North Star Township

Animal Control Ordinance

The Board of Supervisors of the Town of North Star ordains:

Pet owners are to be responsible for their pet's health and welfare on and off their property. Owners shall provide humane and appropriate care, control and training. Instances of nuisance, abuse, neglect, over-population or endangerment of persons by pets will be considered a violation of this Ordinance. Complaints to the Town Board may be submitted to a Board Supervisor verbally, but must be followed in written form. This will result in a written notice to the animal owner. Failure to comply with the Board's final directives may include the following: fines, public service, reimbursement for damages to offended party or parties, or an order to dispose of a particular animal or to reduce the number of animals.

A hearing for the accused violator will begin with his/her written response to the Board within thirty (30) days of notification. A petition signed by a township citizen or citizens in support of the respondent may be included.

False accusations to the Board will result in no action.

All township residents must adhere to the laws of St. Louis County and the State of Minnesota in reference to: animal welfare, humane care, humane treatment, the definition of "dangerous dogs", and license laws. The "dangerous dog" label will be applied on an individual basis and will not be breed specific. Individual breeds will not be banned.

North Star Township encourages: microchipping or tattooing for animal recovery and identification, obedience training, spaying and neutering of all pets, required vaccination (rabies), tags with pets name and phone number.

North Star Township does not allow: puppy milling or brokering; dogs or puppies to be raffled or auctioned; keeping, training or holding dogs for fighting or having any paraphernalia for fighting in the Township; and dangerous pets.

A consent of the Town Board will be required if an inordinate number of animals will be housed in an insufficient amount of acreage, thereby infringing upon the adjoining property owners peace of mind. A variance form will be sent to adjacent property owners, and their opinions will be strongly considered by the Board.

Animal ownership should be considered a privilege, and responsible citizens of North Star Township should respect the rights of their neighbors to live in and enjoy the lakes, land and forests of our township.

Adopted by the Board of Supervisors of North Star Township on the 14 day of July, 2003

Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

Sinda Britten