

## Summit County Animal Control

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## Specifications and Standards Governing Kennels, Groomers, and Pet Shops

### Section 1: General Operating Standards

- A. Each facility which accepts privately owner animals into their custody or holds animals for grooming purposes or for retail sale shall report to the Division of Animal Control any obvious case of neglect or animal abuse.
- B. All parts of a kennel, groomer or pet shop shall be maintained in good repair.
- C. All buildings, kennels, cages, and runs shall be built in such a manner as to prevent the escape of any animal. Fencing shall be maintained in good repair and shall be of sufficient strength to protect the animals from injury, prevent escape and prevent the entry of other animals.
- D. The facility and premises shall be clean and free of litter, trash, and garbage.
- E. The facility shall provide easy access to food and water for the animals.
- F. The facility and the facility staff shall avoid unnecessary physical restraint of any animal.
- G. Any animal that has any injury or illness shall be provided with veterinary care immediately.
- H. No animal shall be housed in any privately owned facility which has not been vaccinated for rabies, parvo/ distemper, and corona virus.
- I. It is prohibited to obtain a dog that is vicious (5-1-13B – see definition), has aggressive behavior or has a known bite history within Summit County.
- J. Cats shall not be kept in runs with less than 4 square feet of floor space and less than 2 feet in height.
- K. Communal cages for cats more than four months old shall be as large as the total of all cages if the cats had been housed separately.
- L. Animals shall be fed palatable, uncontaminated, and nutritionally adequate food daily or according to their particular needs.
- M. The facility and facility staff agree that they will not allow the animals to run at large or violate any applicable local, state, and federal regulations, including but not limited to those regarding animal cruelty or licensing.
- N. The Division of Animal Control shall be granted full and complete access to all records, and premises pertaining to any animal housed or sheltered in a kennel, groomer, or pet shop facility, when deemed necessary by Animal Control.

## **Section 2: Record Keeping**

- A. Kennels, groomers, and pet shops shall keep records on all animals currently boarded and/or housed. These records shall be maintained on each animal individually.
- B. The information contained within these records shall include, but not limited to: rabies and all other vaccinations; prescription or medical treatments administered by the facility; the owner's name, address, emergency contact, and name and contact information of owner's veterinarian.
- C. A medical emergency release must be obtained from the owner of each animal and shall become part of the animal's record so that emergency treatment can be given if the animal shows signs of illness or is injured while in the care and custody of the facility.
- D. The Division of Animal Control and/ or the County Health Department shall be granted full and complete access to all records pertaining to any animal housed or sheltered in a kennel, groomer, or pet shop facility.
- E. Documentation of the temperament and behavior of all animals brought into Summit County shall be kept on record.

## **Section 3: Sanitation**

- A. All cages, kennels and runs shall be cleaned with proper detergents and disinfectants as often as needed to keep them clean and free of debris and contamination.
- B. All animals shall not be directly exposed to water or disinfectant and shall be removed from the animal enclosure during cleaning procedures.
- C. Food dishes, water bowls/ containers and all other utensils shall be cleaned and sanitized daily.
- D. Kennels and runs using gravel or limestone shall have such materials replaced as often as necessary to maintain sanitary conditions.
- E. Litter boxes shall be cleaned daily.
- F. Materials that absorb moisture shall be replaced daily and the areas underneath such materials shall be cleaned daily.
- G. Waste cans or containers shall be cleaned and sanitized frequently.
- H. Prior to the introduction of an animal into a cage or run previously occupied by another animal, such cages and runs shall be cleaned and sanitized.
- I. Feeders must allow easy access to food, while minimizing contamination by urine and feces. Food must be available in amounts sufficient to provide for normal growth in animals and maintenance of normal body weight, reproduction, and lactation.
- J. Areas where food is prepared or stored shall be kept clean. Suitable conditions to preserve the nutritional quality of food shall be present. Minimal storage time and manufacturer recommendations shall also be considered.
- K. Bulk supplies of food shall be stored in designated areas that are cool, dry, clean, and free of vermin, preferably off the floor pallets, racks, or carts. Open bags of food should be stored in vermin-proof containers to minimize contamination.
- L. Food containers shall be sanitized frequently.

#### **Section 4: Additional Requirement for Groomers**

- A. All grooming facilities shall maintain a record of all animals currently on premises.
- B. Clippers, combs, brushes, and any other equipment shall be sanitized and maintained in good repair after each animal is groomed.
- C. Every grooming facility must use tepid water for the purposes of washing animals. Cold water is not acceptable.
- D. All towels or rugs used in bathing or caged areas shall be clean and sanitary and sanitized following use.
- E. Dryers shall not be too hot for an animal's comfort and shall be operated to prevent injury and harm to the animal.