

MITCHELL COUNTY DOG POLICY

UNLICENSED STRAY DOGS (IOWA CODE 351.26)

It shall be the duty of all peace officers to kill or cause to be killed any dog for which a license is required , when such dog is running at large and is not wearing a collar with current license tag attached.

If the dog is seized and impounded it shall be humanely destroyed if the owner is not known. The county will only reimburse charges for euthanasia and disposal. If the owner is determined, the animal shall be handled as outlined below for licensed stray dogs.

LICENSED STRAY DOGS (IOWA CODE 351.37)

Any licensed dog found running at large and not wearing a valid rabies vaccination tag and for which no rabies vaccination certificate can be produced shall be apprehended and impounded.

Any licensed dog found running at large and reported as a nuisance shall be apprehended and impounded. The owner will be notified by the official impounding the dog. The dog will be held for a maximum of 7 days then humanely destroyed.

The owner may redeem the dog by immediately vaccinating the animal for rabies (if not current) and paying the cost of impoundment.

If the owner can not be determined or refuses to acknowledge ownership the dog shall be held a maximum of 3 days then humanely destroyed.

RABIES SUSPECT-HUMAN EXPOSURE (IOWA CODE 351.39)

When a local board of health(or public official) receives information that any person has been bitten by an animal or that a dog or animal is suspected of having rabies, it shall order the owner to confine such animal in the manner it directs. If the owner fails to confine such animal in the manner directed, the animal shall be apprehended and impounded by such board, and after two weeks the board may humanely destroy the animal. If such animal is returned to its owner, the owner shall pay the cost of impoundment and vaccination.

If the dog is unlicensed and the owner not known the animal shall be destroyed and the head sent to Ames for rabies testing.

If such animal can not be safely apprehended and impounded it may be immediately destroyed.

ANNUAL DOG LICENSE REQUIREMENTS (IOWA CODE 351.1)

The owner of all dogs four months old or over, except dogs kept in a licensed kennel and not allowed to run at large must obtain a license from the Auditor's Office in the court house. The owner must show a current rabies certificate and pay a fee of \$3.00 for a one year license. This license is nontransferable. If lost a replacement tag may be acquired for a .25 fee.

Enacted this 11th day of March, 1991

ATTEST:

Sandra Heckstein
COUNTY AUDITOR

Don Handrickson
CHAIRMAN - BOARD OF SUPERVISORS