



CITY OF FORT PIERCE ANTI-TETHERING ORDINANCE

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

It is unlawful to chain or tether an animal outdoors without the owner or responsible party being outside and in view the animal or be kept outdoors in crates, whether metal, wood, plastic or other material. (City Ordinance 6-84)

REQUIREMENT FOR TETHERING PETS

'Tether' means to tie or attach an animal to a stake, pole, tree, or other stationary object. Pets may be kept on a tether if the following conditions are met:

- ✓ Someone age 15 years or older is to be outside and in view of the animal and to be responsible for the animal at all times.
- ✓ Prong, choke and chain collars are prohibited.
- ✓ The animal must have access to water, shade and a dry area.
- ✓ The tether must be at least 10 feet long or 4x the length of the animal, whichever is greater.
- ✓ The area must be kept clear of entanglements.



HOUSING REQUIREMENT FOR OUTDOOR PETS

If you choose to keep your dog outdoors, you must comply with the following regulations:



- ✓ The dog must be kept in a fenced enclosure or yard. The size of the enclosure depends on the size of dog.
- ✓ A shelter must be provided that provides adequate protection from the sun, wind and rain. It must have a solid roof and a solid floor that is elevated off the ground and an open door that allows the animal to freely enter and exit the shelter.
- ✓ Sufficient food and water must be provided.
- ✓ Animals are not permitted to be kept outdoors during extreme weather conditions unless provided adequate protection.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON BACK

Examples of Dog Houses



Required Fenced Area

All areas listed are the MINIMUM open space and do not include the area required for the shelter.

- Small dogs (20 lbs. and under) – Thirty-two (32) square feet
- Medium dogs (50 lbs. and under) – Sixty (60) square feet
- Large dogs (over 50 lbs.) – Eighty (80) square feet
- Each additional dog requires an additional sixteen (16) square feet

Extreme Weather

All animals must be brought indoors during periods of extreme weather unless provided additional means to ensure their safety.

- Hurricanes and tropical storms
- When temperature is over 85° and heat index is 100° or over
- When temperature is under 40° and wind chill factor is 35° or lower

Additional Information

Full versions of the Ordinance can be found at www.cityoffortpierce.com by accessing the City Code and reference Chapter 6 – Animals or by request from any Animal Control Officer.

If you know someone who tethers their pet and leaves it unattended, call Fort Pierce Animal Control at 911. An Animal Control Officer will go to the property and talk to the owner and share educational materials. If necessary, this visit will be followed up with a formal warning and a citation if warranted. Fines for this violation can range from \$50 to \$500