

Jefferson County Animal Control Code

6.07.020 Definitions.

(7) "At large" means physically off the premises of the owner, handler, or keeper, and not secured by a leash eight feet or less in length, or not otherwise under control of a competent person; provided, "at large" does not include dogs exhibited in dog shows, field trials, obedience trials, or the training of dogs therefor; or the use of a dog under the supervision of a person to hunt, to chase or tree predatory animals or game birds; or the use of a dog to control or protect livestock or property or in other agricultural activities; or a dog when otherwise safely and securely confined or completely controlled within or upon any vehicle; or under control in a designated off-leash area; or dogs on duty for a law enforcement agency.

(10) "Dangerous dog" means any dog that (a) inflicts severe injury or multiple bites on a human being without provocation on public or private property, (b) inflicts severe injury, multiple bites, or kills an animal without provocation while the dog is off the owner's or keeper's property, or (c) has previously been found to be potentially dangerous, the owner or keeper having received notice of such and the dog again aggressively bites, attacks, or endangers the safety of humans or animals. If two or more dogs jointly engage in any conduct described in this subsection, thereby rendering proof of the individual dog that inflicted any particular injury difficult to ascertain, then regardless of the degree of participation by the individual dog(s), all such dogs shall be deemed dangerous dogs. A dog shall not be declared dangerous if the threat, injury, or damage was sustained by a person who, at the time, was committing a willful trespass or other tort upon the premises occupied by the owner or keeper of the dog, or was tormenting, abusing or assaulting the dog, or was committing or attempting to commit a crime.

(15) "Intermittent noise" is defined as including any of the following: (a) noise of 15 seconds or more duration occurring five or more distinct times within a 30-minute period, or (b) noise of 15 seconds or more duration occurring three or more times in 10 minutes, or (c) any quantity of noise in a 15-minute period heard in person by an animal control officer that the animal control officer concludes constitutes an intermittent noise.

(24) "Potentially dangerous dog" means any dog that when unprovoked: (a) inflicts bites on a human or animal either on public or private property, or (b) chases or approaches a person upon the streets, sidewalks or any public grounds in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack, or (c) any dog with a known propensity, tendency, or disposition to attack unprovoked, to cause injury, or otherwise to threaten the safety of humans or animals.

(25) "Premises" means the area of land surrounding a house, or dwelling unit or units, and actually or by legal construction forming an enclosure and to which the owner or keeper of a dog has legal and equitable right therein. "Premises" does not extend into areas of common ownership or use in the case of easements, trailer parks, apartment complexes, private communities, etc.

(27) "Proper enclosure of a dangerous dog" means, while on the owner's or keeper's property, a dangerous dog shall be securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen or structure, suitable to prevent the entry of young children and designed to prevent the animal from escaping. Such pen or structure shall have secure sides and a secure top and bottom enclosure, and shall also provide protection from the elements for a dog.

(29) "Severe injury" means any physical injury which results in a broken bone, disfigurement,

laceration requiring suture(s) or surgery, or multiple bites requiring medical treatment.

(33) "Under control" means the animal, while off of a leash and/or off the owner's premises, is under voice and/or signal control of a competent person so as to be thereby restrained from approaching any bystander or other animal and from causing or being the cause of physical or property damage.
[Ord. 10-15 § 2 (Att. A)]

6.07.120 Nuisance noise.

 SHARE



No person may allow an animal to unreasonably disturb any person(s) by habitual barking, howling, yelping, whining, baying, squealing, crowing, crying, or making any other noises which by the frequency or volume unreasonably disturbs or interferes with the peace of any person(s).

(1) The animal noise is per se deemed to have unreasonably disturbed or interfered with the peace of any person if:

(a) The noise from an animal(s) occurs between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., the noise is continuous for a period of 10 or more minutes or constitutes intermittent noise (as defined in this chapter) within any period of 30 or more minutes, and may be clearly heard by a person of normal hearing 100 feet or more from the perceived property line where the source animal(s) is/are located; or

(b) The noise from an animal(s) occurs between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., the noise is continuous for a period of 20 or more minutes or constitutes three or more separate incidents of intermittent noise (as defined in this chapter) within any two-hour period, and may be clearly heard by a person of normal hearing 150 feet or more from the perceived property line where the source animal(s) is/are located.

(2) A violation of this section may still occur if the noise is heard at distances less than those stated above, given the proximity of the houses or structures to one another, or location of the source animal to the location of the complaint but only upon written explanation by the animal control officer of the circumstances that caused the animal control officer to conclude this section has been violated.