City of Lawton
Animal Welfare Division

Office - 2104 South 6th Street
Office: (580) 581-3219
Lawton, Oklahoma 73501
Fax: (580) 581-3506

GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET

Hours of Operation: 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Tuesday thru Friday
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Saturday

FREQUENTLY ADDRESSED VIOLATIONS:

Licensing:

All dogs and cats that live within the city limits of Lawton are required to be licensed. City licenses are available from the Lawton Animal Shelter, 2104 SW 6th Street. A license will be issued for dogs and cats that have been spayed or neutered. The fee for this license is $15.00 (no charge for Senior Citizens age 65 & older). There is no renewal fee as long as the license is validated every year.

A "B" license will be issued for dogs and cats that have not been spayed or neutered. The fee for this license is $100.00 with an annual renewal fee of $75.00. (Senior Citizens are not exempt from this fee). Licenses must be validated every year during the anniversary month that the license was issued.

Proof of current rabies vaccination is required to purchase and/or validate each license.
Article 5-5 Section 5-5-501

Number of Animals Permitted:

You are allowed three (3) dogs or cats or any combination thereof. You may own up to seven (7) dogs and/or cats, or any combination thereof, over the age of six (6) months. However, you must obtain a Special Handler's License for each dog or cat over the limit of three (3). The fee for this license is $50.00 per year per unaltered animal. The fee for an altered animal is $50.00 and is a one-time fee.
Article 5-5 Section 5-5-501 B-2

Control of Animals Required:

It is unlawful for any owner or person to permit any animal to run at large. Any dog or **cat** that is not confined and not under the actual physical control of its owner, leaseholder or keeper, will be presumed to be running at large. Any animal found at large within the city limits shall be impounded by the Animal Welfare Officer and taken to the animal shelter. The Animal Welfare Officer may cite the owner of such dog or cat to appear in Municipal Court. Fines for running at large are a minimum of $100.00 for the first offense, $150.00 for the second offense and $200.00 for the third and any consecutive offenses. Upon the second impoundment, it is mandatory for the animal to be spayed or neutered. (*Section 5-1-118 D)*
Article 5-1 Section 5-1-115

Chaining:

No person shall, at any time, fasten, chain or tie any dog. Should you have a confinement issue with your pet, you should consider erecting an escape-proof enclosure. Minimum requirements for the enclosure are outlined in the definitions in *Section 5-1-101 A-36* of the city code.

Article 5-1 Section 5-1-120 H

Sterilization Spay/Neuter and Breeding/Advertising/Transfer Permits:

Each year, thousands of dogs and cats are euthanized by the city because they are unwanted. In an effort to combat this situation, ordinances have been put in place to limit the breeding of dogs and cats and to ensure that those that are advertised for sale or given away are sterilized.

Owners who wish to breed their dog or cat and meet the requirements of the breeding/advertising/ transfer (BAT) permit may apply for such permit through the Animal Welfare Division. The holder of the permit would be authorized to breed, sell, trade, advertise or transfer ownership of no more than one litter per licensed animal per year. A (BAT) permit must be obtained by, but not limited to persons wishing to breed their dog or cat, persons wishing to advertise the sale or give away of an unaltered dog or cat, persons who intentionally or unintentionally cause or allow the breeding of a dog or cat.

Article 5 Section 5-1-105 and Section 5-1-106

The fine for the violation of this ordinance is $500.00.

Property owner Fencing/Enclosure Requirement:

Property owners allowing tenants to have dogs on their premises must provide an adequate enclosed space to secure the animal. ***Article 5 Section 5-1-120 J***

Impound fees are assessed based on compliance with spay/neuter/rabies/licensing requirements and can range from $7.00 to $222.00 for one (1) day impoundment.

These and other city codes may be found on the City of Lawton web site at:

www.cityof.lawton.ok.us

If you have questions or concerns of any kind, we will be glad to help. Please call us at (580) 581-3219 during regular business hours.