



City of Coon Rapids Dog Regulations

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coonrapidsmn.gov



Community strength... for generations

Dog Regulations

The Coon Rapids City Council realizes that dogs are an important part of the community in that they provide companionship, recreation and protection for many citizens. The Council also recognizes that if not properly treated and controlled, a dog may become a nuisance and a hazard to people and property. The regulation of dogs is necessary for public health, safety and general welfare.

City Code Chapter 6-100 contains the full regulations for dog control. This brochure is a synopsis of those regulations. Copies of the complete ordinance are available at coonrapidsmn.gov or the Coon Rapids City Center, 11155 Robinson Drive, during regular business hours.



Dogs Disturbing the Peace

No person may keep a dog which howls, yelps or barks for a ten minute period that is audible from more than 100 feet. The Animal Control Officer may request the person to stop or prevent the annoyance and if they refuse to comply, a citation will be issued. If necessary, the Animal Control Officer may impound the dog to stop or prevent the annoyance. The first violation or conviction is a petty misdemeanor and one or more convictions within the preceding 12 months is a misdemeanor.

Removal of Excrement

A person who owns or has custody of a dog may not permit the animal to defecate on private property without the consent of the owner or on any public property. The person in control of the dog must immediately remove the excrement and place it in a proper container. Violation is a petty misdemeanor.

Multiple Pet Permit

Multiple Pet Permits are required for any combination of four or more dogs and/or cats. Applications are available from the Police Department and on the City's website. An opinion survey is sent to residents that live by the applicant for their input regarding the applicant's pet ownership. All applications are forwarded to the Multiple Pet Committee for approval or denial. If the permit is denied, the pet owner may appeal the decision in writing to the City Council within ten days.

Dog Park

The City maintains a dog park in partnership with Anoka County and the City of Andover which is located in Bunker Hills Regional Park, at Hanson Boulevard and 133rd Avenue. The park is open daily from 6 a.m. until a half hour before sunset and is free to the public. For a complete list of park guidelines, please visit coonrapidsmn.gov.

Licensing

The City of Coon Rapids changed City Code related to licensing. Owners are no longer required to license dogs or register cats beginning Jan. 1, 2023.

Tags

Owners should place an identification tag on dogs that contains the name, address and telephone number of the dog owner.

Running at Large

Any dog that is off the premises of the owner and not under the control of the owner or other person either by leash, cord, or chain of not more than six feet, or otherwise restrained or confined is a dog running at large. A dog may be confined in a motor vehicle without a leash, but must be on a leash if taken out of the vehicle. The owner of a dog found running at large is guilty of a petty misdemeanor for the first offense, and if convicted of a similar offense within twelve months, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Report of Dog Bites

Anyone who has knowledge of a person being bitten by a dog must immediately notify the Police Department. The dog must be confined and quarantined for ten days. Failure to notify is a petty misdemeanor.

Impoundment

All dogs seized by the Animal Control Officer shall be transported to the animal control facility, Coon Rapids Animal Humane Society, 952-435-7738. The owner, if known, will be notified by telephone, personal contact or by written notice to the owner's last known address.

An owner may reclaim an impounded dog by paying the impoundment fee and a boarding fee.

Duties of Animal Control Officer

The Animal Control Officer may capture, seize and deliver to the designated impound any dog found running at large, investigate and record cases of either dangerous or potentially dangerous dog bites to the Police Chief; supervise and manage the quarantine procedure; and regularly report all activities to the Police Chief.

Abandonment

No person may abandon or release any dog, cat or other animal within the boundaries of the City.

Public Nuisance

Any dog that has been permitted to run loose or has caused damage to private property belonging to a person other than the owner, on three or more occasions within twelve months, is deemed a public nuisance.

Abatement

If a dog is found to be a nuisance, the dog must be abated by the owner within 14 days after receipt of notice. Abatement means euthanasia or permanent removal of the animal from the City.

Dangerous or Potentially Dangerous Dogs

The owner of a dog that commits an act which identifies the dog as a "Dangerous Dog" or "Potentially Dangerous Dog" is guilty of a misdemeanor. Owners are notified in writing (served personally) or by certified mail to their last known address.

An owner has the right to appeal to the Hearing Officer assigned by the City within 14 days. If a dog is permitted to remain in the City, strict regulations exist, consisting of a \$300,000 surety bond or liability insurance insuring the owner, posting a Warning Symbol and the dog has to wear a "dangerous dog" tag affixed to the collar at all times. Dangerous Dogs must be kept on the owner's property in a proper enclosure, or if outside the enclosure, it must be muzzled and restrained by a substantial chain or leash. Dangerous dogs and potentially dangerous dogs must also be micro-chipped.

DEFINITIONS

Dog:

Any male or female of any breed of domesticated dog.

Owner:

The person owning, keeping, possessing, having an interest in, custody or control of a dog. A person who keeps a dog for five consecutive days is deemed the owner.

Dangerous Dog:

A dog, when unprovoked, causes and inflicts substantial bodily harm on a human being on public or private property or killed a domestic animal without provocation while off the owner's property; been found to be potentially dangerous and bites, attacks or endangers the safety of humans or domestic animals; or attacked one or more persons on two or more occasions.

Potentially Dangerous Dog:

When unprovoked, inflicts a bite on a human or domestic animal on public or private property; or when unprovoked chases or approaches a person on a bicycle, street, sidewalk or any public or private property other than the dog's owner's property in an apparent attitude of attack; or has a known propensity, tendency or disposition to attack unprovoked, causing injury or threatening the life of humans or domestic animals.

Proper Enclosure:

Securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen suitable to prevent the animal from escaping and providing protection from the elements. Does not include porch, patio, or any part of a house or garage that would allow the dog to exit of its own volition.

Animal Control Officer:

Community Service Officers who are designated by the Chief of Police to serve as Animal Control Officers. They can be reached at 911.