

Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter

Ordinance Manual 2000-30

Title 2: Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter Ordinance:

An ordinance regulating the keeping, impoundment, providing for, and taking up of dogs and other animals. To provide for rabies control quarantining and strict observation, and the destruction of dogs and other animals in certain cases. Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of an ordinance violation. If such violation continues, each day's violation shall be a separate offense establishing Animal Control Official to enforce provisions of this ordinance.

WHERE-AS, the Board of Commissioners of Hendricks County, Indiana, has received numerous complaints of dogs and other animals running at large within the County. After having conferred with the Hendricks County Highway Department and the Hendricks County Sheriff's Department, has found that in order to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of Hendricks County from the nuisance and the unsanitary conditions of dogs and other animals running at large, and to promote the health and welfare of the public, it is Ordained as follows:

(A) It is the objective of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter to provide for the safety and health of the citizens of Hendricks County by removal of the unwanted animal population from the public properties and neighborhoods, to control the problem of domestic animals running at large and to prevent the spread of rabies. There is no intent to remove or separate pets from owners. Every attempt to locate owners with their pets is made when animals with tags or a microchip are impounded. In addition to its statutory duties, the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter will provide limited services for the citizens of Hendricks County including animal adoption and the assistance to individuals who have lost or found animals.

(B) The following rules of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter Ordinance were written with the above objectives in mind.

RULE 1
(General Definitions)

Chapter 2.1 Definitions:

Sec. 2.1.1 ANIMAL: Animal does not include a human (defined by Indiana State law).

Sec. 2.1.2 DOMESTIC ANIMALS: Shall mean, as defined by the Indiana State Statute, cattle, calves, horses, mules, swine, sheep, goats, dogs, cats, poultry or other birds.

(A) Any animals of the bovine, equine, caprine, porcine, canine, feline, or avian species.

(B) An aquatic animal that may be the subject of aquaculture (as define in IC 4-4-3.8-1).

Sec.2.1.3 OWNER: Shall mean any person, group of persons, or corporation owning, keeping or harboring a dog or dogs or animals; to allow an animal to remain on property for one week or longer.

Sec.2.1.4 KENNEL: Shall mean any person, group of persons, or corporation owning, keeping or harboring four or more dogs or cats, and is zoned by the Hendricks County zoning ordinance.

Sec.2.1.5 AT LARGE: Shall mean any animal shall be deemed to be at large, when the animal is off the property of his owner and not under control of a competent person.

Sec 2.1.6 RESTRAINT: Shall mean an animal is under restraint within the meaning of this Ordinance if it is controlled by a leash, rope, ect. at "heel" beside a competent person and/or obedient to that person's commands.

Sec. 2.1.7 STRAY: Shall mean a domestic animal which is lost or whose ownership is otherwise unknown.

Sec. 2.1.8 SPAYED FEMALE: Shall mean any female, which has been surgically rendered incapable of reproduction.

(A) Spayed female shall also mean, "Neutered animal".

(B) "Neutered animal" shall mean any animal, male or female, which has been surgically rendered incapable of reproduction.

Sec.2.1.9 HENDRICKS COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL/SHELTER: Shall mean any entity designated by action of the County Commissioners for the purpose of impounding and caring for all animals found running at large, in violation of this ordinance, Indiana State Law and/or the taking in of unwanted animals.

Sec.2.1.10 RUNNING AT LARGE: Shall mean any animal off the owner's property and/or caretaker's property, that is not under restraint or control.

Sec.2.1.11 CURRENTLY VACCINATED: Shall mean that the owner shows proof that the animal has been vaccinated for rabies (within the past twelve months). A rabies certificate or a call to a veterinarian is proof that the vaccination is current.

Sec.2.1.12 EXPOSED TO RABIES: Shall mean an animal has been exposed to rabies within the meaning of this ordinance, if it has been bitten or scratched by a wild, carnivorous mammal (or bat) not available for testing, or exposed to any animal known to have been infected with rabies.

Sec.2.1.13 STRICT CONFINED OBSERVATIONS: Shall mean to keep an animal confined in a building or home, and not to allow the animal to come in contact with anything other than the owner, for a period of time designated by the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. If the animal needs to go outside to relieve its self, it is to be physically restrained by the owner who is at least 18 years of age, and to remain in the owner's yard at all times, with the owner. Said owner is required to report any unusual behavior or sickness to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. All observations, quarantines are to be in Hendricks County and owners are required to follow the rules of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter for rabies suspects, or as define by Indiana State Board Of Animal Health and/or the State Veterinarian. There can be no transfer of ownership and or care during strict confined observations.

Sec. 2.1.14 CHIEF ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER: Shall mean the person employed by The Hendricks County Commissioners as its Chief Enforcement Officer.

Sec.2.1.15 ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER: Shall mean any person employed for the purpose of enforcement and, other duties, as directed in the job description.

(A) Job description shall mean a composite of duties as defined by the Chief Animal Control Officer.

Sec.2.1.16 AUTHORIZED AFTER HOUR CALLS: Shall mean outside regular shelter hours, The Animal Control officer will be authorized to answer call, initiated by the Chief Animal Control Officer, Hendricks County Sheriff department or local police departments for the following:

- (A) Stray domestic animals in distress.
- (B) Stray injured domestic animals. (This does not mean an animal that is just limping, Or an animal that has been there for a day or so.)
- (C) Bite of a human by any animal. Some cases of animal vs. animal.
- (D) Stray vicious animal threatening bodily harm.
- (E) Animals left at the scene (i.e. car accident, owner arrested, owner deceased).
- (F) All after hours calls are judged on a case-by-case basis, all information is considered in the decision.
- (G) Any other incident deemed an emergency by the Chief Animal Control, Officer, Hendricks County Sheriff or local Chief of Police.

Sec.2.1.17 UNDER CONTROL: Shall mean to completely regulate the animal's actions by either verbal command or by restraint.

c.2.1.18 QUARANTINE: Shall mean strict confined observation, for a period of 6 months, of an animal bitten by another animal that has been diagnosed as rabid, or an animal showing signs of rabies that has bitten a human. The owner is responsible for all costs. Quarantine shall be at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter or a facility approved by the Chief Animal Control Officer. The owner is required to follow the rules of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter for rabies suspects, as defined by the Indiana State Board Of Animal Health and or the State Veterinarian. All quarantines will be in Hendricks County.

Sec.2.1.19 NOTIFICATION OF OWNERS: Shall mean that any information on the animal (i.e. collar, tags, microchip), or information obtained at the pick-up location, will be investigated in order to locate the owner. Notification of owners will be by telephone and/or door card. Attempts to contact owner will continue for a reasonable length of time. Other means deemed necessary to locate the owners may be implemented.

(A) **REASONABLE LENGTH OF TIME :** Shall mean not less than 3 days over a 7 day period.

Sec.2.1.20 PENALTY FOR VIOLATING THE RUNNING AT LARGE ORDINANCE: Shall mean the Animal Control Officer will impound UNTAGGED DOGS WHOSE OWNERSHIP IS NOT KNOWN if the dog is running at large on public property. If found on private property, permission to have the dog removed from said property will be obtained from property owner or the property owner's designee.

- (A) **TAGGED DOGS** whose ownership is known may be impounded for Running at Large and may be cited for this offense.
- (B) Any domestic animal off an owner's land.

Sec.2.1.21 ENTITLED TO RESUME POSSESSION: Shall mean the owner of the animal is required to provide payment of the animals impoundment fees, show proof of current vaccination, or a receipt for prepayment of vaccination for rabies, proof of payment of Indiana state dog tax, and other fees established by the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter or applicable court order. Proof of rabies vaccination for dogs and cats 3 months or older, and Indiana State dog tax for dogs six months or older, as required by state law.

Sec.2.1.22 REPEAT OFFENDERS: Shall mean any person who has previously had an animal in the shelter, or a person who has received a ticket from animal control.

Sec.2.1.23 HUMANELY DESTROYED: Shall mean euthanasia by the injection of drugs approved by the Pharmaceutical Board of the State of Indiana, and recognized by the Humane Society of the United States, and / or the American Veterinarian Medical Association.

Sec.2.1.24 HUMANE REASONS: Shall mean that under certain circumstances, an animal should be euthanized, without first having to wait the usual 3 day waiting period. The following cases of injury and diseases indicate those circumstances:

(A) Injuries that warrant immediate euthanasia:

- (1) Any injury to the brain or spinal cord such that the animal is non-responsive to deep pain unless the owner can be located within thirty minutes from time of call.
- (2) Any injury that has caused the abdomen to be torn open and the bowels to be exposed, unless the owner can be located within thirty minutes from time of call.
- (3) Any injury that causes the animal labored breathing, and/or shows signs of cyanosis. i.e. grayish or bluish tinge to the mucus membranes of the lips and tongue.
- (4) Any injury that caused the chest cavity to be torn open and the lungs and/or heart to be exposed.

Sec.2.1.25 SECURE ENCLOSURE: Shall mean a pen with an attached top, bottom, and sides that provides the animal with adequate shelter inside the enclosure and is securely locked by a padlock, of sufficient size capable of securely confining the animal. Pen must be self-standing with only one gate.

Sec.2.1.26 DANGEROUS ANIMAL Shall mean :

- (A) Any animal which, according to the records of the appropriate authority, has inflicted severe injury on a human (without provocation) on public or private property.
- (B) Any animal which, according to the records of the appropriate authority, has killed or severely injured a domestic animal (without provocation) while off the animal owner's property.
- (C) Any animal owned or harbored primarily, or in part, for the purpose of animal fighting or any animal trained for animal fighting.
- (D) Any animal which has inflicted fatal injury, or injuries resulting in broken bones or disfiguring lacerations, in a provoked attack.
- (E) Any animal which has been involved in more than one attack of any kind.
- (F) All animals are judged by a case-by-case basis, all information is considered in the decision.

Sec.2.1.27 POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS ANIMAL Shall mean :

(A) Any animal which, when unprovoked, chases or approaches a person upon the streets, sidewalk or any public or private property in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack.

(B) Any animal with a known propensity or disposition for an unprovoked attack and probability to cause injury, or to otherwise threatens the safety of humans or domestic animals.

(C) Any animal, according to the records of the appropriate authority, which has caused a minor injury to a domestic animal or human.

(D) Is judged by a case-by-case basis, all information is considered in the decision.

Sec.2.1.28 PROPERTY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL/SHELTER: Shall mean the animal can be adopted and or humanely destroyed, as seen fit by Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter employees. All information is considered with both the animal's and Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter best interest in mind.

Sec.2.1.29 WILD ANIMAL: Shall mean as defined by Hendricks County Zoning ordinance.

Sec .2.1.30 STRICT ISOLATION: Shall mean as defined by Indiana State Board Of Animal Health and the State Veterinarian.

Sec .2.1.31 MICROCHIP: shall mean a device that can be scanned that is implanted under the surface of the skin. This allows an animal that has lost its collar to have a number that can be traced back to its owner.

RULE 2
(Enforcement of the Animal Control Ordinance)

And/or Hendricks County Sheriff Dept.

Chapter 2.2 Enforcement:

Sec. 2.2.1 The provisions of this ordinance and Indiana State Statutes pertaining to animal control shall be enforced by the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. The Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter remains, as the entity designated by the Hendricks County Board of Health, in the investigation and quarantine and/or strict confined observation procedures concerning rabies and animal bites. The Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter will work with the Indiana State Board Of Animal Health and or the State Veterinarian concerning rabies testing of animals that have bitten humans or other animals.

Rule 3
(Restraints)

Chapter 2.3 Restraints:

Sec. 2.3.1 The owner shall keep his dog under restraint at all times and shall not permit such dog to be at-large off the premises or property of the owner. (As per Indiana State Statutes I.C. 15-5-9-13)

Sec. 2.3.2 Any owner that allows a non-neutered dog or cat to run at large can be issued a summons into court for that county ordinance violation.

- (A) If the animal is neutered or spayed within ten (10) days of the violation, and verification is obtained from a licensed veterinarian, the summons can be dismissed. This burden of proof is the owner's responsibility and must be verified by Animal Control.
- (B) An animal maybe exempt from this ordinance when the surgical procedures may be detrimental to the animal health. With a licensed Veterinarian confirming this in writhing, and is given to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter within the ten days.

**Rule 4
(Impoundment)**

Chapter 2.4 Impoundment:

Sec.2.4.1 Domestic animals found running at large shall be taken up by the agents of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter and impounded in the shelter designated as the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter or alternate site approved by Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. Said animal shall be confined in a humane manner, for a period of not less than three days. If not claimed by the owners thereafter shall become the property of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, and be disposed of in a humane manner or adopted at the discretion of the said authority, except as hereinafter provided in certain cases.

(A) This section refers to any animal(s) picked up by the Animal Control Officers or brought to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter by citizens.

(B) Persons surrendering animal(s) will be given a Surrender Form concerning minimum holding periods, adoptions, and euthanasia, which must be signed before the animal is accepted by the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter employees.

(C) Immediately upon **impoundment of any animal**, the agents of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter shall make reasonable effort to notify the owner **(if an owner is known)** of the conditions whereby they may regain custody of such animal(s).

(D) Animals picked up or brought to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, **WHOSE OWNERSHIP IS UNKNOWN**, shall be held in the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter for a minimum of three working days (72 hours), **unless sick, (showing signs of parvo, distemper, blood in stool, listlessness, etc.), or injured.**

(E) Animals picked up or brought to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, **WHOSE OWNERSHIP IS KNOWN**, must be held in the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter until;

(1) IN THE CASE OF SURRENDERED ANIMALS :

(a) The owner signs a release form requesting that the animal be euthanized in the best interest of the animal and/or to protect the other animals in the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter from disease. (Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter employees have the right to refuse to euthanize the animal if they determine the animal is adoptable).

(b) The animal is adopted or it has been held for at least (24 hours).

(c) An owner who has surrendered his/her animal but has not signed the statement for the animal to be euthanized may change his/her mind, but the animal must be redeemed only by the adoption process.

(d) Owner-surrendered animals can be placed on hold for an adoption upon time of surrender.

- (e) The owner bringing in an animal that cannot be adopted, will be advised that the animal will be euthanized as soon as possible. (i.e. biter, sick, wild, livestock killer, ect are not adoptable.)

(2) IN THE CASE OF ANIMALS PICKED UP RUNNING AT LARGE :

- (a) The owner redeems the animal , in accordance to Section.2.5.
- (b) The court orders disposition of the animal.
- (c) Upon expiration of at least three working days (72 hours) after the owner of an animal that is **NOT PROPERLY TAGGED OR MICRO-CHIPPED** has been notified and the owner refuses to reclaim the animal. The animal becomes property of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter.
- (d) **PROPERLY TAGGED, AND/OR MICRO-CHIPPED**
Animals impounded will be held until the owner properly reclaims or surrenders the animal, or until disposal is ordered by the court. If an owner refuses to reclaim the animal within five days after notification has been made, unless there is pending legal action, the animal becomes property of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter.
- (e) If the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter has made a reasonable effort to notify the owner of a tagged and micro-chipped animal, however have been unsuccessful. The animal becomes the property of Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter after 7 days.

Sec.2.4.2 When dogs are found Running at Large, and their ownership is known to the agents of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, such dogs need not be impounded, however the agent may at his discretion, cite the owner of the dogs to appear in court to answer to charges of violation of this Ordinance.

Sec.2.4.3 **There is no cat leash law.** Cats will not be picked up for running at large. However, the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter can pick up cats that are reported to be stray, if contained. In the case of owned cats running at large, the complainant has a legal right to utilize a humane trap for the purpose of containing the animal to bring to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter.

Sec. 2.4.4 The owner shall be entitled to resume possession of any animal impounded, except as hereinafter provided, upon payment of impoundment fees set forth herein in Rule 5, Sec.2.5.

Sec. 2.4.5 Any stray animal impounded under the provisions of this Ordinance, and not reclaimed by its owner within three days, becomes the property of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter.

RULE 5
(Impoundment Fees)

Chapter 2.5 Impoundment Fees:

Sec. 2.5.1 Any impounded animal may be reclaimed, as herein provided, upon payment of impoundment fees by the owner to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. The amount of the impoundment fees set forth herein shall be collected by the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter and periodically turned over to the Hendricks County Auditor for deposit to the Hendricks County General Fund.

(A) An impoundment fee of **\$ 30.00** shall be charged for a dog, cat, small animals, such as rabbits, poultry, small birds, small exotics.

(1) Additional impoundment fees of **\$ 10.00** shall be charged for each day the animal is kept after two days.

(2) The initial impoundment fees will double for repeat offenders, and will continue to double for each offense. (**\$ 60.00 , \$ 120.00 , \$240.00** ect.). The Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, through its agents, can seek prosecution of repeat offenders. After a time span of one year from the last offense and there has been no impoundment of animals in the former offender's care, the impoundment fees will go back to the starting fees of **\$30.00** and will go up accordingly.

(3) Before an animal's release from the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, the owner must provide proof of current vaccination for rabies or prepaid receipt from a licensed veterinarian for vaccination to be done. **At this time the owner can request that the animal be micro chipped by the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. The cost of the Microchip and registration will be at the owner expense.**

(B) An impoundment fee of **\$50.00** shall be charged for any impounded livestock equine, wild animal or large exotic animal upon owner claim. Owner will also pay for any and all hauling fees and maintenance fees. If the animal is not claimed within three days, this animal can be put up for adoption or disposed of in accordance with the law.

(1) Maintenance fees are **\$20.00** per day.

(2) A hauling fee of **\$30.00** will be charged, if the stock trailer is used to move the animal.

(C) A donation of **\$10.00** will be requested for the disposal of any owned, deceased animals brought to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. Animals dead over 24 hours may be refused if the body is in bad condition or if animal is too large. (over 200 lb.)

(D) During the required confinement at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, a fee of **\$10.00** will be charged per day for any animals quarantined, placed under strict confined observation and or strict isolation. If any animal is left at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter at the expiration of the confinement, the fee will increase to **\$20.00** per day. In some cases fees will need to be prepaid for within three days from time of confinement.

(E) A donation of **\$20.00** will be requested for the euthanasia of an animal.

RULE 6
(Adoption Fees, Euthanasia, Injured Animals)

Chapter 2.6 Adoption Fees:

Sec. 2.6.1 Adoption fees:

- (A) Dogs or cats or mice, rats, guinea pig, hamsters, rabbits, small birds, etc. is **\$10.00.**
- (B) Small exotics animals, farm animals (goats, pig). **\$40.00.**
- (C) Large farm animals. **\$100.00** (equine not included).
- (D) Equine fees will be placed on the individual animal and to follow the rules in Sec. E.
- (E) For animals not listed above, a fee will be placed on a case-by-case basis. Fees will be set by the Chief Animal Control Officer and someone from the State of Indiana, Division of Companion Animal / Equine Office. Fees will be set by using the cost of boarding, veterinarian care, etc.
- (F) A fee of **\$5.00** per day can be charged to a new owner if an adopted animal remains in the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter after the adoption has been completed, if there is room at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter to house the animal.

Sec. 2.6.2 All animals adopted that can be surgically rendered incapable of reproduction will be (ex. dogs, cats, horse-male). The cost will be at the new owner's expense. Failure to have this done will result in an ordinance violation. See penalty Rule 16. Some cases will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. **All adopted animals that can be, will be micro chipped. (EX. Dogs, cats, equine.) Some animals will be judge on a case-by-case basis. The cost of the microchip and registration to be at the owner's expense.**

(A) Adopted animals that are age 12 weeks or older, for which there is an approved vaccine, will have to have a current rabies vaccination or proof of prepaid vaccination to be given within 4 days after adoption.

(B) Animals that are adopted will have to have a current distemper vaccination or proof of prepaid vaccination to be given within 4 days after adoption.

Sec.2.6.3 A person who signs the adoption paper work adopting an animal cannot give the animal to a different owner before the animal is spayed/neutered and vaccinated in accordance with the adoption contract. If the animal is given away before that time it will be a violation of county ordinances. The original adopters are the ones that are responsible for the animals.

Sec. 2.6.4 No animal shall be euthanized until after its required holding time has expired unless, in the judgment of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter or its agents, an animal should be destroyed for humane reasons, or for sickness.

(A) At no time will the lives of healthy, adoptable animals be jeopardized, solely to comply with the three day waiting period by housing animals exhibiting signs of any infectious diseases,

RULE 7
(Confinement of certain animals
public nuisance animals)

Chapter 2.7 Confinement of certain animals :

Sec. 2.7.1 The owner shall confine, within a building or secure enclosure, every fierce, dangerous, or vicious animal and not take such animal out of such building or secure enclosure, unless such animal, is securely muzzled and a leash is secured to a choker chain around the animals neck, and the owner is in complete control of the leash. The animal shall not be removed from the enclosure by anyone but the owner, who must be 18 years of age, or older. A warning sign and a padlock of sufficient size to be capable of securely confining the animal must be on all gates that enter the area of confinement. If the animal is inside the home, the door to the confined area must be secure and must be locked while the animal is in the home. This animal must be micro-chipped by a licensed veterinarian or the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, and the number kept on file at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. For as long as this animal is in Hendricks County, Animal Control officers will make periodic inspections to verify that compliance with the conditions for which the animal is to be kept are met. This animal is not to be given away or taken away with out Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter knowing where the animal is to be housed. The cost of the microchip and registration to be at the owner's expense.

Sec. 2.7.2 The owner shall confine every potentially dangerous animal within a six foot high fenced - in yard or secure enclosure pen that is constructed so that the animal cannot get out. The owner shall not take the animal out unless said animal is under control on a leash, with a choke collar attached, at all times. The animal is not to be allowed to run free, and must be with the owner, who must be 18 years of age, or older. A warning sign and a padlock of sufficient size to be capable of securely confining the animal must be on all gates that enter the area of confinement. If the animal is inside the home, the door to the confined area must be secure and must be locked while the animal is in the home. This animal must be micro-chipped by a licensed veterinarian or the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, and the number kept on file at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. For as long as this animal is in Hendricks County, Animal Control officers will make periodic inspections to verify that compliance with the conditions for which the animal is to be kept are met. This animal is not to be given away or taken away without Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter knowing where the animal is to be housed. The cost of the microchip and registration to be at the owner's expense.

(A) The Animal Control Officers shall make a determination as to whether an animal fits the dangerous or potentially dangerous category, based on complaints or other information. The Animal Control Officers shall investigate these complaints or the information to determine if, in fact, the animal is dangerous and /or potentially dangerous. This shall be done on a case-by-case basis.

(B) It is the owner's responsibility to conspicuously place a sign on every dangerous, or potentially dangerous animal's enclosure warning people that a dangerous or potentially dangerous, animal is kept there.

(C) If the owner or keeper of an animal that has been deemed dangerous or potentially dangerous, is unwilling or unable to comply with the above regulations for keeping such animal, then the owner or keeper must have the animal humanely euthanized by an Veterinarian or the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, after any required holding period. Any animal that has been designated dangerous, or potentially dangerous, may not be offered for adoption.

(D) Any dangerous animal shall be immediately confiscated by an Animal Control Officer if the:

(1) Animal is not maintained in a proper enclosure.

(2) Animal is outside of the proper enclosure and not under proper restraint. In addition, the owner may be cited for an ordinance violation.

(E) Once an animal has been deemed a dangerous, or potentially dangerous animal and attacks or bites a person or domestic animal, the owner may be cited. In addition, the dangerous animal shall be quarantined at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter.

(F) When an animal running at large appears to be an immediate physical threat to the public or other animals, and it cannot be safely or humanely captured by the Animal Control Officers, an officer of the law may be called and requested to destroy the animal as a last resort.

Sec. 2.7.3 Every female dog, in heat shall be kept confined in a building or secure enclosure, or in a veterinary hospital or boarding kennel, in such manner that said female dog cannot come into contact with another animal, except for breeding purposes, as the owner shall desire.

Sec. 2.7.4 No wild animal may be kept within the county limits, except under such conditions as shall be fixed by the Hendricks County Planning and Zoning, and the State of Indiana.

Sec. 2.7.5 Any at large animal described in the foregoing subsections of Rule 7 of this ordinance shall be impounded by the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter and may not be redeemed by its owner unless such redemption is authorized by a court having jurisdiction. This provision shall also apply to animals found to be in violation of Rule 8 of this ordinance. Any animal impounded for being a dangerous, or potentially dangerous animal may not be redeemed unless such redemption is authorized by a court having jurisdiction. The owner will be responsible for all fines and fees and proof of all vaccinations before the release of the animal.

RULE 8
(Rabies Control)

Chapter 2.8 Rabies Control:

Sec. 2.8.1 Any animal which bites a human being shall be promptly reported to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, and shall there upon be placed under strict confined observation, at the direction of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, for a period time designated by the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, and shall not be released from strict confined observation, except by permission of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. **If the animal's rabies vaccination are current**, such strict confined observation may be on the premises of the owner, at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, (at the owner's option and expense), or in a Hendricks County veterinary hospital or boarding kennel of the owners choice, who is willing to and is equipped to provide the proper strict confined observation. In the case of stray animals, or in the case of animals whose ownership is unknown, **or if the owned animal is unvaccinated**, such strict confined observation shall at the owner's option and expense be at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter or in a Hendricks County veterinary hospital or boarding kennel of the owner's choice. Animals that scratch will be place under strict confined observation. Such strict confined observation may be on the premises of the owner. The length of time will be ten days from time of bite, in a normal situation. During this time the animal cannot have any vaccinations in accordance with Indiana State Law. All dogs and cats at 3 months of age must have a current rabies vaccination; failure to do so will be an ordinance violation.

(A) Any animal that has bitten a human being, be it domestic or wild is considered a rabies suspect until proven otherwise.

(B) Any un-owned animal exhibiting signs of rabies shall be euthanized immediately, and the brain sent to the state laboratory. The most classic signs of rabies are; hydrophobia, extreme aggression, disorientation, foaming at the mouth, high fever, ataxia, or staggering. (No animal will show all the signs and some animals that have rabies will not show any of the signs.)

(1) Currently vaccinated animals can be placed under strict confined observation at the owners home if the owner has the facilities to handle a rabies suspect that complies with the rules of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. This decision shall be at the discretion of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter as to if the owners home is sufficient. **If the owner has indicates by action, words, or deed signs of not willing to cooperate fully, the animal will be taken to the animal shelter for the remainder of the strict confined observation at the owner's expense.**

(C) Unvaccinated animals or animals otherwise suspected of having rabies are to be place under strict confined observation at the owner's expense, at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, in a veterinary clinic or a boarding kennel. These facilities must be willing to accept the responsibility of the suspect animal and be properly equipped for strict confined observation, providing it is within Hendricks County. The owner's home is not sufficient confinement for these rabies suspects. Some cases are judge case-by-case with all information taken into consideration. (i.e. impute from a veterinarian, age, sick, injured).

(1) At the owner's discretion, the animal may be euthanized and have the brain sent to the state laboratory for a quick diagnosis.

(D) Wild animals that have bitten shall be euthanized immediately. The head will be sent to the state laboratory.

(E) DOMESTIC ANIMAL VS DOMESTIC ANIMAL:

(1) (VACCINATED BITER) The biter will be placed under strict confined observation at owner's home for a period of time as shall be fixed by the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. (Ten days from time of bite).

(2) (UNVACCINATED BITER) the biter will be placed under strict confined observation at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter for a period of time (ten days from time of bite). Before release will be granted, proof of appointment and a prepaid rabies vaccination with a licensed veterinarian must be provided. Revaccination must be within 24 hours after release from shelter.

(3) (VACCINATED BITE VICTIM). When biter cannot be found, victim must be revaccinated immediately and placed under observation at owners home for 45 days from time of bite.

(4) (UNVACCINATED BITE VICTIM) When biter can not be found, the owner should have the animal euthanized immediately. If the owner is unwilling to have this done, the victim is placed under strict isolation for six months, and is to be vaccinated one month before release. Owner's home is sufficient if the owner has the proper facilities for the strict isolation. If not, the animal will be placed under strict isolation at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. The cost is to be the owner's responsibility, and is to be prepaid up front. For failure to prepay within three days from the start of strict isolation at the shelter, the animal can be euthanized.

(F) Some cases of animal Vs. animal will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. This decision shall be made in conjunction with the Indiana State Board of Animal Health and the State Veterinarian.

(G) All animals placed under strict confined observation, strict isolation and/or quarantine must remain within Hendricks County for the duration of this period. The cost is the owner's responsibility. Some cases will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and all information considered.

Sec. 2.8.2 The owner or keeper shall surrender, upon demand of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, any animal which has bitten a human, or is suspected of having been exposed to rabies, for supervised strict confined observation, strict isolation and or quarantine, with the expenses being borne by the owner.

(A) The animal may be reclaimed by the owner:

(1) At the completion of the observation period from time of bite.

(2) If the animal is determined to be free of rabies at time of the bite.

(3) Upon payment of fees to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter.

(4) After proof is given to Animal Control of prepayment of a rabies vaccination and proof of appointment to have animal vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian within 24 hours after release from the shelter.

(B) Animals not reclaimed after the observation:

(1) If there is no contact from the animal's owner after release from observation, within three days, the animal becomes property of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter and it will be euthanized.

(2) If the owner makes contact with the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter and does not know if they want the animal back, and leaves the animal, then a time of three days will be given if the owner does not come back to get the animal it becomes property of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. It will be euthanized.

Sec. 2.8.3 When an animal under observation and/or quarantine has been diagnosed as being rabid, or suspected by a licensed veterinarian as being rabid, or dies while under observation, the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter shall immediately send the head of such animal to the State Health Department for pathological examination. Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter shall then notify the proper public health officer of reports of human contacts and the diagnosis of the suspected animal.

Sec. 2.8.4 When reports give a positive diagnosis of rabies, the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter shall recommend a countywide quarantine for a period of 45 days. Upon the invoking of such quarantine, no animal shall be taken into the streets, or permitted to be in the streets, during such quarantine period unless animal is under control on a leash, with a choke collar, and must be with the owner, who must be 18 years of age or older. During such quarantine, no animal shall be taken or shipped from the county, without written Permission of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter. Such decision shall be made in conjunction with the Indiana State Board of Animal Health and the State Veterinarian.

Sec. 2.8.5 Any stray animal that has been bitten by an animal adjudged to be rabid, shall be destroyed immediately and tested by the State Rabies Lab.

(A) If an animal is found in violation of the strict confined observation, strict isolation and or quarantine guidelines, then the remainder of the strict observation, strict isolation and or quarantine will take place at the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, at the owner's expense. Some cases will have to be prepaid within three days.

(B) Some cases of expired vaccinations will be evaluated on an case-by-case basis in conjunction with the Indiana State Board of Animal Health and the State Veterinarian.

Sec. 2.8.6 In the event of additional positive cases of rabies occurring during the period of quarantine, such period of quarantine may be extended for an additional six (6) months or such other period as the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter may deem necessary. Such decision shall be made in conjunction with the Indiana State Board of Animal Health and the State Veterinarian.

Sec. 2.8.7 The carcass of a dead animal exposed to rabies shall, upon demand, be surrendered to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter.

Sec.2.8.8 The Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter shall direct the disposition of any animal found to be infected with rabies, in conjunction with the Indiana State Board of Animal Health and the State Veterinarian.

Sec.2.8.9 Any person refusing to surrender to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter any animal suspected of being rabid, or exposed to rabies, for strict confined observation, strict isolation, quarantine or destruction, may be deemed guilty of an ordinance violation.

RULE 9 **(AUTHORITY)**

Chapter 2.9 Authority reference bite cases:

Sec.2.9.1 The Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter has been named the designee in the investigation and strict confined observation, strict isolation and quarantine procedures concerning rabies and animal bites in Hendricks County, for the Hendricks County Health Department.

RULE 10 **(Reports of Bite Cases)**

Chapter 2.10 Reports of Bite Cases:

Sec. 2.10.1 It shall be the duty of every physician, or other practitioner, to report to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter as soon as possible, the names and addresses of persons treated for bites inflicted by animals that live in Hendricks County, together with such other information as will be helpful in rabies control. Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter will respond to these bite cases at all times day or night. If the animal lives outside of Hendricks County, the report should go to the Indiana State Board of Animal Health, as soon as possible. Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter is not responsible for these cases.

Rule 11 **(Responsibilities of Veterinarians)**

Chapter 2.11 Responsibilities of Veterinarians:

Sec: 2.11.1 It shall be the duty of every licensed veterinarian to report to the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter the diagnosis of any animal observed as a rabies suspect.

RULE 12
(Exemptions)

Chapter 2.12 Exemptions:

Sec. 2.12.1 Hospitals, clinics and other premises operated by a licensed veterinarian for the care and treatment of animals, are exempt from the provisions of this Ordinance, except where such duties are expressly stated.

RULE 13
(Neglected Animals)

Chapter 2.13 Investigation:

Sec. 2.13.1 For the purpose of discharging the duties imposed by this Ordinance and to enforce its provisions, any agent of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter is empowered to enter upon any property in which any animal is kept or harbored in a reportedly cruel or inhumane manner, and the officer may demand to examine such animal, and to take possession of such animal, when in the officer's opinion, it requires humane treatment.

Requirements for Humane Treatment.

- (A) Animals must be provided with adequate shelter, so animal is kept warm and dry and protected from the sun and all weather. Livestock does not always require shelter (see D).
- (B) Animals must be provided with adequate exercise space. The size of the animal will be taken into consideration.
- (C) Animals must be provided with clean water at all times, in a container that cannot be overturned by the animal. Animals must also be fed on a daily basis.
- (D) All investigations are judged on an individual basis, with all information taken into consideration.

**RULE 14
(Interference)**

Chapter 2.14 Interference:

Sec. 2.14.1 No person shall interfere with, hinder, or obstruct any agent of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, in the performance of any duty of such agent, or seek to release any animal in custody of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter, or it's agents, except as herein provided.

**RULE 15
(Animal Shelter Records)**

Chapter 2.15 Records:

Sec. 2.15.1 It shall be the duty of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter to keep, or cause to be kept, accurate and detailed records of the impoundment and disposition of all animals taken into its custody.

Sec. 2.15.2 It shall be the duty of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter to keep, or cause to be kept, accurate and detailed records of all bite cases reported to it and its investigation of the same.

Sec. 2.15.3 It shall be the duty of the Hendricks County Animal Control/Shelter to keep, or cause to be kept, accurate and detailed records of all money belonging to Hendricks County, with said records open to inspection, at reasonable times, by such persons responsible for similar records of Hendricks County. The records shall be audited by the Indiana State Board of Accounts, annually, in the same manner as other records of the County are audited.

**RULE 16
(Penalty)**

Charter 2.16 Penalty :

Sec. 2. 16 .1 Any person violating any provision of this Ordinance shall be deemed guilty of an ordinance violation and punished by fine not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars (\$ 500.00), and if such violation continues, each day's violation shall be a separate offense.

This Ordinance adopted this 26th day of December 2000

John A. Daum
John A. Daum, President

Hursel C. Disney
Hursel C. Disney, Vice President

John D. Clampitt
John D. Clampitt, Member

ATTEST: Debbie Reeder
Debbie Reeder, Auditor