

## Dog Control Ordinance

### Section 1: Authority

This ordinance is enacted pursuant the authority of Title 30-A M.R.S.A., Section 3001, and Title 7 M.S.R.A., Chapter 725, Section 3950.

### Section 2: Definitions

As used in this ordinance, the following terms have the following meanings:

- A. **Dog.** "Dog" means a member of the canine genus and species known as canis familiaris or any canine, regardless of generation, resulting from the interbreeding of a member of the canis familiaris with a wolf hybrid as defined in subsection D, below.
- B. **Owner.** "Owner" means a person owning, keeping, or harboring a dog or other animal.
- C. **Person.** "Person" means an individual, corporation, partnership, association, or any other legal entity.
- D. **Wolf hybrid.** "Wolf hybrid" means a mammal that is the offspring of the reproduction between a species of wild canid or wild canid hybrid and a domestic dog or wild canin hybrid. "Wolf hybrid" includes a mammal that is represented by its owner to be a wolf hybrid, coyote hybrid, coydog, or any other kind of wild canid hybrid.

### Section 3: Disturbing the Peace Prohibited

It shall be unlawful for the owner of a dog or wolf hybrid to cause or permit such dog or wolf hybrid to disturb the peace of any person, regardless of proximity to the property, through continued barking or howling. Disturbing the peace will be defined as:

- a. sustained barking, baying, or howling for one (1) hour, or
- b. intermittent barking, baying, or howling for three (3) continuous hours or more for four consecutive days

### Section 4: Duty to Dispose of Feces

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog or wolf hybrid to cause or permit such dog or wolf hybrid to urinate or defecate on property not owned by the owner of the dog or wolf hybrid, without the permission of the owner of such private property.

### Section 5: Running at Large

No person who is an "owner" of a dog, as defined in Section 2 of this ordinance, shall cause or permit any dog to run at large within the town. Dogs, while on any public way or public place shall be under restraint. A dog shall be deemed under restraint within the meaning of this ordinance if it is controlled by a leash, cord, cable, or otherwise under control of a person and obedient to that person's voice command.

## **Section 6: Kennels, Breeders, and Boarders**

Registered kennels, breeders, or boarders shall not be exempt or grandfathered from this ordinance.

## **Section 7: Complaint**

A written complaint from a person or persons, disturbed by 1 or more barking dogs, shall include the date the disturbance began, the description of the disturbance, and the length of time of the disturbance. The complaint must be signed and sworn to the town's Animal Control Officer and/or Code Enforcement Officer. Any of the above authorities may investigate and may give written warning to the owner of the violations of this ordinance, and order that said violation must cease. The written warning shall be made part of the complaint.

## **Section 8: Enforcement**

Any owner who violates any provision of this ordinance, after the initial written warning, shall be assessed a fine of \$100.00 for the first offense.

Upon a second offense, the penalty shall increase to \$250.00.

Upon a third offense, and any subsequent offense thereafter, the penalty shall increase to \$500.00.

Unpaid fines shall be pursued in court, along with recovery of the town's legal costs.