

# Cobb County Animal Ordinances

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## **Sec. 10-9. Animals creating nuisances.**

The owner of any animal shall be in violation of this chapter if the animal exhibits any behavior or engages in any activity defined as a "nuisance animal" under section 10-1.

(Ord. of 9-23-80, § 25; Ord. of 6-11-85; Ord. of 10-24-89; Code 1977, § 3-5-23; Ord. of 5-24-05)

**Nuisance animal** means any animal that:

- (1) Damages, soils, defiles, eliminates or defecates on private property other than its owner's property or on public property;
- (2) Causes unsanitary or offensive conditions or otherwise endangers public health, welfare or safety;
- (3) Causes a disturbance by barking, howling or other noisemaking for a period of more than 15 minutes;
- (4) Chases vehicles, bicycles, or people;
- (5) Is in estrus and not confined in a manner which can keep it away from intact males of the same species; or
- (6) Causes serious annoyance to a neighboring residence and interferes with the reasonable use and enjoyment of that property.

## **Sec. 10-11. Control of animal.**

(a) General control.

- (1) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any animal to permit such animal to be out of his immediate control and restraint, or to be left unattended off the premises of the owner, or to be upon the property of another person without the permission of the owner or person in possession of such other property. For the purposes of this chapter, condominium and apartment common property shall not be considered to be the premises of the animal owner. Voice control does not constitute control of an animal.
- (2) Restraint of dogs and/or animals shall be maintained as follows:
  - a. When upon the premises of the owner, all animals shall be kept indoors or in a primary enclosure as defined by this chapter in such a manner as to contain the animal within the bounds of the owner's premises, or on a leash in the hands of a person that possesses the ability to restrain the animal. Tethering as a means of primary enclosure is not permitted.
  - b. When off the premises of the owner, all animals shall at a minimum be maintained on an appropriate chain, leash or tie not exceeding 6 feet in length, and in the hands of a person who possesses the ability to restrain the animal.
- (3) The requirements of subsection (2)a. and (2)b. of this section shall not apply in the areas zoned for agricultural purposes where the owner of the dog is using the dog for hunting or working purposes and has the dog in his possession or control. If the dog is being used for hunting purposes the owner shall have on his person a valid hunting license. Dogs, while hunting, or show dogs while being shown, are not required to wear a collar or dog tag; but the owner shall have the dog tag in his possession where it may be shown upon demand of a representative of CCAC.
- (4) No person shall tie, stake or fasten any animal within any street, alley, sidewalk, right-of-way, or other public place within the county or in such manner that the animal has access to any portion of any street, alley, sidewalk or other public place.
- (5) Every female dog and cat in heat shall be confined in a building or other enclosure in such a manner that such female dog or cat cannot come into contact with an intact male of the same species except for planned breeding.
- (6) Every animal shall be restrained and controlled so as to prevent it from causing property damage, harassing pedestrians or bicyclists, molesting passersby, chasing vehicles, or attacking persons or other animals.
- (7) Exception: Section 10-11(a)(2)b. shall not apply to the areas contained within the Sweat Mountain Dog Park or within any other county or city dog park designated as such by the applicable governing authority, provided that all other rules, regulations and ordinances connected to the use of that area are followed. All owners must possess the ability to restrain their dog(s) and must be present in the off-leash area of said park with any dog(s) they brought into the park, to adequately control or restrain them if needed, so as to prevent injury to other people or dogs in the off-leash area.

## **Sec. 10-138. Sanitation.**

- (a) Animal owners, or persons who care for animals at the person's residence, must keep their property, including but not limited to their yards, porches, balconies, decks, and interior living spaces reasonably free of animal waste including feces and urine and the residue thereof. Animal waste will be removed in a timely manner by placing said material in a closed or sealed container and thereafter disposing of it in the animal owner's trash receptacle, sanitary disposal unit, or other closed or sealed refuse container, so as to provide a sanitary and odor-free condition at all times. The waste removal method described above shall not apply to those persons maintaining animals on tracts of land seven acres or greater.
- (b) Persons who permit their animals to defecate on public or private property other than their own property are required to immediately pick up the feces, bag the feces, and properly dispose of the feces. Animal waste shall be removed by placing said matter in a closed or sealed container and thereafter disposing of it in the animal owner's or public trash receptacle, sanitary disposal unit or other closed or sealed refuse container.