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**PART 1**

**DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE**

**§2-101. Definitions.**

As used in this Part, the following terms shall have the meaning indicated, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

**OWNER** — any person having a right of property in any dog or having custody of any dog, or any person who harbors or permits a dog to remain on or around his or her property.

**RUNNING AT LARGE** — being upon any public highway, street, alley, park, or any other public land, or upon property of another person other than the owner, and not being accompanied by or under the control of the owner or any other person having custody of said dog.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978; as revised by Ord. 278, 9/18/1991)

**§2-102. Appointment and Duties of Dog Warden.**

A Dog Warden shall be appointed by the Board of Supervisors to serve during its pleasure. Such dog warden along with the police officers shall have concurrent responsibility for the enforcement of this Part and of the Dog Law of 1982, (3 P.S. §18511459101 et seq., as hereafter amended, supplemented, modified or reenacted by the General Assembly of Pennsylvania); provided, that he shall not have the power to make arrests under this Act of Assembly or any other Act of Assembly or ordinance of the Township.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978; as revised by Ord. 278, 9/18/1991)

**§2-103. Unlawful to Allow Dogs to Run at Large.**

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog or dogs to allow or permit such dog or dogs to run at large in the Township.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978; as revised by Ord. 278, 9/18/1991)

**§2-104. Seizing of Dodd.**

The dog warden or any police officer or constable may seize any dog found at large in the Township. Such dogs are to be impounded in a licensed kennel.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978; as revised by Ord. 278, 9/18/1991)

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### **§2-105. Licensed Dogs.**

The Chief of Police shall notify the owner of a licensed dog by registered or certified mail, with return receipt, that the dog is impounded and will be disposed of in five days if not claimed. Five days after the return receipt has been received, and the dog has not been claimed, the dog may be sold or destroyed in accordance with the 1982 Dog Law.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978; as revised by Ord. 278, 9/18/1991)

### **§2-106. Unlicensed Dogs.**

Unlicensed dogs that are seized shall be held in such kennel for 48 hours and if not claimed may be destroyed in accordance with the 1982 Dog Law.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978; as revised by Ord. 278, 9/18/1991)

### **§2-107. Threatening Dogs.**

Dogs that, in the opinion of any police officer or dog warden, constitute a threat to public health and welfare may be killed by the police or dog warden.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978; as revised by Ord. 278, 9/18/1991)

### **§2-108. Penalties.**

The first two times a dog is seized, the owner shall pay a fine of \$15 to the Township as well as reasonable fees for keeping the animal in a kennel as fixed pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Supervisors. Any person allowing a dog to run at large a third time in violation of this Part shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$500; and in default of payment, to imprisonment for a term not to exceed 30 days.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978; as revised by Ord. 278, 9/18/1991; as amended by Ord. 325, 7/3/1996; and by Ord. 336, 2/5/1997)

**PART 2**

**ANIMAL NOISE CONTROL**

**§2-201. Unlawful Disturbance of Animals or Birds.**

1. It shall be illegal within the Township of Richland for any person or persons to own, possess, harbor, or control any animal or bird which makes any noise continuously and/or incessantly for a period of 10 minutes or make such noise intermittently for 1/2 hour or more to the disturbance of any person any time of the day or night regardless of whether the animal or bird is physically situated in or upon private property, said noise being a nuisance: provided that at the time the animal or bird is making such noise, no person is trespassing or threatening to trespass upon private property in or upon which the animal or bird is situated nor is there any legitimate cause which justifiably provoked the animal or bird.
2. No animal of a vicious nature or disposition shall be allowed to attack or bite any person or animal, or cause annoyance to the neighborhood or persons using the public streets, or cause any damage or injury to the property. Any dog exhibiting such tendencies shall be confined by a chain, leash or other means to the owner's property and notice of the presence of such dog shall be posted on the property.
3. Intermittent Noise. An intermittent noise is a noise whose sound level exceeds the ambient noise levels at least twice during the observation, which is one minute or more. The period of time during which the level of the noise remains at an essentially constant value different from that of the ambient is on the order of one second or more.

(Ord. 265, 5/2/1990, 522)

**§2-202. Enforcement.**

1. Notice to Abate. Any emission of noise which is a violation of the ordinance herein described shall be deemed and is hereby declared to be a public nuisance and may be abated, in addition to the administrative proceedings, fines and penalties, herein provided. Any police officer making the observation of the unlawful disturbance shall notify the owner of the animal or bird or any person in residence of the property on which the animal or bird is observed to abate the disturbance. Such abatement shall require the disturbing animal or bird to be taken indoors and quieted during the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. of the following day and each day thereafter. Any disturbance by the same animal or bird after the notice to abate having been given shall subject the owner or any resident of the property that could control the disturbing animal or bird to a citation for violation of this Part and the resultant penalties set forth herein.

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2. Nothing in this Part shall be construed to impair any cause of action, or legal remedy thereof, of any person or the public for injury or damage arising from the emission of any noise made by an animal as provided in this Part.

(Ord. 265, 5/2/1990, §22)

### **§2-203. Penalties.**

Any person who shall violate any provision of this Part shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding \$500 and costs and, in default of payment thereof, shall be subject to imprisonment for a term not to exceed 30 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. 265, 5/2/1990, §22; as amended by Ord. 278, 9/18/1991; by Ord. 325, 7/3/1996; and by Ord. 336, 2/5/1997)

**PART 3**

**GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**§2-301. Definitions.**

1. The following words and terms, as used in this Part, shall have the meanings hereby respectively ascribed thereto, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

ANIMAL — any domestic animal or fowl, any wild animal or any household pet.

DOMESTIC ANIMAL — any animal as hereinafter defined as a household pet, a large animal, or a small animal.

HOUSEHOLD PET — any dog, cat, or other domestic animal normally and ordinarily kept in or permitted to be at large in the dwelling of its owner.

LARGE ANIMAL — any domestic animal of the bovine, equine, sheep or hog family.

PERSON — any person, firm, partnership, association or corporation.

SMALL ANIMAL — any domestic animal such as a rabbit, hare, guinea pig, rat, mouse, or chinchilla; and any domestic fowl such as a chicken, turkey, goose, duck or pigeon (except homing pigeons).

WILD ANIMAL — any animal, bird, fowl or reptile not normally or ordinarily domesticated; nor normally or ordinarily raised in this area and climate as livestock or for work or breeding purposes; nor not normally or ordinarily kept as a household pet.

2. In this Part, the singular shall include the plural, the plural shall include the singular and the masculine shall include the feminine.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978)

**§2-302. Keeping of Wild Animals.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep any wild animal at any place within the Township of Richland, except where the same may be permitted in a park, zoological garden or similar establishment for exhibit to the public or to any portion thereof.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978)

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### **§2-303. Keeping of Domestic Animals.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep any domestic animal, except household pets, except as provided in this §303.

- A. Large animals shall be confined in quarters no part of which shall be closer than 100 feet from the exterior limits of any dwelling or of any property line.
- B. Small animals shall be kept confined in quarters no part of which shall be closer than 25 feet from the exterior limits of any dwelling or of any property line.
- C. The keeper of every such domestic animal shall confine the same in an enclosure sufficient to prevent such animal from running at large. Such enclosure shall be of a size conducive to good sanitary practices and adequate and sanitary drainage facilities shall be provided.
- D. Every keeper of a domestic animal shall cause the litter and droppings therefrom to be collected daily in a container or receptacle of such type that, when closed, it shall be rat-proof and fly-tight, and after every such collection shall cause such container or receptacle to be kept closed. At least twice a week, every such keeper shall cause all litter and droppings so collected to be disposed of in such a manner as not to permit the presence of fly larvae.
- E. Every keeper of a domestic animal shall cause all feed provided therefor to be stored and kept in a rat-proof and fly-tight building, box, container or receptacle.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978)

### **§2-304. Keeping of Household Pets.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep any household pet, except as provided in this §304:

- A. If any such pet shall be kept in a dwelling owned or occupied by its owner, such owner shall be required to follow such procedures and practices as to the number of such pets to be kept there, and as to sanitation, to insure that no public nuisance shall be created or maintained, and no threat to the health of persons living elsewhere than in such dwelling shall be created.
- B. If any such pet shall be kept in an enclosure outside such dwelling, the provisions of §303, insofar as the same applies to small animals, shall be applicable to the keeping of such household pet.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978)

**§2-305. Penalties.**

Any person who shall violate any provision of this Part shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding \$500 and costs and, in default of payment thereof, shall be subject to imprisonment for a term not to exceed 30 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978; as amended by Ord. 278, 9/18/1991; by Ord. 325, 7/3/1996; and by Ord. 336, 2/5/1997)

**§2-306. Applicability of State Law.**

Any violation of this Part which would also violate any State law shall be prosecuted under that State law and not under this Part.

(Ord. 135, 11/21/1978)