

**GREY CLOUD ISLAND TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE NO. 56.1 ANIMALS**

AN ORDINANCE ADDING STANDARDS AND DEFINITIONS FOR ANIMALS IN GREY CLOUD ISLAND TOWNSHIP

Ordinance 56.1 replaces ordinances 13, 24, 28 and ordinance 45 in their entirety.

SECTION 1. ANIMALS IN GENERAL

1. Definitions Adopted. Except otherwise specifically provided in this chapter, the provision of M.S.A. §§ 347.50–347.56 and as it may be amended from time to time, relating to the definition, dangerous dog registration, dangerous dog’s requirements, potentially dangerous dogs, confiscation, microchip identification, and penalty, are adopted and made a part of this ordinance as if fully set out herein.
2. Authority to Issue Citations. The duly appointed animal control officer of the town is authorized to issue a citation in lieu of arrest or continued detention for violation of any provision of this chapter.
3. Animal Control Authority: means an agency of the state, county, municipality, or other governmental subdivision of the state which is responsible for animal control operations in its jurisdiction. Or Grey Cloud Island Township Town Board appointed or contracted Animal Control Services.
4. Livestock may be kept, raised, or bred without a permit provided there are less than five (5) animal units on the property.

The following equivalents shall apply when determining animal units:

| Animal | Animal Units |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. one mature dairy cow | 1.40 |
| 2. one slaughter steer or heifer | 1.00 |
| 3. one horse | 1.00 |
| 4. one swine over 55 lbs. | 0.50 |
| 5. one goose, duck, or other fowl | 0.10 |
| 6. one goat or sheep | 0.10 |
| 7. one swine under 55 lbs. | 0.05 |
| 8. one turkey | 0.05 |
| 9. one chicken | 0.05 |

- a. For animals not listed above, the number of animal units shall be defined as the average weight of the animal divided by one thousand (1,000) pounds.
- b. A minimum of two (2) grazable acres shall be provided for each animal unit or its equivalent.

- c. The keeping of livestock in greater density than allowed as stated above shall require an Interim use permit. To obtain such permit, the applicant must demonstrate that the facility presents appropriate practices being employed to preclude surface or ground water contamination, excessive manure accumulation, odor, noise, and other nuisances.

SECTION 2. CHICKENS

1. Limited Keeping of Chickens.
2. Intent and purpose. It is the intent and purpose of this section to set standards for the limited keeping of chickens in urban settings as a noncommercial hobby.
3. Conditions. The limited keeping of chickens may be permitted as an accessory use to a legally established single-family residence subject to the following:
 - a. The property shall be occupied with a single-family home. The owner of the chickens shall live in a dwelling on the property.
 - b. Chickens shall be kept within a separate enclosed accessory building and/or fenced outdoor containment area subject to the following:
 4. An accessory building for chickens consisting of 200 square feet or less is allowed. The accessory building must meet allowable size, setbacks and all regulations for accessory buildings allowed by the zoning ordinance.
 5. Any accessory building or containment area shall be located one hundred feet (100) feet from adjacent habitable structures on neighboring properties.
 6. Any outdoor containment areas shall be screened from view from all neighboring properties and rights-of-way. Outdoor containment areas shall not exceed 20 square feet per bird.
 7. Fencing used to contain chickens shall comply with applicable conditions of the township ordinances.
 8. Chickens shall not be kept within the dwelling unit or garage.
 9. The accessory building and/or containment area shall be maintained in good repair, in a clean and sanitary manner, free of vermin, and free of objectionable odors.
 10. Chickens shall remain in the accessory building from sunset to sunrise each day to prevent nuisance noise and the attraction of vermin and predators.
 11. Feces and discarded feed shall be regularly collected and only stored temporarily on site in a leak-proof container with a tight-fitting cover to prevent nuisance odors and the attraction of vermin.
 12. Roosters shall be kept in an enclosed accessory building.

SECTION 3. DOGS

1. Generally.
 - a. Running at large is prohibited. No dog shall be permitted to run at large within the Township.
 - b. Dogs on leash. The restriction imposed by Section 3.1. a shall not prohibit the appearance of any dog upon streets or public property when such dog is under the control of the owner or a member of his immediate family, either by leash or otherwise.
2. License required.
 - a. Application; term; fee. No person shall keep any dog within the ~~city~~ Township without first securing a license therefore from the town clerk, who shall issue a metal tag for each license and who shall keep a record of the license number and description of the dog so licensed, including name, sex, color and breed, and the name, address, and telephone numbers of the owner or keeper. All renewal licenses shall be issued for a period of one, two, or three years, the license expires the day the rabies vaccination expires. The license fee is set forth in the fee schedule of Grey Cloud Island Township. Licenses shall not be transferable. Every application shall be accompanied by a certificate of rabies vaccination as provided in Subsection b. of this section. No refund of license fee shall be made if the licensed dog dies or leaves the town before expiration of the license period.
 - b. Vaccination required. No license shall be granted for a dog whose rabies certificate of vaccination at the time of application is not current. All dogs in the town over the age of six months shall be vaccinated for rabies. Vaccination shall be performed only by a doctor qualified to practice veterinary medicine in the state in which the dog was vaccinated. A veterinarian who vaccinated the dog to be licensed in the town shall complete a certificate of vaccination, one copy of which shall accompany the license application.
3. Exceptions.
 - a. A certificate of vaccination as provided in Subsection 2. b. of this section shall not be required if the application is accompanied by the certificate of a licensed veterinarian stating that because of health reasons the dog, for which the license is applied, should not, in the opinion of such veterinarian, be vaccinated against rabies.
 - b. The certificate of vaccination as described in Subsection 2.b. shall not be required for any dog less than six months of age, provided, however, that such license shall automatically expire when such dog shall attain the age of seven months unless, prior thereto, the certificate of vaccination described in Subsection 2. b. of this section shall have been filed with the town clerk.
4. Affixing Tags. The owner or keeper shall cause the license tag required by Subsection 2. a. to be affixed by a permanent metal fastening to the collar of the dog so licensed in such a manner that the tag may be easily seen by the officers of the town. The owner shall see that the tag is worn constantly by such dog.
5. Impounding.
 - a. The contracted animal control authority having jurisdiction for Grey Cloud Island Township will be called for dogs within the Township not restrained, or confined as provided in this article, or are running at large, the dog will be immediately impounded. The Owner, if known, will be notified by the animal control authority and will need to adhere to the rules and regulations of the animal control authority. Every dog so impounded having no duly issued and current license tag affixed or attached to it shall be impounded for a period of 120 hours, and if not redeemed as provided in subsection b. of this section, within such period, by the owner or keeper thereof, such dog shall be destroyed in a proper or humane manner, or otherwise disposed of. When any dog having a duly issued, current

license tag attached to or affixed to it is so impounded, the owner thereof, if he be known or can be ascertained by reasonable effort, shall be promptly notified personally or by United States mail that such dog has been impounded and setting forth the terms of redemption as provided in Subsection b. of this section. If such owner does not redeem such dog within 120 hours after such notice, then such dog shall be disposed of in the manner provided for unlicensed dogs impounded. The time to redeem such dog shall begin to run with personal notice to the owner, or upon depositing such notice in the United States mail. The pound master shall house and feed in a humane manner any dog held at the pound.

- b. Any animal may be redeemed from the animal shelter where impounded by the owner, within the time as provided in Subsection a. of this section, by the payment to the town of the impounding fee and such boarding fees as may be charged by the animal shelter.
 - c. The owner of any dog not redeemed within 120 hours as set forth in Subsection a. of this section shall be personally responsible for the cost of disposal of such dog.
6. Civil liability for damage.
- a. All owners or keepers of dogs allowing such dogs to run at large upon the premises of another person in the town shall be liable for any damage committed by such dogs, and nothing in this chapter shall be construed as limiting the right of citizens to recover the value of such damages in any action at law.
7. Barking dogs.
- a. It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep or harbor any dog which is a barking dog as defined herein. A barking dog is any dog that barks, bays, cries, howls, or makes any other noise continuously or incessantly for a period of ten minutes or barks intermittently for 30 minutes or more at any time either day or night. A dog shall not be deemed a barking dog if, at the time that the dog is barking or making any other noise, a person is trespassing or threatening to trespass upon the private property upon which the dog is situated or when the dog is teased or provoked.
8. Removal of dog excrement from property not of owner.
- a. It shall be unlawful for any person to cause or permit a dog under his ownership or control to be on any property, public or private, not owned by such person, unless such person shall have in his possession a device for the removal of any excrement which might be deposited by such dog. Any person who owns or controls a dog which deposits excrement upon a property, public or private, shall promptly remove such excrement to a proper receptacle located on property owned or possessed by such person. This provision shall not apply to blind or physically disabled persons while walking with their guide dog.
9. Potentially Dangerous and Dangerous Dogs.
- a. Refer to MN Statute 347.50 through 347.567 regulating dangerous dogs.

SECTION 4. REGULATED ANIMALS

1. Keeping of Regulated Animals

- a. Refer to MN Statute 346.155 Possessing Regulated Animals.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

The regulations contained in this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage by the Town Board and upon publication according to law.

Ordinance 56.1 and all other ordinances or parts of ordinances of the Township of Grey Cloud Island in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Passed by the Grey Cloud Island Township Town Board, Washington County, Minnesota, this 11th day of December 2024.

Dan Ohmann, Chair, not present.
Dick Polta, Supervisor
Phil Dupre, Supervisor

Grey Cloud Island Town Board

Attest: Pam Dupre, Clerk