

Ordinance

Amending Chapter 6 of the Corpus Christi Code of Ordinance modifying the collar requirements for dangerous dogs; Requiring security fencing and leashes for dangerous dogs; Establishing tethering standards; Providing for severance; Providing for publication; Providing for penalty; and Providing an effective date.

Whereas, dangerous dogs escaping confinement has been a reoccurring issue; and

Whereas, a tethering ordinance can prevent animal cruelty.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS, THAT:

SECTION 1. Chapter 6, Section 32 *Dangerous dog registration*, is amended as follows:

Sec. 6-32. - Dangerous dog registration.

- (a) A dog found to be a "dangerous dog" as defined in V.T.C.A., Health and Safety Code ~~ch~~ Chapter 822, as it may be amended, must wear a dangerous dog registration tag issued annually by the ~~a~~Animal ~~e~~Care ~~s~~Services division upon a payment of the maximum fee allowed for a dangerous dog registration under V.T.C.A., Health and Safety Code ~~ch~~ Chapter 822, as it may be amended. The dangerous dog registration fee is listed in the fee schedule pursuant to section 6-15 of this chapter.
- (b) A dangerous dog registration tag must be worn at all times by the dangerous dog attached to a ~~lime green~~ brightly colored, one-inch-wide collar with the words "Dangerous Dog" printed on the collar.
- (c) The owner of a dangerous dog shall present proof of the secure enclosure in which the dog will be kept, proof of liability insurance coverage or financial responsibility in an amount of at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) to cover damages that may result from an attack by the dangerous dog causing bodily injury to a person, and proof of compliance with other conditions as may be required by the ~~a~~Animal ~~e~~Care ~~s~~Services ~~m~~Manager ~~and in addition to what may be required under V.T.C.A., Health and Safety Code ch~~ Chapter 822, as it may be amended.
- (d) The ~~a~~Animal ~~e~~Care ~~s~~Services ~~m~~Manager may require a dangerous dog to be removed from the city limits.

SECTION 2. Chapter 6, Section 160 *Dangerous Dog Fencing* is created as follows:

Sec. 6-160. - Dangerous dog fencing

Not later than the 30th calendar day after the date a licensee or owner learns that he is the owner of a dangerous dog that is not to be humanely euthanized, the licensee or owner shall confine the dog in a secure enclosure.

SECTION 3. Chapter 6, Section 161 *Dangerous Dog leash* is created as follows:

Sec. 6-161. - Dangerous dog leash

Any dangerous dog not in a secure enclosure shall be restrained at all times on a leash of sufficient strength to control the dog, no longer than six feet in length and in the immediate control of a person at any time the dog is not in a secure enclosure.

SECTION 4. Chapter 6, Section 1 *Definitions*, is amended as follows:

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Sanitary means any condition of good order and cleanliness, free from the elements of filth or bacteria that endanger health.

Secure enclosure means a fenced area or structure that is:

- (1) At least six feet in height with secure sides and a secure top; if the enclosure does not have a floor that is secured to its sides, the sides shall be embedded at least two feet into the ground;
- (2) Of sufficient size to allow the dog to move freely;
- (3) Locked;
- (4) Capable of preventing the entry of the general public, including children;
- (5) Capable of preventing the escape or release of a dangerous dog by any means, including digging, climbing, jumping, or chewing out of the enclosure;
- (6) Clearly marked as containing a dangerous dog; and
- (7) Located no less than five feet from another property line or fence adjoining the premises on which the enclosure is located.

Tether means to restrain an animal by rope, chain, or a similar material attached to a collar or harness so that an animal is fastened to a fixed object or other device so as to limit its range of movement.

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SECTION 5. Chapter 6, Section 162 *Tethering dogs and other animals*, is created as follows:

Sec. 6-162. - Tethering dogs and other animals.

It shall be unlawful for any person to tie or tether a dog or other animal to a stationary object for a period of time or in a location so as to create an unhealthy situation for the animal.

This section does not apply to any animal that is restrained to a running line, pulley, or trolley system and that is not restrained to the running line, pulley, or trolley system by means of a pinch-type, prong-type, choke-type, or improperly fitted collar

SECTION 6. If for any reason any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, word or provision of this ordinance shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect any other section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, word or provision of this ordinance. For it is the definite intent of this City Council that every section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, word or provision hereof be given full force and effect for its purpose.

SECTION 7. Publication shall be made one time in the official publication of the City of Corpus Christi as required by the City Charter of the City of Corpus Christi.

SECTION 8. Penalties are as provided in Section 1-6 of the Code of Ordinances.

SECTION 9. This ordinance takes effect after official publication.

That the foregoing ordinance was read for the first time and passed to its second reading on this the _____ day of _____, _____, by the following vote:

Nelda Martinez	_____	Brian Rosas	_____
Rudy Garza	_____	Lucy Rubio	_____
Chad Magill	_____	Mark Scott	_____
Colleen McIntyre	_____	Carolyn Vaughn	_____
Lillian Riojas	_____		

That the foregoing ordinance was read for the second time and passed finally on this the _____ day of _____, _____, by the following vote:

Nelda Martinez	_____	Brian Rosas	_____
Rudy Garza	_____	Lucy Rubio	_____
Chad Magill	_____	Mark Scott	_____
Colleen McIntyre	_____	Carolyn Vaughn	_____
Lillian Riojas	_____		

PASSED AND APPROVED, this the _____ the day of _____, _____.

ATTEST:

Rebecca Huerta
City Secretary

Nelda Martinez
Mayor