

**City of London  
ORDINANCE NO. 2012-01**

**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE NUMBER OF DOGS AND CATS  
ALLOWED AT RESIDENCES IN RESIDENTIALLY ZONED AREAS  
WITHIN THE CITY OF LONDON,  
CHICKENS, RESTRAINTS OF DOGS, BARKING DOGS, CLEANLINESS  
OF DOG ENCLOSURES, REQUIREMENT OF SANITARY DISPOSAL OF  
ANIMAL FECES, PROHIBITION AGAINST OTHER ANIMALS AT  
CHICKEN FESTIVAL AND FINES AND PENALTIES.**

*WHEREAS, the City of London has heard complaints from residents in the City about barking dogs, crowing chickens, stench from housing numerous dogs within residential areas and other complaints and the City wishes to address these complaints for health and safety reasons,*

**Be it therefore Ordained as follows:**

The Number of dogs or cats located on residentially zoned property is limited as follows:

(1) No more than two dogs, excluding puppies, or more than two cats, excluding kittens, may be quartered outdoors on an individual tract, lot or parcel, or dwelling unit, which is .5 acre or less and is zoned as a residential area.

(2) No more than four dogs, excluding puppies, or more than four cats, excluding kittens, may be quartered outdoors on an individual tract, lot or parcel, or dwelling unit, which is more than .5 acre but less than two acres and has on such property any building or structure and zoned as a residential area, except as provided in (3) herein.

(3) As used in this Ordinance, a "kennel" is any place where dogs and/or cats, puppies or kittens are kept for the primary purpose of breeding, buying or selling or for which a fee is charged for overnight stay. For the purpose of this ordinance a kennel is any establishment, which boards or has at any time more than four (4) dogs, excluding puppies or more than four (4) cats, excluding kittens. Kennels must abide by all zoning restrictions and uses. No Kennel shall be allowed in a residentially zoned area.

(4) The odor, stench and unsanitary conditions caused by the kennel must be attended to by the owner so that it will not cause disturbance of people in the reasonable use and enjoyment of their property where any of these factors cause annoyance, discomfort, or injury to the health and welfare of persons in the neighborhood.

(5) For purposes of this Ordinance, a puppy is a domestic canine younger than four months of age and a kitten is any domestic feline younger than four months of age.

(6) Any dog, puppy, cat or kitten outside a house must be located in an enclosure (a fence or structure) of sufficient height and construction to prevent the animal from leaving the owner's property. The fence or structure must be in good repair and fit to ground level or a fabricated structure that prevents the animal from digging out or crawling out of the enclosure. Gates and doors must fit properly and must be locked or secured by a latch that prevents the animal from opening the gate or door.

(7) Any person owning or possessing a dog in the City of London shall at all times keep said dog restrained.

(8) Restraint as used in this Ordinance means within the fence or enclosure described above or if off the premises of the owner, under restraint by means of a lead or leash or in a cage or carrier and under the control of the owner or other responsible person, physically able to control the animal. A dog may also be restrained by a chain or tether provided that it is at least ten feet in length and attached to a pulley or trolley mounted on a cable which is also at least ten feet in length and mounted no more than seven feet above ground level.

(a) Any chain or tether must be attached to a properly fitting collar or harness worn by the animal.

(b) All collars shall fit an animal so as to avoid causing injury to the animal or becoming imbedded in the animal's neck.

(c) Confinement of animal in heat: Every female dog or cat in heat shall be confined in a building or secure enclosure in such manner that such female dog or cat cannot come into contact with another animal except for a planned breeding.

(9) **SANITARY DISPOSAL OF ANIMAL FECES REQUIRED:** It shall be unlawful for any owner or person in charge of a dog, cat, or other four-footed mammal, to permit such animal to be on any private property other than that of the owner or person in charge or control of such animal without the permission of the owner of said property, or on any streets, sidewalks, highways, or rights-of-way of the City of London other than duly designated bridle paths, unless the owner or person in charge of such animals:

- Has, in his or her possession, a suitable device for the picking up, collection and proper sanitary disposal of the animal feces or manure.
- Immediately removes all feces deposited by such animal(s) and disposes of the same in a proper manner.
- This section shall not apply to blind or visually impaired and/or disabled persons accompanied by an assistance dog.

(10) No poultry may be kept on tracts of less than .5 acre. No more than five (5) crowing or non-crowing poultry may be kept in residentially zoned areas of .5 acre or more. All crowing and non-crowing poultry shall be kept in a fence or structure of sufficient height and construction to prevent the animal(s) from leaving the owner's property. The fence or structure must be in good repair. All gates or doors to the fence or structure shall fit properly and shall be locked or secured by a latch. "Poultry" as used in this Ordinance means chickens, ducks, turkeys, or other domestic fowl.

(11) **VACCINATIONS REQUIRED:** No one shall keep any dog or cat in the City of London over the age of four months that has not been vaccinated against rabies with an approved rabies vaccine. Vaccination tags shall be firmly attached to a harness or collar worn by the animal. Every owner of a dog or cat shall have the animal re-vaccinated 12 months after the initial vaccination. Thereafter, the interval between revaccinations shall conform to manufacturer's written instructions (currently every 12 months for annual vaccines, or 36 months for triennial vaccines), and requirements prescribed by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians in the current version of the annual "Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control."

(12) No person shall keep a wild animal in any residentially zoned area. A "wild animal" as used herein means any animal that generally is not domesticated and living among humans, or any animal classified by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife in its statutes or regulations as either: (a) Inherently dangerous wildlife; (b) Exotic wildlife; or (c) wildlife whose importation or possession is prohibited by any federal or state law or regulation; and a hybrid of any animal herein.

(13) No person, other than a licensed exhibitor of the Chicken Festival, shall have in any area of the Chicken Festival, during the time of the Chicken Festival, any animal.

(14) No owner or person having possession of any dog shall permit such dog to disturb the peace and quiet of the neighborhood by reason of its howling, barking, and whining. Where violations of this section of this Ordinance are observed, any London City Police Officer, the London Public Safety Officer or Code Enforcement Officer may issue a violation letter in lieu of a uniform citation. Letters will convey the actual violation and explain how to correct this action. The Letter will have a set date that the violation must be corrected before further action will be taken. If further howling, barking or whining of the dog are observed by the officers, a citation shall be written in keeping with the sections below.

(15) Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to limit in any manner (a) the use or possession of an "assistance dog" as that term is defined in KRS 258.500 by a visually impaired person or (b) a "service" dog as that term is defined in KRS 525.010 (6).

#### **ISSUANCE OF CITATIONS; VIOLATION NOTICES:**

(1) In addition to, or in lieu of impounding an animal for any violation of this Ordinance, a London Police Officer may issue a citation to the owner of such animal specifying the section or sections of this Ordinance so violated and identifying the specific nature of the violation. Such citation shall impose upon the owner the obligation of appearance to answer the charges specified in the citation in the Laurel County District Court at the time and place indicated on the citation.

(2) Any person violating any provision of this Ordinance shall be issued a citation by a London Police Officer to appear in Laurel District Court.

- (1) First Offense: \$25.00 plus court cost and compliance
- (2) Second Offense: \$50.00 plus court cost and compliance
- (3) Third Offense: \$150.00 plus court cost and compliance

#### **IMPOUNDMENT AUTHORIZED:**

(1) Unrestrained animals, roaming free, may be captured by the Laurel County Animal Control Officer.

(2) Impounded dogs or cats, shall be kept in keeping with the rules and regulations of the Laurel County Animal Shelter.

Any Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately on publication.

Signature: *Troy Rudder*  
Mayor Troy Rudder

Attested: *Carolyn Adams*  
City Clerk

First Reading Date: March 5, 2012

Second Reading Date: April 2, 2012

Publication Date: April 13, 2012