

TOWN OF KINGSBURY

A GUIDE TO PET OWNER RESPONSIBILITIES AND WAYS TO PROTECT YOUR POCKETBOOK

DANGEROUS DOGS: Effective September 1, 1998, the Law defines a "dangerous dog" as meaning: "any dog which; a) without justification attacks a person and causes physical injury or death; or b) poses a serious and unjustified imminent threat of harm to one or more persons. Should you encounter such a dog, you must contact the Washington County Public Health Nurse (746-2400). The law provides that any person may make a complaint to the Dog Control Officer of a dog attack upon a person or of a dog attacking, chasing or worrying a domestic animal. Upon receiving such a complaint, the Law requires that the DCO immediately inform the complainant of his or her right to commence a dangerous dog proceeding and, if there is a reason to believe the dog is a dangerous dog, the DCO is required to commence such a proceeding himself. These procedures are heard in Town Justice Court.

RABIES: If you encounter a possible rabid animal, contact the Washington County Public Health Nurse at 746-2400 to obtain instructions on handling the animal. For nuisance wildlife assistance, you may contact Mr. Bill Underwood at 747-0820 or Mr. Al West at 793-3662, or any other licensed nuisance wildlife specialist. They will remove the animal at your expense.

ATTENTION CAT AND FERRET OWNERS: NYS law requires that all cats and domesticated ferrets be vaccinated against the rabies disease. If you think your cat may have been injured by a car, you may contact the Village Police (747-4011) to see if a report of an injured cat has been logged. Failure to keep your animals' rabies vaccinations up to date may result in a fine not to exceed \$200.00 for each offense.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR ALL RESIDENTS:

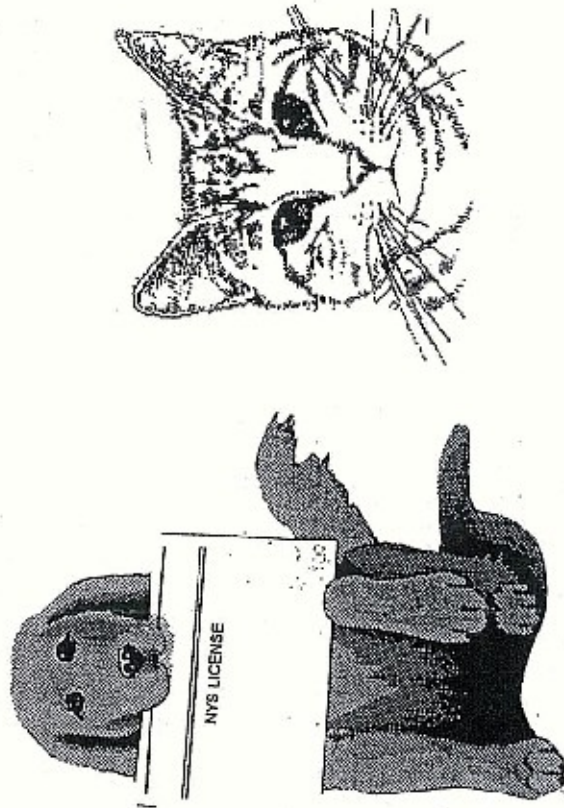
Kingsbury Town Clerk Office 518*747-3188 ext. 3001
Frank Diamond, Dog Control Officer 518* 222-0772
Hudson Falls Village Police 518*747-4011
Washington County Sheriff 518*747-4523
Washington County Public Health Nurse 518*746-2400
Kingsbury Justice Court 518*747-2188 ext. 3010
Emergency Police, Fire and EMS 9-1-1

We hope this pamphlet will be of some assistance to you and your canine companion, cat or domesticated ferret. **REMEMBER:** If you love your canine, please license him or her.

This booklet has been prepared for you by the Kingsbury Town Clerk's Office.

Holly E. Mabb, RMC/CMC - Town Clerk
Sylvia Weaver, First Deputy Town Clerk
Frank Diamond, Kingsbury Dog Control Officer

Updated: Feb. 1, 2006



CONGRATULATIONS! You are now responsible for a canine or other type of companion animal. The Town of Kingsbury has enacted certain regulations that all pet owners should be aware of. We hope this pamphlet is of some assistance to you.

The purpose of our local **Leash Law** is to protect the health, safety and well being of persons and property within the Town of Kingsbury and the Village of Hudson Falls by imposing restrictions and prohibitions on the keeping and running-at-large of dogs, dangerous animals and other identified animals within the Town.

LICENSING: All dogs residing in New York State must be licensed. Licenses are issued at the Town Clerk's Office and are renewed annually. On October 1, 1992, Washington County was declared a rabies county. Therefore, all dogs, cats and ferrets must be vaccinated against the rabies disease. The Town Clerk cannot issue a dog license without proof of a rabies vaccination.

PROCEDURE: When your dog reaches the age of 4 (four) months old, or, if it has been found to be running-at-large, it is time to license your dog. Running-at-large means "a dog off the premises of the owner and in a public place or on private lands without the knowledge, consent and approval of the owner of such lands." Bring a current rabies vaccination certificate and proof of spaying or neutering of your dog to the Town Clerk's Office. If you are renewing your license, please bring in the (3) part renewal form sent to you by the NYS Agriculture and Markets, Animal Industry Division. Check to be sure your rabies information is current on the renewal form. If it is not, the clerk will require a new rabies certificate.

License Fees are:

Spayed/neutered animal: \$2.50 state fee +\$10.00 local fee = \$12.50
Unspayed/unneutered animal: \$7.50 state fee + \$10.00 local fee + \$3.00 population control fee = \$20.50

When licensing your dog for the first time, you will be given an identification tag for your dog to wear. The number on the tag will coincide with the license number on the paper license the clerk issues. Section 119 of the NYS Agriculture and Markets Law requires that your dog wear this tag for identification purposes. Failure to do so may result in issuance of a ticket, seizure of your dog and/or fines.

LOST TAGS: If your tag becomes lost, you may order a new tag from the Town Clerk. The fee is \$2.00. Within (6) to (8) weeks you will receive your new tag in the mail.

LEASH LAW: Section 40 of the Town of Kingsbury Code governs dogs. A full copy of the text of the code is available at the Town Clerk's Office for your review. Highlights of the leash law are:

- 1) All dogs must be on a leash of sufficient strength to restrain the dog.
- 2) The premises, structures or enclosures of a dog owner shall be maintained in a clean, sanitary manner.
- 3) No dog can:
 - A. Engage in habitual barking, howling, crying or whining that will annoy any person other than the owner.
 - B. Cause damage to property.
 - C. Chase or harass any person to cause intimidation.
 - D. Attack or chase other domestic animals.
- 4) All dog feces must be immediately removed from streets, highways and sidewalks by the owner of the dog.

5) If you own four (4) or more adult dogs, the Town Code requires you to erect an outside kennel for your dogs. Please see the Town Clerk for the regulations.

EXOTIC PET OWNERS: NYS Law requires the owners of exotic pets to register them with the municipal clerk in the town or village in which they reside. There is no fee. This registration is required to provide for the safety of fire, emergency services and police personnel should an emergency occur at your residence.

IF YOUR DOG GETS AWAY FROM YOU: The Countryside Veterinary Hospital located at 262 Queensbury Avenue, Queensbury, NY provides the Town of Kingsbury with shelter services. You may contact them at (518) 793-7083 to see if your dog has been picked up by the Dog Control Officer. The law states that it is the dog owner's responsibility to claim his/her dog in a timely manner from the shelter. Failure to claim your animal may result in misdemeanor charges of abandonment of the animal punishable by imprisonment up to one year and/or fines. The shelter hours are:
Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday - 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sunday - 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

IMPOUNDMENT FEES: If your dog is picked up by the Dog Control Officer, your dog will be taken to the Countryside Veterinary Hospital. The impoundment fees are as follows:

1st offense: \$25.00 pickup fee plus \$11.00 per day for board
2nd offense: \$35.00 pickup fee plus \$11.00 per day for board
3rd offense: \$45.00 pickup fee plus \$11.00 per day for board
4th offense: \$55.00 pickup fee plus \$11.00 per day for board
Weekend and Town Holidays: \$35.00 pickup fee plus \$11.00 per day for board.

Should your dog need emergency medical attention, the Countryside Veterinary Hospital will care for your animal and charge you for any additional veterinary fees over the pickup costs and boarding fees.

MISSING PET: You may contact the Dog Control Officer to see if your dog has been picked up at 222-0772 Frank Diamond or visit the shelter. The shelter hours are listed above. The Dog Control Officer will contact you if you leave her a message. Please be advised that this is a part time position.

STRAY CATS, DOGS, FERRETS: NYS Law now defines the "owner" of a dog, cat, or ferret as any person keeping, harboring or having charge or control of, or permitting any dog, cat or domesticated ferret to remain on or be lodged or fed within such person's house, yard or premises. Should you encounter a stray dog, contact the Dog Control Officer to come and pickup the stray dog or you will be held responsible for the dog.

DOG BITES: If you are bitten by a dog or if your dog bites any person, you are required to report the incident to the Washington County Public Health Nurse (746-2400). The biting dog must be quarantined for observation for ten (10) days at the owner's expense at home or in an appropriate facility such as a local veterinary hospital or animal shelter. The Public Health Nurse will give you the quarantine instructions. The Rabies Nurse from Washington County Public Health will also contact the bite victim to be sure the proper medical treatment has been administered.