



**Caroline Anderson**

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**CITY OF OSWEGO  
Animal Control Officer**

**CITY OF OSWEGO LAWS REGARDING ANIMALS\***

**All dogs over the age of four months must have a valid New York State License**

**No owner shall allow any dog(s) to run at large within the city, unless they are on the owner's property or other person's property with the consent of that person, or they are restrained with a leash or lead**

**All cats allowed outside must be registered with the city shelter**

**No unspayed female dog or cat in heat shall be permitted to be outside a building or a fenced enclosure**

No person shall own or harbor any animal which shall be vicious or which shall attack or attempt to bite any person peaceably passing along the street, lane, park or walk of the city, or any place that person may legally be

An owner of an animal, either licensed or unlicensed, shall not permit such animal to;

**1. Persistently or consistently bark or howl or whine or snarl or growl**

2. Cause personal injury

3. Cause damage to personal property

4. Transport trash, impair lawns, hedges, flowerbeds, and gardens on property other than that of the owner or persons having custody

**5. Persistently bark or chase or snarl or growl at pedestrians who are using the sidewalks while the animal is on the property of the owner or harborer**

6. Roam with one or more animals in a pack

7. Be in the habit of chasing or barking at automobiles

8. Kill other animals, with the exception of mice and rats

Animals (with the exception of service/guide dogs) are prohibited in stores where perishable goods are sold (i.e. grocery stores), and restaurants

Any person owning or harboring a wild animal other than a dog, cat or other domestic animal shall take the proper precautionary measures to safeguard the public from such animal

**No unspayed or unneutered cat is allowed to be at large within the city**

Tethering an animal to a tree on public property is prohibited

No person shall permit the tether of an animal to be such a length that the animal is able to set foot upon a public sidewalk

Unjustifiably administering any poisonous or noxious drug or substance to an animal is prohibited (Felony, misdemeanor)

Willfully throwing, dropping or placing any substance, which might wound, disable, or injure any animal is prohibited (misdemeanor)

Removal of collar and/or license tag from a dog is prohibited without the owner's permission

No person shall transport any animal not lawfully in their possession for the purpose of killing or selling such animal, nor shall any person remove any animal not lawfully in his possession from the city without notifying the Animal Control Officer. (Fine: \$200 + 6 months)

**The owner of every animal shall be responsible for the immediate cleanup of any animal waste deposited by such animal on public property or on private property other than that of the owner.**

**The owner of every animal shall be responsible for the cleanup of waste deposited by such animal on their own property within 24 hours.**

No animal shall be left for dead, or deposition of any dead animal, on any street or public place. Removal must take place within 1 hour after notification to the owner that their animal is deceased in such a place (fines \$100-\$200)

**No owner shall fail to provide their animal with sufficient good and wholesome food, water and proper shelter to protect them from the weather. Also veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering and with humane care and treatment (misdemeanor)**

**No owner shall abandon such animal**

**No person shall beat cruelly, torment, overload, overwork, or otherwise abuse an animal (felony, misdemeanor)**

**No animal fighting, of any kind, allowed (felony)**

Geese and swine prohibited within the city. Fowl, sheep, goats, and other grazing animals cannot go at large to graze within the city.

**Any person who, as the operator of a motor vehicle, strikes a domestic animal or cat shall stop at once and render such assistance as may be possible and shall immediately report such injury or death to the animals owner. In the event that the owner cannot be ascertained or located the accident shall be reported immediately to the city animal shelter or police.**

**No person shall own, harbor or possess any animal (including birds) that continuously or frequently creates an unreasonable noise across a real property boundary line. This provision is specifically intended to address a barking dog to be defined as a dog that continuously barks for a ten-minute period or intermittently for 30 minutes. (Chapter 165: NOISE)**

\*All laws, unless otherwise noted, have been taken from Chapter 63: ANIMALS of the Code of the City of Oswego. The Laws regarding Animals in the City of Oswego are not limited to those listed above.