



**City of
McMinnville**

ADMINISTRATION

Dog/Animal Regulations

August 12, 2025

Current Code Prohibitions

- A. Dog at large (\$5-\$250)
- B. Public Nuisance (\$25 or \$100*)
 - Bites a person
 - Chases vehicles or persons
 - Damages property
 - Trespasses on private property
 - "Frequent or prolonged noises"
 - At large + three offenses, 12 mos.
- C. "Has injured other domestic animals" (\$250)
- D. License attached to collar (\$250)
- E. Keeping an unlicensed dog (\$500)

Considerations

- "repeatedly as shown by convictions"
- Overlap with code enforcement/
minor for police
- Overbroad
- Dependent on County

Current Code Prohibitions

- F. Unvaccinated (rabies) (\$500)
- G. Refuse to surrender (rabies) (\$500)
- H. Vicious dog unconfined (\$500*)
- I. Warning sign (\$500)
- J. Possession of fighting dog (\$500)
- K. Pen closer than 20 feet from sidewalk, etc. (\$100/day)

Considerations

- Recently used
- Further discussion to come
- Follows “vicious dog,” confusing application
- Awkward application for police

Other Current Code

- Vicious Dogs
 - Tattoo
 - No bail (same for unvaccinated, injured domestic animals)
- Impoundment
 - All cases where the owner is not available
 - Vicious dog, rabies control, licensing
- Insurance (\$50,000) (\$100 per day for failure)
- Procedures
 - “Uniform Citation”
 - Penalties include licensing, impoundment, maintenance
 - Trial with no jury, no appeal

PD Recommendations

Unprovoked Attacks

- No person may allow their animal to make an **unprovoked attack** on another person or animal.
- Class B Misdemeanor
- Offenders must make **full restitution** for actual damages caused.

Vicious Animal at Large

- Owners may not allow vicious animals to roam freely.
- Violators face **Class A Misdemeanor**.

Handling Vicious Animals at Large

- Vicious animals at large may be:
 - **Impounded** by authorities
 - **Destroyed** if they can't be safely caught
- Officers or Humane Society employees are protected from liability when acting with good cause.

Vicious Dog Behavior Levels

- **Level 1:** Threatens other animals (Class C Violation)
- **Level 2:** Threatens people/service animals (Class B Violation)
- **Level 3:** Bites/injures people/service animals (Class B Misdemeanor)
- **Level 4:** Serious injury or death to people, animals, or shows fighting behavior (Class A Misdemeanor)

Vicious Dog Owner Requirements

- **Levels 1 & 2:** Secure fencing or containment device
- **Level 3:** Secure enclosure, warning signs, muzzle + leash when off-property
- **Level 4 :** May be **euthanized** by court order if risk persists

Dispatching Dangerous Animals

- Dangerous animals **at large** that pose immediate threat may be:
 - **Destroyed** by officers or private citizens acting in defense

Community Requests/Recommendations

- Escalating penalties for dogs that cause harm—tied to the owner, not the individual dog.
- Better enforcement and clarity of licensing rules and penalties.
- Contract more kennel spaces—do not release at-large dogs until license/penalties are paid.
- Better definitions and disposition for “dangerous dog” or “potentially dangerous dog.”

Community Requests/Recommendations

- Further restrictions for dangerous dogs: vaccination, sterilization, containment/muzzling, training (for dog and owner); opportunity to remove status.
- Prohibition of wolf hybrids. City to require testing (and payment) upon suspicion.
- Additional license fee to be remitted to City for dog control matters.