

Chapter 6

ANIMALS*

* **Cross References:** Permitting motor vehicle or animal to be used in violation of division, § 26-56.

State Law References: Authority to adopt ordinances for public health and safety, MCL 42.14, 42.1, 41.181; local animal control ordinances, MCL 287.290; Dog Law of 1919, MCL 287.261 et seq.; crimes relating to animals, MCL 750.49 et seq.; dangerous animals, MCL 287.321 et seq.; right to take guide dogs in public places, MCL 750.202c.

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ARTICLE I.

IN GENERAL

Sec. 6-1. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Fence means a structure erected to serve as pasture enclosure consisting of rails, planks, or wire mesh.

Stable means a barn, shed, or structure used for the boarding and/or housing of horses.

(Ord. No. 6, § 2.01)

Cross References: Definitions generally, § 1-2.

Secs. 6-2--6-30. Reserved.

ARTICLE II.

KEEPING REQUIREMENTS

Sec. 6-31. Seizure of animals.

Any animal or fowl kept or housed or permitted to run at large in violation of this chapter shall be

deemed to be a public nuisance and may be seized by any police officer, health officer, or animal control officer.

(Ord. No. 6, § 3.06)

Sec. 6-32. Housing of animals.

(a) All animals or fowl shall be kept and housed in a clean and sanitary manner, free from all rodents and vermin. All manure, refuse or other litter resulting from their keeping or housing shall be disposed of in such a manner as to prevent any nuisance or unsanitary, odorous, or offensive conditions.

(b) Persons to whom permits have been issued under this chapter shall be responsible for keeping the stable and grazing area clean. The area shall not be allowed to become overgrazed or barren of grass.

(c) No animal or fowl shall be housed or enclosed in a front yard.

(Ord. No. 6, § 3.03)

Sec. 6-33. Removal of manure and refuse.

Throughout the year, all manure, refuse or other litter resulting from the keeping of horses or ponies, or any other animal or fowl, shall be removed in such a manner and with such frequency as to prevent any nuisance or unsanitary, odorous or offensive condition.

(Ord. No. 6, § 3.04)

Sec. 6-34. Maximum number of animals.

No excessive number of animals or fowl shall be raised or kept. For purposes of this section, excessive shall mean a total of five or more of the same species or a combination of five or more of different species. Newborn animals or fowl may be kept a maximum of eight weeks.

(Ord. No. 6, § 3.01(5))

Sec. 6-35. Running at large.

No person shall permit any animal or fowl owned by him, or within his charge or possession, to run at large in any street, alley or public place within the township or upon the premises of another.

(Ord. No. 6, § 3.01(3))

Sec. 6-36. Dangerous animals.

No animal or fowl shall be raised or kept that can be considered dangerous to the public safety and/or public welfare.

(Ord. No. 6, § 3.01(1))

Sec. 6-37. Barking dogs.

Continuous barking of dogs shall be deemed a nuisance and is hereby prohibited.

(Ord. No. 6, § 3.01(6))

Sec. 6-38. Permit for keeping horses.

(a) *Permit required; standards for issuance.* A person desiring to keep horses or ponies or to maintain a stable within the township shall make written application to the building official for permission to do so. The building official shall then inspect the premises and shall issue a permit for a period of two years if, after such inspection and investigation, the following conditions are fulfilled:

- (1) An area of three-quarters acre shall be provided for grazing and stabling one horse and an additional one-half acre for grazing and stabling each additional horse; except, when the additional horse is a pony, the additional grazing and stabling area required shall be one-quarter acre. An area of one-half acre shall be provided for grazing and stabling each additional pony.
- (2) All grazing and stabling areas shall be fenced.
- (3) Fences constructed after the enactment of the ordinance from which this article is derived for the enclosure of grazing areas shall not be less than 100 feet from the existing residence of any person other than the owner of the animals enclosed or of the enclosure unless the owner of the affected premises gives his written consent.

(b) *Revocation.* When inspection discloses a violation of the conditions or regulations in this section, the building official shall issue a written correction order to the permittee. The permittee shall thereafter have seven days in which to request a hearing. If no hearing is requested, or if, after a hearing, the building official determines that a violation exists, the building official shall revoke the permit. A person whose permit has been revoked or denied may appeal to the township board within seven days after revocation. The township board will conduct a hearing at its next regular meeting.

(Ord. No. 6, §§ 3.01(4), 3.02, 3.05)