

TITLE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 10, TITLED "ANIMAL CONTROL," CHAPTER 1, TITLED "GENERAL PROVISIONS," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE, BY DELETING SECTION 10-118, TITLED "IMPROPER CARE OF ANIMALS PROHIBITED," IN ITS ENTIRETY AND SUBSTITUTING THEREFOR A NEW SECTION 10-118, TITLED "IMPROPER CARE OF ANIMALS PROHIBITED," TO SET FORTH SPECIFICATIONS FOR DOGHOUSES AND SIMILAR SHELTERS TO PROVIDE INSULATION AND PROTECTION FROM THE ELEMENTS.

WHEREAS, City Code §10-118 addresses the improper care of animals, however, it does not address any specifications for doghouses and similar shelters to protect animals from the elements; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to amend City Code §10-118 to set forth necessary materials to be used for doghouses and similar shelters to provide insulation and protection against cold and dampness for animals that are housed outside; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with this amendment, the City desires to correct the typographical numbering errors contained in City Code §10-118 during the codification process that were not noticed prior to publication.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE:

Section 1. Title 10, titled "Animal Control," Chapter 1, titled "General Provisions," of the Code of Ordinances, City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, is hereby amended by deleting Section 10-118, titled "Improper Care of Animals Prohibited," in its entirety and substituting therefor a new Section 10-118, titled "Improper Care of Animals Prohibited," which new section shall read as follows:

Sec. 10-118. Improper Care of Animals Prohibited.

No person owning or keeping an animal shall fail to provide it with the minimum care, nor shall such person keep an animal under unsanitary conditions or in an enclosure that is overcrowded, unclean, or unhealthy.

Except for emergencies or circumstances beyond the owner's control, an animal is deprived of minimum care if it is not provided with care sufficient to preserve the health and well-being of the animal considering the species, breed, and type of animal. Minimum care includes, but is not limited to, the following requirements:

- (a) Food of sufficient quantity, quality, and nutrition to allow for normal growth or maintenance of body weight.
- (b) Open or adequate access to potable water in sufficient quantity to satisfy the animal's needs. Snow or ice is not an adequate water source.
- (c) Access to a barn, doghouse, or other shelter sufficient to protect the animal from the elements. Doghouses and similar shelters shall be made of durable materials with a solid, moisture-proof floor, and must contain clean bedding material consisting of hay, straw, cedar shavings, or the equivalent to provide insulation and protection against cold and dampness.
- (d) Veterinary care deemed necessary by a reasonably prudent person to relieve distress from injury, neglect, or disease.

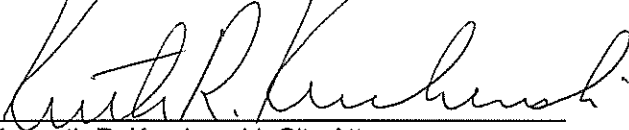
An enclosure is overcrowded unless its area is at least the square of the length of the animal in inches (from tip of nose to base of tail) plus six (6) inches for each animal confined therein, and the height must allow for each animal to fully stand upright.

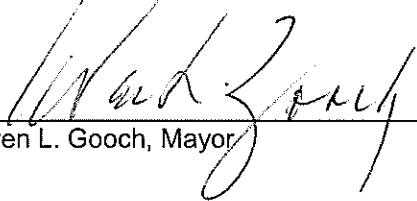
An enclosure is unclean when it contains an excessive amount of animal waste.

An enclosure is unhealthy when its condition is likely to cause illness or injury to the animal.

Section 2. This ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after adoption on second reading, the welfare of the City of Oak Ridge requiring it.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:


Kenneth R. Krushenski, City Attorney


Warren L. Gooch, Mayor


Mary Beth Hickman, City Clerk

First Reading: 03/12/2018
Publication Date: 03/15/2018
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