

Domestic Animal Information

City Registration of dogs/cats:

1. Every dog or cat over four (4) months of age that remains in the city for more than thirty (30) days shall be registered/licensed. Registration/licensing of each animal shall include the owner's name, address, telephone number, emergency contact and veterinarian/vaccination information. A registration/license must be obtained from City Hall or a source participating with the city by showing a valid rabies vaccination certificate.
2. Each registration/license is valid for one (1) fiscal year (October 1st to September 30th) regardless of the type of rabies vaccination that was administered. Owners are required to provide notice of any change in information within twenty (20) days of such change.
3. In the event of loss or destruction of a valid registration/license tag, the owner of the dog or cat must obtain a replacement registration/license.

Rabies vaccination of dogs and cats:

1. Every owner of any canine or feline four (4) months of age or older within the city shall have such animal vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian of his/her choice. The state recognizes both one-year and three-year vaccines. However, no dog or cat need be vaccinated where:
 - (A) A licensed veterinarian has examined the animal and certified that at such time vaccination would endanger its health because of its age, infirmity, debility, illness, or other medical considerations; and
 - (B) Such certificate is presented to the animal control/services officer within five (5) days of such examination. However, the animal shall be vaccinated against rabies as soon as its health and age permits.
2. The cost of the rabies vaccination shall be borne by the owner of the animal.
3. Upon vaccination, the veterinarian administering the vaccine shall execute and furnish to the owner a certificate of inoculation and a current rabies tag. The certificate shall reflect the same number as the tag, the date and type of vaccine administered, the name and phone number of the veterinarian, the name, address (street and mailing) and phone number of owner, the breed, age, sex, color, markings, and other pertinent facts to facilitate identification of the animal.
4. Dogs engaged in obedience or K-9 training, dog shows, Seeing Eye dog and governmental police dog activities, while under the command or presence of the owner, trainer, or other responsible custodian are exempt from wearing the tag and license.
5. Owners must be able to provide proof of vaccination or registration/license upon demand within twenty-four (24) hours or be considered in violation.
6. In the event of the loss or destruction of a valid tag, the owner shall obtain a duplicate tag from a licensed veterinarian.

Removal of Animal Waste:

The owner of every dog shall be responsible for the removal of any excreta deposited by his dog(s), except on the owner's property. Any person walking a dog on the public beach or public property must carry the appropriate equipment to remove and dispose of any excreta deposited by their dog(s). No owner of any animal shall permit or allow the accumulation of animal droppings, feces, urine, or other animal waste on any property. An owner violating this provision is subject to the violations and penalties provided herein.

Other Rules:

1. It is unlawful and a violation for any owner to permit an animal to be at large in the city. At Large is defined as: any animal which shall be off the premises of the owner and which is not under or in the control, custody, charge or possession of the owner or other responsible person by means of leash, chain, or rope.
2. No animal, excluding marine life, shall be permitted to be on the Atlantic Ocean beach within the corporate limits of the city, from North Tenth Street to South Tenth Street.
3. It is unlawful for any person to house, keep, or maintain any horse, livestock, or wild animal within the city.
4. No one is allowed to house, keep or maintain in excess of four (4) domesticated animals within the city.
5. It is unlawful for any person to breed or sell animals, or dispose of such animals for any commercial gain or other commercial purpose within the city.
6. It is unlawful for the owner of any female dog/cat in heat to fail to confine the animal to make them inaccessible to any male dog/cat.

NOTE: For a more detailed list of rules regarding Animals please see Chapter 5 “Animals” of the Code of Ordinance. This Ordinance may be accessed at www.cityofflaglerbeach.com

Sec. 5-7. - Rabies vaccination of dogs and cats.

- (a) Every owner of any canine or feline four (4) months of age or older within the city shall have such animal vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian of his/her choice. The state recognizes both one-year and three-year vaccines. However, no dog or cat need be vaccinated where:
- (1) A licensed veterinarian has examined the animal and certified that at such time vaccination would endanger its health because of its age, infirmity, debility, illness, or other medical considerations; and
 - (2) Such certificate is presented to the animal control/services officer within five (5) days of such examination. However, the animal shall be vaccinated against rabies as soon as its health and age permits.

The cost of the rabies vaccination shall be borne by the owner of the animal.

- (b) *Certification of vaccination/tag.* Upon vaccination, the veterinarian administering the vaccine shall execute and furnish to the owner a certificate of inoculation and a current rabies tag. The certificate shall reflect the same number as the tag, the date and type of vaccine administered, the name and phone number of the veterinarian, the name, address (street and mailing) and phone number of owner, the breed, age, sex, color, markings, and other pertinent facts to facilitate identification of the animal.
- (c) *Animals exempt from wearing tag.* Dogs engaged in obedience or K-9 training, dog shows, seeing eye dog and governmental police dog activities, while under the command or presence of the owner, trainer, or other responsible custodian are exempt from wearing the tag and license. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the demand for proof of registration and vaccination as provided in this chapter. Failure to provide proof of vaccination or registration/license upon demand within twenty-four (24) hours shall constitute a violation of this chapter.
- (d) *Duplicate tag.* In the event of the loss or destruction of a valid tag, the owner shall obtain a duplicate tag from a licensed veterinarian.

(Ord. No. 2002-30, § 1(Exh.A), 12-12-02)

Sec. 5-8. - Rabies control.

- (a) *Animals infected with rabies.* It shall be the duty of the owner or of any person knowing of an animal infected with or showing suspicious symptoms of rabies or any unusual behavior, to report the same within twelve (12) hours to the county health officer or the animal control/services officer.
- (b) *Report of person or animal bitten or scratched.* It shall be the duty of any person, parent, or guardian in the case of a minor, bitten or scratched by any animal, to report the fact of such bite or scratch within twelve (12) hours to the county health officer. Any person knowing of or treating any animal bitten by another animal having or suspected of having rabies shall report the facts within twelve (12) hours to the county health officer.
- (c) *Duties of the county health officer/animal control/services officer:*
- (1) Whenever an animal has bitten or scratched a person or animal or is suspected of having or showing suspicious symptoms of rabies or other infectious or contagious disease, the animal control/services officer, county health officer, or duly appointed official shall investigate and/or capture such animal, alive, if possible, and quarantine it under observation for a period of at least ten (10) days from the date of bite or scratch.
 - (2) The quarantine shall be in the holding facility designated by the city or, at the owner's request and with approval of the county health officer and animal control/services officer in a licensed veterinary hospital, or the premises of the owner. Any quarantined animal found or reported at large during the quarantine period shall be picked up by the animal control/services officer or duly appointed officer and taken to an approved holding facility for the duration of the quarantine period. Quarantined animals shall be released only upon approval of the county health officer, animal control/services officer, or duly appointed officer. The owner shall bear the cost of care, feeding and maintenance of a

quarantined animal. Any animal that is released from quarantine and is not current on rabies vaccinations or registration will be required to be vaccinated and registered within five (5) days of release date, and reported to the animal control/services officer. All quarantine cost must be paid by the owner prior to release of the animal.

- (3) If a quarantined animal dies, the county health officer and the owner shall be notified and the head of the animal shall be forwarded to one of the department of health and rehabilitative services virology laboratories for pathological examination.
- (4) In the event a rabies quarantine is declared by the county health officer, the following requirements shall be enforced by the county health officer in the area of quarantine:
 - a. All animals, vaccinated as well as unvaccinated, must be confined to the owner's premises and will be permitted away from same only when under proper restraint by leash held by a responsible custodian. Confinement to owner's premises may be inside home, cage or run in a humane manner, suitable for animals to stand up and turn around comfortably.
 - b. All animals found at large during a quarantine period shall be impounded. Animals may be released to their owners or agents upon payment of impounding fees. No animal will be released from the holding facility except to owners or agents. Unvaccinated animals which have been impounded cannot be released to owner or agent until vaccinated or until arrangements have been made to vaccinate with a licensed veterinarian. Any animal subject to quarantine shall not be vaccinated before the quarantine period has expired. There will be no animal adoptions during a quarantine period.
 - c. In declaring quarantine, the county health officer may designate a "Rabies Watch" or "Rabies Alert," depending upon the severity of the situation, and shall issue news releases to that effect.
- (5) *Exception.* The owner of any dog or cat vaccinated with an approved anti-rabies vaccine within the preceding twelve (12) months, except such dog or cat exempted from the vaccination in subsection 5-7(a)(1), after receiving approval of the county health officer, may have such dog or cat quarantined and confined in a place other than the places specified in subsection (c)(2) above. However, if at any time during the quarantine it is determined by the county health officer that the quarantine is not properly maintained in order to insure isolation of the animal, the right of this exception shall become inapplicable and the animal control/services officer or duly appointed officer at the owner's expense, shall impound the animal.
- (6) If in the event a dog or cat does not possess a current rabies vaccination from a licensed veterinarian, then owner of said animal shall be given written notice by the animal control/services officer to obtain said vaccination within a period not to exceed five (5) calendar days, as enforced by the animal control/services officer.
- (7) The animal control/services officer shall consult with the county health officer and shall receive advice on all matters related to the protection of the public from rabies.
- (8) Surrender of animal for quarantine or destruction. Animals for quarantine or destruction shall be surrendered upon demand of the animal control/services officer, county health officer, code enforcement officer, or any law enforcement officer.
- (d) *Annual rabies vaccination clinic(s).* In an effort to protect the populace against rabid animals, the city may procure the services of a licensed veterinarian who may annually sponsor a rabies vaccination clinic. The costs of the vaccine shall be borne by the owners of animals participating in the clinic.

(Ord. No. 2002-30, § 1(Exh.A), 12-12-02; Ord. No. 2009-11, § 2, 6-25-09)