

Draft Responsible Pet Ownership By-law - Summary

This summary has been prepared for convenience purposes only and provides highlights of the regulations of the proposed by-law. A copy of the complete draft Responsible Pet Ownership By-law is available on the Township website.

Dog Licensing and Registration

- All dogs over the age of twenty (20) weeks of age are required to be registered and issued a dog license.
- Dog licenses are valid for 356 days.

Maximum Number of Pets

- The maximum number of dogs is three (3) dogs and applies to all areas of the Township.
- The maximum number of cats is three (3), but only applies to those in urban settlement areas.

Kennel

- Kennel Licenses are only available for facilities that house dogs.
- There are three (3) types of Kennel Licenses, breeding kennel, boarding kennel and recreational kennel.
- Kennels are limited to a maximum of twenty (20) dogs over twenty (20) weeks of age.
- Kennel Licenses will require an annual inspection.
- Kennel License holders will be required to provide:
 - A site plan;
 - A list of all dogs at the property;
 - All applicable fees as per the Township's Fes and Charges By-law, and
 - A declaration by the owner that they have never been convicted under section 446 of the *Criminal Code of Canada* pertaining to animal cruelty.
- Kennel License holders must have regard to the guidelines set out in the "Code of Practice of Canadian Kennel Operations" of the *Canadian Veterinary Medical Association*.
- The licensing of catteries was investigated, but since the maximum number of cats is only applicable for properties in urban settlement areas, those outside urban settlement areas do not have a maximum number of cats permitted, therefore do not require a kennel license.
- Rescue shelters are not exempt from the kennel requirements and would need to comply with the maximum number of pets and kennel requirements, if applicable.

Minimum Care Regulation

- Pets must be provided with a clean and sanitary environment free from an accumulation of fecal matter and adequate and appropriate care, food, water, shelter and opportunity for physical activity.

At Large/Under Control

- Owners cannot allow their dog to run at large.

Stoop and Scoop

- The proposed by-law requires both dog and cat owners to pick up after their pets.

Nuisance

- Pet owners cannot allow their pet (dogs and cats) to become a nuisance. This includes persistent noise, damage to private or public property and chasing/intimidating pedestrians.

Feeding Wild, Feral and Stray Animals

- The by-law does not allow the feeding or leaving of food or attractants of any type outside in such a manner that it is accessible to wild, feral, or stray animals.

Animal Control

- The procedure for addressing dangerous dog requires a notice to muzzle and/or the designation of dangerous dog.

Prohibited Animals

- The by-law includes a list of prohibited animals (set out in Schedule "A"). Animals kept as agricultural livestock as permitted in the Township's Zoning Bylaw No. 100-2011 are exempt from the list of prohibited animals.