

TOWN OF KINGSBURY

A GUIDE TO DOG OWNER

RESPONSIBILITIES

AND WAYS TO

PROTECT YOUR POCKETBOOK

DANGEROUS DOGS: Effective September 1, 1998, the Law defines a “dangerous dog” as meaning – any dog which.

- a) without justification attacks a person and causes physical injury or death or
- b) poses a serious and unjustified imminent threat of harm to one or more persons.

Should you encounter such a dog, you **must** contact the Dog Control Officer (812-6898). The Law states that any person may make a complaint to the Dog Control Officer of a dog attack upon a person or animal. Upon receiving such a complaint of a dangerous dog and/or if there is reason to believe the dog is a dangerous dog, the DCO is required to commence such a complaint himself. These proceedings are heard in Town Justice Court.

RABIES: If you encounter a possible rabid animal, contact Washington County Public Health Nurse at 746-2400 to obtain instructions on handling the animal. For Nuisance wildlife assistance, you may contact any licensed nuisance wildlife specialist for in the yellow pages or internet search page. They will remove the animal at your expense.

Note: Washington County Public Health conducts rabies clinics throughout the year. These are provided free of charge (donations accepted) and schedules can be obtained from the Town Hall, Washington County Public Health Office, Washington County website and/or the DCO or WCPH facebook pages.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Kingsbury Town Clerk’s Office	518-747-2188 ext. 3001
Todd Humiston, Dog Control Officer	518-812-6898 (Dogs only)
Hudson Falls Village Police	518-747-4011
Washington County Sheriff	518-747-4623
Washington County Public Health	518-746-2400
Kingsbury Town Court	518-747-2188 ext 3010
Countryside Veterinary Hospital	518-793-7083

We hope this pamphlet will be some assistance to you and your pet. Remember if you love your dog license him or her.

This booklet was prepared by the DCO with help from the Town Clerks Office.

Note: The DCO does have a dog awareness/interaction class for the 6-9 age groups. The class takes an hour and has a short DVD and interactive activity book. Contact the DCO to find out more information or to set up a class for your youth group.

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CONGRATULATIONS! You are now responsible for a canine. The Town of Kingsbury has enacted certain regulations that all dog owners should be made aware of. We hope this pamphlet is of some assistance to you.

LICENSING: All dogs residing in New York State **must** be licensed. Licenses are issued at the Town Clerk's Office and **must be renewed** annually. On October 1, 1992, Washington County was declared a rabies county. We still have confirmed rabies cases each year. Therefore, all dog, cats and ferrets **must be vaccinated** against the rabies disease. The Town Clerk cannot issue a dog license without a current rabies certificate. The rabies tag does not work as proof and the certificate cannot expire within 30 days.

PROCEDURE: When your dog reaches the age of four (4) months old, it is time to license your dog. Bring a current rabies vaccination certificate and proof of spaying or neutering of your dog to the Town Clerk's Office. If you are renewing a license, please bring in the renewal notice sent to you by the Town Clerk. Check to be sure your rabies information is current on the renewal form. If it is not, the clerk will require a new rabies certificate. Also update any personal information that may have changed like microchip number, addresses or phone number. The DCO uses this information if your dog is found. Cell numbers are preferred in case you are not at home when your dog is found.

LICENSE FEES PER DOG:

Spayed/neutered: \$12.50 plus \$1.00 NYS population control fee = \$13.50
Unspayed/unneutered: \$17.50 plus \$3.00 NYS population control fee = \$20.50

When licensing for the first time, you will be given an identification tag for your dog to wear. The number on the tag will coincide with the license number on the paper license the clerk issues. Section 118(b) of the NYS Agriculture and Markets Law **requires** that your dog wear this tag for identification purposes. Failure to do so may result in issuance of a ticket, seizure of your dog and/or fines. If your tag is lost, you may order a new tag from the Town for \$3.00.

LOCAL LAWS: Section 75 of the Town Code governs dogs. A full copy of the code is available at the Town Clerk's Office for your review. Here are some commonly used:

- 1) All dogs must be on a **leash** of sufficient strength to restrain the dog.
- 2) The premises, structures or enclosures of a dog owner shall be maintained in a clean sanitary manner.
- 3) No dog is allowed to:
 - a. Engage in habitual barking, howling, crying or wining that will annoy any person other than the owner (must notify owner you are annoyed prior to DCO involvement, allowing for correction)

- b. Cause damage to property
 - c. Chase or harass any person to cause intimidation
 - d. Attack or chase other domestic animals
- 4) All dog feces **must be immediately removed from streets, highways and sidewalks** by the owner of the dog.

IF YOUR DOG GETS AWAY FOR YOU: The Countryside Veterinary Hospital located at 270 Queensbury Ave, Queensbury, NY provides shelter services for the town. You may contact them at (518) 793-7083 to see if your dog has been picked up by the Dog Control Officer. You can also call the Town Clerk or check on the DCO's Facebook Page at "Kingsbury/Fort Edward Dog Control". The law states that it is the dog owner's responsibility to claim his/her dog in a timely manner. Failure to claim your dog may result in misdemeanor charges of abandonment of the dog punishable by imprisonment up to one year and/or fines. You must go to the Town Hall during normal business hours for a release letter before you can pick up your dog from the shelter.

IMPOUNDMENT FEES: If your dog is picked up by the Dog Control Officer, your dog will be taken to Countryside Veterinary Hospital. The impoundment fees are as follows:

1st offense: \$25.00 pickup fee plus prevailing charge as per shelter contract
2nd offense: \$35.00 pickup fee plus prevailing charge as per shelter contract
3rd offense: \$45.00 pickup fee plus prevailing charge as per shelter contract

Weekend (After 4pm on Friday, Saturday and Sunday) and Town Holidays: An additional \$10 pickup fee will be levied.

Should your dog need emergency medical attention, the Countryside Veterinary Hospital or Emergency Care (when CVH is closed) will care for your dog and charge you for any additional veterinary fees over the pickup costs, boarding fees and flea treatment.

Note: Dogs that are found wearing a current Kingsbury Dog license will be returned to the owner in lieu of going to the shelter. With the exceptions of dogs involved in other violations, repeat offenders, and if the DCO is unable to physically hand over the dog to the owner or other responsible party over the age of 18.

DOG BITES: If you are bitten by a dog or if your dog bites any person, you are **required** to report the incident to the Washington County Public Health Nurse (746-2400). The biting dog must be quarantined for observation for ten (10) days. The Public Health Nurse or DCO will give you the quarantine instructions. The Rabies Nurse will also contact the bite victim to be sure the proper medical treatment has been administered.