

CHAPTER 17 ANIMALS AND FOWL

ARTICLE I GENERAL REGULATIONS

Sec. 17-1. CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

No person shall cruelly beat, ill treat, torture, mutilate or cruelly kill any animal or knowingly allow the same to be done, and no person shall abandon any animal within the village. Ill treatment shall include failure to feed or water an animal or the keeping of an animal in filthy quarters. (1986 Code)

Sec. 17-2. KILLING OR WOUNDING ANIMALS, ETC.

No person shall hunt game, or shoot at, kill, or wound by the use of firearms, bow and arrow, slingshot, blow airgun, pelting with stones, or by any other weapon or means, any animal or bird within the village, or enter upon any private enclosure or public grounds in the village for the purpose of doing any act prohibited in this section. This section shall apply to pestiferous rodents and vermin, except that said animals may be exterminated by means other than those described in this section; provided, that such means are not in violation of statute or municipal ordinance and are not dangerous to humans or other animals. Such pestiferous rodents and vermin may also be exterminated under the supervision of the health officer, or police department, in a manner that such officials may deem expedient. (1986 Code)

Sec. 17-3. DISEASED ANIMALS.

No domestic animal afflicted with a contagious or infectious disease shall be allowed to run at large or be exposed in any public place whereby the health of man or beast may be affected, within the village, nor shall such diseased animal be shipped or removed from the premises of its owner, except under the supervision of the health officer or a licensed veterinarian. The health officer is hereby authorized to obtain such disposition of any diseased animal and such treatment of affected premises as in his judgment shall prevent the communication and spread of the contagion or infection. (1986 Code)

Sec. 17-4. KEEPING NOISY ANIMALS.

It shall be unlawful to harbor or keep any animal which disturbs the peace by loud noises at any time of the day or night. (1986 Code)

Sec. 17-5. SWINE GENERALLY.

No person shall keep or permit to be kept any swine in the village. (1986 Code)

Sec. 17-5.1. KEEPING OF PIGEONS, RACING BIRDS AND LOFTS PROHIBITED.

No person may keep or maintain in the village for business or hobby, any loft, roost, cages or other housing for any pigeons or any other similar birds which may be used for racing or homing. This shall not apply to pet birds such as canaries, parakeets or parrots kept inside the house. (Ord. 99-983, 5-24-1999)

Sec. 17-6. DANGEROUS ANIMALS DEFINED.

A "dangerous animal" is hereby defined to be any animal which has bitten any person in such a manner as to cause an abrasion of the skin of such person, or which shall cause annoyance or reasonable fear of bodily injury to any person by attacking or threatening to attack such person. (1986 Code)

Sec. 17-7. ALLOWING ANIMALS TO RUN AT LARGE.

It shall be unlawful for any person to permit any animal to run at large within the village. (1986 Code)

Sec. 17-8. KILLING DANGEROUS ANIMALS.

Any member of the police department may kill any dangerous animal of any kind when it is necessary for the protection of any person or property. (1986 Code)

Sec. 17-9. DEAD ANIMALS.

No person shall allow any dead animal to remain for more than twelve (12) hours within the village. (1986 Code)

ARTICLE II DOGS AND CATS

Sec. 17-10. CONTROL OF DOGS AND CATS.

A dog or cat shall be deemed to be running at large when off the premises of its owner and not on a leash or tether held by a person.

It shall be unlawful:

- (1) To permit any dog or cat to run at large.
- (2) To permit any dog or cat to enter any place where food is stored, prepared, served or sold to the public, or any other public building or hall; provided, however, that this section shall not apply to any blind person using a trained seeing eye dog, to veterinary offices or hospitals, or to animal shows or exhibitions where at least twenty four (24) hours' advance notice has been given to the health department.
- (3) To permit any dog or cat to trespass on private property without the consent of the property owners.

(4) To permit any dog to chase, run after or jump at vehicles using the public thoroughfares.

(5) To permit any dog or cat to snap, growl, jump upon or otherwise threaten persons lawfully using any common thoroughfare, sidewalk, passageway, bypath, play area, park or any place where people congregate or walk.

(6) To allow any dog or cat to deposit any excretions upon any public right of way, public park, forest preserve pathway, sidewalk or private property other than the dog or cat owner's property without removing such deposit immediately. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-11. POLICE REPORTS AND DUTIES.

It shall be the duty of every police officer to report any dog or cat which is found wandering off the owner's premises. Members of the police department or other persons designated by the chief of police shall impound, in an approved animal shelter, any dog or cat found to be wandering. If any dangerous, fierce or vicious dog or cat cannot be safely captured and impounded, such dog or cat may be destroyed by any police officer. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-12. DOG AND/OR CAT BITES, FINES.

The owner, keeper or possessor of any dog or cat that is found to have caused an abrasion to the skin or bitten any person shall be guilty of a violation of this article. Additionally, upon such owner or keeper's third finding of guilty involving the same dog or cat, the dog or cat shall be deemed a nuisance; and, unless the owner or keeper permanently removes such dog or cat from the village, such dog or cat shall be impounded and destroyed. This section shall not apply to the biting of an immediate member of the owner's family. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-13. PENALTIES FOR NONBITING OFFENSES.

Any owner or keeper who is found guilty of any violation of this article for any offense other than those specified in section [17-12](#) of this article may be fined pursuant to section [1-13](#) of this code and in accordance with [appendix D, article XIII A](#) of this code. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-14. REGISTRATION APPLICATION AND RABIES INOCULATION.

It shall be unlawful for any person to own or keep a dog or cat in the village unless that person procures a registration from the village. This provision shall not apply to puppies or kittens until they attain the minimum age required for rabies inoculation pursuant to regulations of the Cook County rabies commission. The owner or keeper of any dog or cat that is required to be registered shall apply to the village for a registration tag. The application of such owner or keeper shall include the name, address and telephone number of the owner or keeper, the name, breed, color and sex of each dog or cat owned or kept by such person. Also, any dog or cat owned, kept, maintained or harbored within the village shall have a current rabies inoculation and dogs shall wear a neck collar to which a rabies inoculation tag issued by the county of Cook and the Illinois department of agriculture has been attached. Evidence showing the date of the inoculation and the name and address of the veterinarian who administered the inoculation shall also be maintained by the owner and presented to the village upon registration and upon future request. No registration tag shall be issued for less than the full

fee, as prescribed in [appendix D](#) of this code. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-15. DOG AND CAT TAGS.

The village shall furnish to the applicant a tag for each dog or cat for which application has been made and for which the prescribed fee has been paid. The tag shall contain the following information: "Northfield", the registration number, the dog's or cat's name, and the owner's address and telephone number. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-16. DOG AND CAT REGISTRY.

The village shall keep a complete list of all registered dogs and cats, including the name of the dog or cat, the name, address and telephone number of the owner or keeper as given, and the number of the village registration tag for each dog or cat. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-17. DOG COLLARS.

The dog owner or keeper shall provide every dog with a collar made of leather, metal or other substantial material to which the registration tag required under section [17-15](#) of this article and the rabies inoculation tag required under section [17-14](#) of this article shall be securely fastened. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-18. DOGS AND CATS WEARING REGISTRATION TAG; REDEMPTION FEES.

Any dog that is captured while wearing a current registration tag may be redeemed by the owner or keeper of such dog or cat upon payment of the fee set forth in [appendix D](#) of this code. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-19. DOGS AND CATS NOT WEARING A REGISTRATION TAG; REDEMPTION FEES.

Any dog or cat that is captured while not wearing a current registration tag may be redeemed by any person upon payment of the fee set forth in [appendix D](#) of this code. Whenever the fee is paid by the person desiring to redeem such unregistered dog or cat, such person shall be entitled to possession of such dog or cat. However, no dog or cat may be redeemed unless the current registration tag for the dog or cat is first procured and shown. If an unregistered dog or cat is not redeemed within seven (7) days after being impounded, the dog or cat may be, otherwise, put up for adoption or euthanized. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-20. IMPOUNDMENT PROCEDURES; APPROVED ANIMAL SHELTERS.

The operator of an approved animal shelter shall, immediately upon receiving any dog or cat at the shelter, make an entry into a log, stating the breed, color, sex and registration status of such dog or cat. If registered, the name and address of the owner or keeper and the number of the registration tag shall also be entered. Registered dogs or cats shall be kept separate from unregistered dogs or cats. When any registered dog or cat is impounded, the owner or keeper

shall be immediately notified of such impoundment. The owner or keeper shall be advised that if the dog or cat is not redeemed within seven (7) days of the date of such notice, the dog or cat may be given to any person who pays the required fees or may be otherwise disposed of in accordance with this article. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-21. CONFINEMENT OF DOGS AND CATS FOR RABIES CHECK.

When notified that a dog or cat has bitten or injured any person or animal so as to cause an abrasion of the skin, the owner or keeper of the dog or cat shall immediately:

- (1) Have the biting dog or cat examined by a veterinarian on the first, fifth and tenth day following a bite if the biting dog or cat does not have a current inoculation with rabies vaccine.
- (2) Have the biting dog or cat examined on the first and tenth day following a bite if the biting dog or cat is currently inoculated with rabies vaccine.
- (3) During the time from the first to the tenth day following a bite, the dog or cat shall be confined in a cage or building in isolation from other animals and humans. The dog or cat shall never be let out of the building or cage.
- (4) Any dog or cat that bites any person about the face or neck shall be impounded by a veterinarian for a period of not less than five (5) days and examined by a veterinarian on the tenth day following such bite.
- (5) The remains of any dog or cat which dies within ten (10) days of biting any person or animal shall be delivered to a registered veterinarian for examination and proper disposition.
- (6) The chief of police shall have the authority to order impoundment of any biting dog or cat, whenever in his or her judgment, such action is necessary to protect the public health and safety. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-22. RABID DOGS AND CATS.

The owner or keeper of any dog or cat known to be suffering from rabies, or of any dog or cat bitten by an animal known to be suffering from rabies, shall immediately notify the police department and surrender the dog or cat to any police officer upon demand. Every dog or cat declared to be suffering from rabies may be destroyed by any police officer. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-23. VETERINARIAN TO REPORT RABID DOGS AND CATS.

Every veterinarian or other person who discovers an apparently rabid animal, shall report such fact immediately to the Northfield police department. The report shall include the name and the place of residence of the person owning or harboring such animal and the place where the animal was last seen. The animal shall be impounded as provided in this article and kept securely until the veterinarian can make or cause to be made an examination of the animal. If upon such examination, it shall be determined that the animal is rabid, the animal shall be

treated in accordance with regulations of the Cook County rabies commission. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-24. SURRENDER OF AN ANIMAL SUSPECTED OF BEING RABID.

The owner or custodian of any animal suspected to be rabid shall, upon demand of any Northfield police officer, either surrender the animal to the officer or provide reasonable proof that the animal is currently being held by a veterinarian. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

ARTICLE III DOG KENNELS AND CATTERIES

Sec. 17-25. DEFINITION.

Any person, firm or corporation maintaining or keeping more than four (4) dogs and/or six (6) cats of more than six (6) months of age upon any premises within the village of Northfield, shall be considered as having established or maintaining a dog kennel or cattery. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-26. DOG KENNELS AND CATTERIES, COMPLIANCE WITH CODE.

It shall be unlawful for any person to establish or maintain a dog kennel or cattery within the village of Northfield. (Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

Sec. 17-27. RESERVED.

(Ord. 04-1200, 3-16-2004)

ARTICLE IV HORSES AND OTHER LARGE DOMESTIC ANIMALS

Sec. 17-28. REGISTRATION.

It shall be unlawful for any person to own or keep a horse or other large domestic animal in the village unless he shall cause such horse or animal to be registered by the village. Applications shall be on forms provided by the village finance department. The registration required hereunder shall include a one time fee as prescribed in [appendix D](#) of this code, which fee shall be paid to the village finance department. (Ord. 97-913, 10-27-1997)

No person shall keep a total of more than six (6) horses (see [appendix A](#), "Zoning Ordinance", of this code) within the village of Northfield and no person shall keep a horse in violation of the Northfield zoning ordinance. (Ord. 03-1150, 2-18-2003)

It shall be unlawful:

- (1) To permit any horse to trespass on private property without the consent of the property owner.

(2) To allow any horse to deposit any excretions upon any public right of way, public park, sidewalk, or private property other than the horse owner's property without removing such deposit as soon as practical. (Ord. 97-913, 10-27-1997)

Sec. 17-29. REGISTRY.

The finance department shall keep a complete registry of all horses and other large domestic animals in the village, describing the same by name, and also shall enter the name, address and telephone number of the owner or keeper. Each such animal shall be registered with the finance department by the owner or keeper. (Ord. 97-913, 10-27-1997)

ARTICLE V PENALTIES

Sec. 17-30. PENALTY.

Any person violating the terms or provisions of this chapter shall be fined pursuant to section [1-13](#) of this code, and in accordance with [appendix D, article VI](#) of this code. (Ord. 97-915, 10-27-1997; amd. Ord. 03-1144, 2-18-2003)