

Chapter 14

**ANIMALS\***

**Article I. In General**

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\***Cross reference**—Environment, ch. 38.

**State law references**—Fish, O.C.G.A. § 27-4-30 et seq.; wild animals, O.C.G.A. § 27-5-4 et seq.; animal bites, O.C.G.A. § 31-19-4; inoculation of dogs and cats against rabies, O.C.G.A. § 31-19-6; rabies inoculation tags, O.C.G.A. § 31-19-6; livestock running at large, O.C.G.A. § 4-3-1 et seq.; authority to exercise animal control, Ga. Const. art. IX, § II, ¶ III(a)(3).



**ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**

**Secs. 14-1—14-30. Reserved.**

**ARTICLE II. DOGS\*****Sec. 14-31. Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*At large* means off the property of its owner and not under the control of a competent person.

*Owner* means a person owning, keeping or harboring a dog.

*Pound* means any premises designated by the city for purposes of impounding and caring for as well as disposing of dogs found in violation of this article.

*Restrained* means controlled by a leash, at heel or beside a competent person and obedient to that person's commands, or on or within a vehicle being driven or parked on the streets, or within the property limits of the owner.

(Ord. of 1-9-1984, § 1)

**Cross reference**—Definitions generally, § 1-2.

**Sec. 14-32. Rabies inoculation required.**

No person shall own, keep or harbor any dog within the limits of the city unless the dog has been inoculated against rabies within the immediately preceding 12 months and has attached to the dog by means of a collar or other device a current tag indicating the dog has been inoculated for rabies. The tag shall contain a serial number which may be traced to the veterinarian administering the inoculation.

(Ord. of 1-9-1984, § 2)

**Sec. 14-33. Restraint.**

The owner shall keep his dog under restraint at all times.

(Ord. of 1-9-1984, § 3)

\***State law references**—Dead Animal Disposal Act, O.C.G.A. § 4-5-1 et seq.; permitting dogs in heat to run at large, O.C.G.A. § 4-8-6; Dangerous Dog Control Law, O.C.G.A. § 4-8-20 et seq.; cruelty to animals, O.C.G.A. § 16-12-4; dogfighting, O.C.G.A. § 16-12-37; sale of dog meat for human consumption prohibited, O.C.G.A. § 26-2-160; control of rabies, O.C.G.A. § 31-19-1 et seq.; liability of owner or keeper of vicious or dangerous animal for injuries caused by animal, O.C.G.A. § 51-2-7.

**Sec. 14-34. Abandoning prohibited.**

No person shall release a dog on any public or private property with the intention of abandoning the dog.  
(Ord. of 1-9-1984, § 4)

**Sec. 14-35. Confinement.**

(a) Any dog that is found at large or without a valid, current rabies tag shall be captured by an agent designated by the city for such purposes and shall be confined in an humane manner at the pound for a period of not less than three days, and thereafter may be disposed of.

(b) When a dog is found running at large or without a valid, current rabies tag and the dog's ownership is known to the agent of the city, such dog need not be impounded; but the agent may in his discretion cite the owner to appear in the municipal court to answer to charges of violation of this article.

(c) If the owner of a dog which has been captured is known by the agent of the city, the agent shall make a reasonable effort to notify the owner that the dog has been impounded and inform the owner of the conditions whereby he may gain custody of his animal in addition to citing the owner for a violation.

(d) The owner of any impounded dog may resume possession of the dog provided the owner pays all impoundment fees and shows proof that the dog has been inoculated for rabies or in the alternative has the dog inoculated for rabies and receives a rabies tag by a licensed veterinarian and also pays all impoundment fees.  
(Ord. of 1-9-1984, § 5)

**Sec. 14-36. Disposal of sick, injured dog.**

Any dog without a rabies tag and which has been captured by an agent of the city designated for such purpose and which is in the opinion of the agent or licensed veterinarian in such poor health or in pain due to an accident, or in such condition that the dog should be disposed of immediately, may be disposed of immediately without the agent's or veterinarian's complying with the three-day waiting period as specified in section 14-35(a), or any other terms of this article.  
(Ord. of 1-9-1984, § 6)

**Sec. 14-37. Interference with agent prohibited.**

No person shall resist, interfere with, hinder or molest any agent of the city in the performance of the duties imposed upon him in this article or seek to release any animal in the custody of the agent.  
(Ord. of 1-9-1984, § 7)

**Sec. 14-38. Violations; penalty.**

Violations of this article shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine not less than \$25.00 and not more than \$100.00 for each separate offense. Such fine shall be in addition to any impoundment fee or cost incurred for the rabies inoculation.



Chapters 15—17

**RESERVED**

