

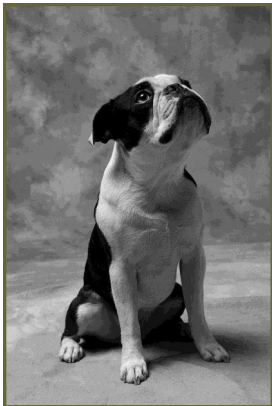
Q: What do I do if a dog or cat (my own or a neighbors) bites me?

A: There are health and legal issues involved when an animal bite occurs.

1. **Health Issues:** Determine who the owner of the animal is so the animal can be placed under observation for rabies.
2. Call our office and your doctor to report the bite.
3. **Legal Issues:** A determination will be made as to what steps need to be taken to ensure that you will not be at further risk.

Bites (Section 7)

McHenry County Animal Control must be notified whenever a domestic animal bites a human.



Notice to Appear

McHenry County Animal Control will attempt to gain voluntary compliance when ordinance violations are alleged by informing animal owners of their legal responsibilities.

If those efforts are unsuccessful, then a Notice to Appear in court for Ordinance violation may be necessary. A Notice to Appear is a legal document that requires the owner of an animal to appear in court to answer charges of violations of Article XVII.

In this type of enforcement action the complainant also needs to appear to testify in court and provide proof as to their allegations.

The burden of proof rests on the complainant. Any information, recordings, pictures, documentation or video of events will help your cause.

After hours emergency response number:
815-459-6222

MCDH

McHenry County Department Of Health
Animal Control Division
100 N Virginia St
Crystal Lake IL 60014
Phone: 815-459-6222
Fax: 815-334-4682
www.mcdh.info

**McHenry County
Department of Health
Animal Control Division**

***Dog Rules!
What You
Need to Know***



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ABOUT US . . .

McHenry County Animal Control & Adoption Center is a Division of the McHenry County Department of Health and is dedicated to:

- Improving the quality of life, health and safety for county residents and their animals.
- Promoting responsible pet ownership.
- Reducing animal overpopulation to reduce animal suffering and euthanasia.



LAWS

McHenry County Animal Control enforces Article XVII of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance (see mcdh.info, link to Ordinances) which regulates domestic animals in McHenry County.

Each city in McHenry County may also have their own animal control regulations. Contact your local municipality to determine what laws are specific to your city.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ'S)

The following are examples of common questions.

Q: My neighbor's dog is always barking. What can I do?

A: Call us to register a complaint. We will send an Officer to the residence to issue a written complaint. If the problem continues to occur, you have the option to file a Notice to Appear in court (see back).

Barking Dog (Section 6.11)

Barking, whining, or howling for longer than 15 minutes continuously, two hours intermittently, or between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. is not allowable.

Q: There is a dog that runs loose through our subdivision. The owner is sometimes with their pet, but otherwise it runs free. Is this legal?

A: When a pet owner allows their pet to run at large, call us and an Officer will issue a written complaint and attempt to secure the animal. Your city may have more explicit leash laws.

If the animal is captured, the Officer will bring the animal to our facility at 100 N. Virginia Street, Crystal Lake where the owner can reclaim their pet.

Running at Large / Stray Pet (Section 6.01)

Owners must be in control of their animals at all times. Any animal found running at large, not confined to the owner's property, on public property or on private property may be impounded.

Q. Is there anything I can do when a pet owner doesn't pick up their pet's waste?

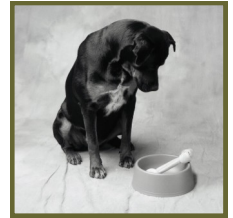
A: YES - Everyone should clean up after their dog. Please call us and we will issue a written complaint. If the person does not comply with the Ordinance, and you have proof, please stop by our Crystal Lake office to file a Notice to Appear (see back).

Removal of Feces (Section 6.10)

No person shall fail to remove feces deposited by their cat or dog, except support dogs, upon the public ways or within the public places of the County or upon the premises of any person other than the owner without that person's consent.

Q. Do dogs need to be registered in McHenry County?

A: YES - All dogs, four months and older, must be registered with the County.



Step 1

- Vaccinate your dog (proof of vaccination is required).

Step 2

- Register your dog
 - ⇒ 1 & 3 year registration tags are available. Proof of spay/neuter and/or microchip will reduce the registration fee
 - ⇒ Fee schedule is on our web site
 - ⇒ New pet owners - 30 days after vaccination to register their pet
 - ⇒ New county residents - 60 days to register their pet