

Killingly Code of Ordinances

Chapter 3

Chapter 3.1

ANIMAL CONTROL

- Art. I. In General**
- Art. II. Dogs**
- Art. III. An Ordinance Regulating Cats**

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sections 3.1-1 – 3.1-15 Reserved

ARTICLE II. DOGS¹

Section 3.1-16 Redemption of impounded dogs; fees

- (a) Any dog captured or impounded shall be redeemed by the owner or keeper thereof, or the agent of such owner or keeper, upon proper identification and presentation of a license and tag for such dog to the animal control officer, and upon the payment by such owner or keeper or his agent of the sum of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for the redemption of such dog.
- (b) When the owner or keeper of any such impounded dog fails to redeem such dog within twenty-four (24) hours after receiving notification to do so, or where the owner was unknown within twenty-four (24) hours after notification was effected by means of publication in a newspaper, such owner or keeper shall pay, in addition to such redemption fee, the sum of six dollars (\$6.00) per day, or part of a day, such dog has been impounded longer than such twenty-four-hour period.² (Ord. of 9-8-87, §§ 1, 2)

Section 3.1-17 – 3.1-29 Reserved

ARTICLE III. An Ordinance Regulating Cats

Section 3.1-30 Legislative Authority.

This section is enacted pursuant to the provisions of C.G.S. section 7-148, et seq., as amended.

Section 3.1-31 Statement of Purpose

The Town Council of the Town of Killingly finds that there is an overpopulation of stray and unwanted cats in the Town, evidenced in part by the increasing number of cat complaints received each year by the regional Animal Control Officer. It is the purpose of this chapter to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the residents of the Town of Killingly by reducing the number of stray/abandoned cats. This section shall serve to reduce the excessive numbers of unwanted cats and eventually limit the unnecessary euthanization of stray/feral/homeless cats by restricting the breeding practices of pet owners and breeders. It is also found that other communities with such ordinances have experienced decreases in the number of cat complaints.

Section 3.1-32 Mandatory Spaying/Neutering

¹ Cross reference—Control of dogs in public places, § 13-62(s).

² Editor's note -- Codification of §§ 1 and 2 of a nonamendatory ordinance adopted Sept. 8, 1987, as § 3.1-16 has been at the discretion of the editor

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1. No person shall own, harbor or keep a cat over the age of six months which has not been spayed or neutered, unless such person holds an unaltered animal permit for the animal (see Unaltered Animal Certification; Administration, below). Any such person who violates this provision may be cited and fined by the Animal Control Officer for such violation.
2. Any person intentionally providing care or sustenance for a cat shall be deemed to be the owner and shall comply with this section.
3. Any owner of an unaltered cat who has been cited or fined by the Animal Control Officer for failing to obtain a permit shall have his or her citation or fine dismissed if proof of altering in the form of an official neuter or spay certificate is presented within 30 days of the issuance of the citation or the owner obtains the necessary permit within 30 days of the issuance of the citation and the animal has not reproduced.
4. Individuals who are aware of cat abandonment are encouraged to notify the Animal Control Officer of said event:
 - To ensure that the animal is not simply lost
 - To identify potential problem areas
 - To receive assistance with spay/neuter and/or placement of the animal(s)

Those complying will not be subject to penalty for having an unaltered animal on the premises if they are willing to surrender it to the Animal Control Officer.

Section 3.1-33 Penalties

1. The penalty for violation of this Ordinance shall be \$75, payable to the municipal Neuter Assistance and Education Fund. If the violation is not corrected within 30 days and the fine is not paid, the continuing violation becomes a second offense, the fine for which shall be an additional \$75. A fine of \$75 will be assessed for each additional 30-day violation.
2. The Animal Control Officer may, at his/her discretion, waive the citation and/or penalty if the animal(s) is surrendered to the Animal Control Department for placement or for other good cause to be determined by the Animal Control Officer.
3. The penalty shall not be waived by the Department upon the transfer or abandonment of the cat by the noncompliant owner except as specified above.

Section 3.1-34 Unaltered Animal Certification; Administration

The Town Clerk's office shall administer a permit program to allow for unaltered cats over the age of six months when the following conditions have been met:

1. An annual permit fee of \$25 is paid at the time of application and upon each annual renewal. Permit fees will be payable to the Neuter Assistance and Education Fund.
2. The animal is examined annually by a licensed veterinarian and is following the preventative program recommended by the veterinarian.
3. The animal is current on rabies vaccination.
4. The owner otherwise complies with any applicable local/state law concerning the care and housing of animals and has not been in violation of animal related ordinance/laws in the past 24 months.
5. The owner furnishes the Town Clerk with a signed statement agreeing to the following conditions:
Offspring of the unaltered animal will not be sold or adopted until they are at least eight weeks of age.
 - Records will be kept documenting how many offspring were produced and who adopted or purchased them (name, address, phone number).
 - Offspring must be immunized against common diseases.
 - The Seller/adopter must disclose the permit number in any advertisement.

Section 3.1-35 Sterilization of Impounded Animals

On a first or subsequent impoundment of a cat, the Animal Control Officer may require that, as a condition for return to its owner or keeper, (a) the animal must be altered and (b) the cost incurred must be paid by the owner or keeper, or that the owner or keeper obtain Unaltered Animal Certification per this chapter.

Section 3.1-36 Exemptions from this Ordinance

Persons owning animals in the care of the following organizations or meeting the following conditions are exempt from the provisions of this Ordinance:

1. Animal shelters and rescue organizations that have implemented an ongoing spay/neuter program.

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2. Medical - A licensed veterinarian has determined that an animal is medically unsuited to undergo the surgical procedure and has signed a statement to that effect specifying the medical grounds for the exemption.
 - A. Temporary medical - The veterinarian may specify a temporary medical condition including the prognosis of when the surgery may be performed, which shall become the expiration date of the temporary exemption.
 - B. Transitory status - An animal that is temporarily in the Town to participate in a show or event sponsored by a nonprofit, sanctioned animal organization.

Section 3.1-37 Neuter Assistance and Education Fund

All fees and penalties collected under the provisions of this chapter shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Neuter Assistance and Education Fund. The purpose of said fund shall be to provide for sterilization of impounded cats and to offer financial assistance to qualified residents for the spaying and neutering of their cats and to create public awareness regarding efforts to control pet overpopulation in the Town. Additionally, the Town and the Animal Control Department shall maintain a current list of resources for reduced-price spay/neuter services for distribution to residents of the Town.