

CHAPTER 2
DOG ORDINANCE

2.01 LICENSE REQUIREMENT:

The owner of a dog more than 5 months of age on January 1 of any year, or 5 months of age within the license year, shall annually, or on or before the date the dog becomes 5 months of age, pay the dog license tax and obtain a license.

2.02 LICENSE TAX:

The dog license tax is \$7.00 for a neutered male dog or spayed female dog, upon presentation of evidence that the dog is neutered or spayed, and \$14.00 for an un-neutered male dog or un-spayed female dog, or one-half of these amounts if the dog became 5 months of age after July 1, of the license year. A multiple dog tax is \$55.00 for up to 12 dogs and \$5.00 for each additional dog regardless of neutered status.

2.03 RABIES VACCINATION:

Prior to the issuance of a dog license, the owner must show proof of vaccination by a veterinarian against rabies in accordance with WI Statutes 95.21.

2.04 LICENSE YEAR:

The license year commences on January 1 and ends on the following December 31.

2.05 LATE FEE:

The Town Clerk shall assess and collect a late fee of \$5.00 from every owner of a dog 5 months of age or over, if the owner failed to obtain a license prior to April 1 of each year, or within 30 days of acquiring ownership of a licensable dog or if the owner failed to obtain a license on or before the dog reached licensable age.

2.06 RUNNING AT LARGE:

Any person who owns, harbors or keeps a dog, or is responsible in any manner therefore, shall not permit such dog to run at large within the Town of Greenbush. "Run at large" under this ordinance means off of the premises of the owner, or other person responsible, and not accompanied by the owner, or any other responsible person.

2.07 IMPOUNDING:

The Town Constable shall seize and impound any dog running at large and in default of payment of fine imposed, such dog shall be disposed of as the Constable sees fit.

2.08 PENALTY:

Persons violating the running at large portion of this ordinance shall pay a forfeiture of not less than \$10.00 or more than \$100.00 and the Constable's expenses in keeping the dog.

2.09 KEEPING OF VICIOUS DOGS:

(1) DEFINITIONS. The terms used in this section are defined as follows:

(a) Vicious Dog

1. Any dog or hybrid dog with a propensity, tendency or disposition to attack, assault, cause injury or otherwise endanger the safety of human beings or other domestic animals as evidenced by its habitual or repeated chasing or snapping, or barking and / or snarling in a threatening manner.
2. Any dog or hybrid dog which attacks a human being or another domestic animal without provocation.
3. Any dog or hybrid dog owned or harbored primarily or in part for the purpose of dog – fighting, or any dog trained for dog – fighting.
4. Any pit bull dog.

(b) Pit Bull Dog

1. The Pit Bull Terrier breed of dog.
2. The Staffordshire Bull Terrier breed of dog.
3. The American Pit Bull Terrier breed of dog.
4. The American Staffordshire Terrier breed of dog.
5. Dogs of mixed breed or of other breeds than listed under sub pars. 1 to 4 above whose breed or mixed breed is commonly known as Pit Bull, Pit Bull Dog or Pit Bull Terrier.

(2) REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS

(a) Leash and Muzzle. No person owning, harboring or having the care of a vicious dog may suffer or permit such dog to go outside its kennel or pen unless the dog is securely leashed with a leash no longer than 4 feet in length. No person may permit a vicious dog to be kept on a chain, rope or other type of leash outside its kennel or pen unless a person is in physical control of the leash. The dog may not be leashed to inanimate objects such as trees, posts and buildings. A muzzling device sufficient to prevent the dog from biting persons or other animals shall muzzle a vicious dog on a leash outside the dog's kennel. A vicious dog shall not be required to be muzzled upon prior approval of the sheriff's department.

(b) Confinement. All vicious dogs shall be securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen or kennel, except when leashed and muzzled as

provided in par. (a) above. The pen, kennel or structure shall have secure sides and a secure top attached to all sides. A structure used to confine a vicious dog shall be locked with a key or combination lock when the dog is within the structure. The structure shall have a secure bottom or floor attached to the sides of the pen, or the sides of the pen must be embedded in the ground no less than 2 feet. All structures erected to house vicious dogs shall comply with all zoning and building regulations of the township. All structures shall be adequately lighted and ventilated and kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

(c) Confinement Indoors. No vicious dog may be kept on a porch, patio or in any part of a house or structure that would allow the dog to exit the building on its volition. No vicious dog may be kept in a house or structure when the windows are open or when screen windows or screen doors are the only obstacles preventing the dog from exiting the structure.

(d) Prohibited in Multiple Dwellings. No vicious dog may be kept within any portion of any multiple dwelling.

(e) Signs. All owners, keepers or harborers of vicious dogs shall, within 15 days of the effective date of this section, display in a prominent place on their premises a sign easily readable by the public with letters not less than 2 inches in height stating "Danger – Vicious Dog". A similar sign is required to be posted on the kennel or pen of the dog.

(f) Insurance. All owners, keepers or harborer of vicious dogs or hybrid dogs shall, within 30 days of the effective date of this section, provide proof to the Sheriff's Department of public liability insurance in a single incident amount of \$50,000 for bodily injury to or death of any person or for the damage to property owned by any person which may result from the ownership, keeping or maintenance of vicious dogs or hybrid dogs. The insurance policy shall provide that no cancellation of the policy will be made unless a 10 – day written notice is first given to the Sheriff's Department. The owner or custodian of the dog shall produce evidence of the required insurance upon request of a law enforcement officer. This paragraph does not apply to dogs kept by law enforcement agencies.

(3) **VICIOUS DOG DETERMINATION.** The Sheriff's Department shall investigate every dog complaint and make a determination as to whether or not such dog is "vicious", as defined in sub. (1) above. In the event the Sheriff's Department makes a determination that a dog is "vicious", he shall so inform the owner, keeper or harborer of such dog and provide such person with a copy of this section.

(4) **APPEAL OF VICIOUS DOG DETERMINATION.** Any person aggrieved by the determination of the Sheriff's Department, as provided in sub. (3) above may appeal such determination.

(5) **COMPLIANCE.** Within 10 days of the determination that a dog is vicious, as provided in sub. (3) above, or 10 days after an unsuccessful appeal under sub. (4) above, the owner of a vicious dog shall either comply with all provisions of this section or dispose of such dog.

(6) **DISPOSITION OF VICIOUS DOGS.** Any vicious dog which attacks a human being or domestic animal may be ordered destroyed by the Sheriff's Department or Humane Officer when, in the judgment of a court of competent

jurisdiction, the dog represents a continuing threat of serious harm to human beings or domestic animals.

(7) PENALTY. Any person who violates any provisions of this section shall, upon conviction, be subject to the payment of forfeiture. A separate offense shall be deemed committed on each day on which a violation of this section occurs or continues.