





ANIMAL RESPONSIBILITY BYLAW

The Animal Responsibility Bylaw contains important provisions for animal welfare, control, licensing, duties of City of Nanaimo animal owners, penalties, and enforcement. This is a summary only. To ensure complete, accurate and current information, please refer to Animal Responsibility Bylaw No. 7316 and Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 7041.



FAST FACTS

Dogs

- It is mandatory for every dog over 4 months old to be licensed yearly and to wear the tag on their collar.
- Dog licences expire annually on December 31 and can be purchased at City Hall or Nanaimo Animal Control Services.
- No person shall keep more than 4 dogs over the age of 16 weeks (some exceptions apply see bylaw for details).
- When in public, dogs must be on a leash at all times and under the control of a competent person. Dogs may be off-leash in designated off-leash areas only, and must still be under the control of a competent person.
- Female dogs in heat must remain within an enclosed building, enclosure or pen, except to urinate or defecate on the owner's private lands, or to go for a walk only when firmly held on a leash by a competent person.
- Dog feces must be cleaned up and disposed of in a sanitary manner DO NOT throw the bag in the bushes!
- Dogs may not bark, howl, yelp, cry, or make other noises continuously for fifteen minutes or more, or in a manner that unduly disturbs the peace, quiet, rest, comfort or tranquility of the surrounding neighbourhood.

Cats

- No person shall own, keep, possess or harbour any cat over the age of 6 months unless it has been spayed or neutered, or the person has a valid business licence to breed cats.
- Cats must have sufficient identification (i.e. a tag with owner's valid contact info, traceable tattoo, or microchip) so that lost cats can be quickly reunited with their owner.
- No person shall keep more than 5 cats over the age of 12 weeks (some exceptions apply see bylaw for details).
- No person may feed or leave food out for any cat, unless they are registered with an approved organization with a Trap Neuter Release program (such as the CatNap Society).
- Cats must not trespass on private property without the consent of the occupier or owner.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Nanaimo Animal Control Services 250-616-0233

City of Nanaimo Dog Licensing Questions: 250-755-4415

dog.lic@nananimo.ca www.nanaimo.ca

Reporting Distressed Dogs in Hot Cars

Nanaimo Animal Control Services Monday through Friday (9 am - 5 pm) Saturday (9 am - 4 pm) 250-616-0233

RCMP (after hours only) 250-754-2345

Nanaimo Regional Landfill Disposal of dead animals 250-722-2044

Conservation Officer Service Report wildlife concerns 1-877-952-7277

AGGRESSIVE DOGS

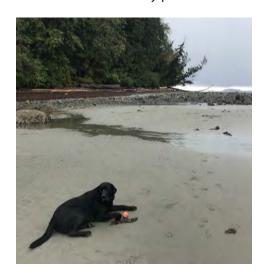
Owners of aggressive dogs need to be aware of their responsibilities. The Animal Responsibility Bylaw requires the owner to:

- ensure that an aggressive dog is not in any public place unless it is muzzled, on a leash not exceeding six feet, and under the control of a competent individual. Aggressive dogs are not allowed on school grounds, within 30 m of any playground, or any designated off-leash area, or park;
- keep aggressive dogs securely confined indoors, or if outdoors, behind a secure fence at least 6 feet high or in an enclosure that is located in the rear yard, locked to prevent casual entry by another person, and has been inspected and approved by the Poundkeeper;
- prominently display at each entrance to the property a sign, as outlined in the Bylaw, notifying there is an aggressive dog on the property;
- notify Nanaimo Animal Control within one week if the dog is sold, given away, or dies; and
- notify Nanaimo Animal Control immediately if the dog is loose or has bitten or attacked any person or animal.

PROHIBITION OF CRUELTY

In addition to the Province's
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Act, the Animal Responsibility
Bylaw prohibits animal cruelty and
requires people keeping animals to:

- provide clean drinking water, sufficient food, sanitary receptacles, exercise, clean bedding in a warm/ dry area, and veterinary care;
- not keep an animal outside, unless the animal is protected from all elements; and
- not keep any animal tethered to a fixed object for longer than 2 hours within a 24 hour period and to never use a choke collar or a rope around the animal's neck.



DOGS IN HOT CARS

If you see a dog confined in an enclosure, including a vehicle, without adequate ventilation to prevent distress, contact nearby businesses to alert their customers, or, in a park or non-commercial area, call out to see if the owner is nearby. In a residential area, door-knocking is recommended. If the owner cannot readily be found, use the contact information on the front page to report a possible dog in distress, making sure to record the make, model and licence plate of the car, whether the windows are down or not, whether there is a water source, and the physical description of the dog.

Note: signs of a dog in distress include: lethargic and unresponsive behaviour; excessive panting or drooling; a dark purple or grey tongue; or loss of bowel control.

OTHER CONCERNS

Call Nanaimo Animal Control Services for assistance with:

- sick or injured domestic animals
- attacking or aggressive dogs
- barking dogs
- neglected or stray dogs or cats
- unlicensed dogs
- dogs tied up for more than 2 hours within a 24 hour period.
- dogs off-leash outside of an off-leash area
- dogs kept outside without appropriate shelter to protect the dog from heat, cold and wet.

FEES

Dog Licence Fee	Sterilized: \$30/year Unsterilized: \$60/year
Aggressive Dog Licence Fee	\$90/year
Replacement Tag (to replace lost dog tag)	\$5.00
Impound Fees (licenced dog)	\$15 plus \$15/day
Impound Fees (unlicenced dog)	\$150 plus \$15/day
Impound Fees (sterilized cat without identification)	\$25 plus \$10/day
Impound Fees (unsterilized cat, regardless of identification) Note: upon proof of sterilization within 30 days of the impoundment date, the owner will be refunded \$75	\$100 plus \$10/day