

TOWN OF NEW PORTLAND
SOMERSET COUNTY
MAINE
DOG ORDINANCE

*Approved :
May 18, 1996.
Attested :
Mary E. Hunt*

Definitions:

- "DOG"** Shall be intended to mean both male and female dogs.
- "OWNER"** Shall be intended to mean any person or persons, firm, association, or corporation, owning, keeping, harboring, or in possession of, or having control of a dog. "OWNER" shall also be intended to mean and include when used in this ordinance, the parent, parents, or guardian of a minor owning, keeping or having a dog in his/her possession.
- "AT LARGE"** Shall be intended to mean off premises of the dog's owner, and not under the control and restraint of the dog's owner or a member of his/her immediate family, either by leash, cord, chain, or at heel or under command.

No owner shall cause or permit any dog, owned or kept by him/her or in his/her possession or under his/her control, to run at large within the town. A dog, while in or on any public way or place, or in or on any other place, except, as hereinafter provided, shall be under restraint within the meaning of the ordinance, if it is controlled by a leash, cord, chain, or at heel, or is on or within a vehicle being driven or parked on the streets, or within the property limits of its owner or keeper. Nothing in this ordinance shall be held to require the leashing restraint of any dog while on its owner's or keeper's premises.

It shall be unlawful for a person keeping or harboring any dog, when notified that such dog has bitten any person or has injured any person as to cause abrasion of the skin to:

1. To Sell or give away such dog or permit such a dog to be taken beyond the limits of the town, except under the care of a licensed veterinarian.
- or
2. Destroy such a dog without permission from the animal control officer.

At the owner's request, which shall be writing, dogs may be disposed of by the town for situations not cited above upon payments of a fee of twenty five dollars (\$25.00) by the owner to the town.

BARKING OR HOWLING DOGS:

No owner or person having custody any dog kept within the legal limits of the Town of New Portland shall allow such dog unnecessarily annoy or disturb any person by continued or repeated barking or other loud or unusual noises.

Upon written complaint by the person disturbed, signed and sworn to, any constable of the Town of New Portland or duly qualified law enforcement official may investigate and may give written notice to the owner or keeper of such dog that such annoyance or disturbance must cease. The warning shall be made part of the complaint.

Thereafter, upon continuance of such annoyance or disturbance, such owner shall be guilty of a civil violation and upon conviction there of shall be punished by a fine of \$25.00 for first offense. Each additional conviction, after the first conviction, shall be punished by fine of \$50.00 all fines so assessed shall be recovered for the use of the Town of New Portland through District Court.