August 15, 2003 (date from DVD electronic record)
- B. Amended: February 1, 2006 (date from DVD electronic record)
- C. Amended: September 13, 2011
- D. Amended: October 14, 2014

Attest: _____
Sarah FitzGibbon, Town Clerk

Hope Oostdik, Chairperson

David Schroeder, Supervisor I

James Colegrove, Supervisor II