

# NAVAJO NATION

## ANIMAL CONTROL LAWS



Navajo Nation ACO: \_\_\_\_\_

Log No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**Navajo Nation  
DNR Central Dispatch  
(928) 871-6491**

### NAVAJO NATION ANIMAL CONTROL PROGRAM

Ft. Defiance Agency Animal Shelter, AZ	928) 729-4023
Many Farms Agency Animal Shelter, AZ	(928) 781-4380
Shiprock Agency Animal Shelter, NM	(505) 368-1235
Tuba City Agency Animal Shelter, AZ	(928) 283-3089
Crownpoint Agency Animal Shelter, NM	NEW Shelter Coming Soon
DNR Central Dispatch, AZ	(928) 871-6491



Responsible Pet Owners,

The Navajo Nation Animal Control Program has a new animal control ordinance amended August 6, 2018 by 23rd Navajo Nation Council, through resolution CJY-64-18.

The purpose of the amendments to the Title 13 Animal Control Ordinance are to communicate to the Navajo Nation dog and cat owners that they are responsible for their pets. Be a responsible pet owner, obey all Navajo Nation Animal Control Laws. Our new amendments seek to:

1. Inform pet owners that all pets are to receive “adequate care” which is the care sufficient to preserve the health and well-being of an animal including food, water, shelter, veterinary care and adequate space.
2. Re-enforce animal ownership through a collar with a visible Navajo Nation Animal License, microchip identification and vaccination against rabies and other diseases common to dogs and cats.
3. Specify that there can only be four (4) dogs per household and four (4) cats per household and that the animal owners under a lease agreement within housing sites, will abide by the number of dogs and/or cats allowed per household.
4. Specify the requirements of dog bite reporting and the mandatory requirement to quarantine dogs that inflict bites.
5. To reinstate the livestock damage section on dog-livestock, equine, poultry and pet conflicts and the liability of the dog owner.
6. Assist Navajo residents to know what is a nuisance animal and the remedies available to decrease nuisance animals in communities.
7. To specify what is an animal running at large, the violation and what happens to the animals as well as the fines to the dog owner.
8. To help our communities be safer, our code will not allow vicious dogs out of a premise. NO vicious dogs are to be in our communities to bite children, youth, adults or elderly.
9. Since our shelters are small, we have defined the number of days to redeem pets to 72 hours for dogs that are collared or microchipped. Those animals without identification will be immediately euthanized or transferred for adoption off the Nation.
10. The Ordinance increases our safety provision for our shelters, equipment and vehicles as the Animal Control Officers work.

Our Animal Cruelty section has moved to the Navajo Nation criminal code in Title 17. The Navajo Nation will no longer tolerate animal cruelty, molesting, neglect, abandonment, animal fighting and animal hoarding.

**“Be a Responsible Pet Owner, Obey All Navajo Nation Animal Control Laws”  
NAVAJO NATION ANIMAL CONTROL PROGRAM**



**Amended by CJY-64-18 (Aug. 6, 2018)**

**NAVAJO NATION CODE**

**Title 13. Health and Welfare**

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**Chapter 9. Animal Control Ordinance**

**§ 1700. Title**

- A. This Act shall be known and cited as the Animal Control Ordinance
- B. Animal Control Program.
  1. The Animal Control Program is a program of the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife, under the Navajo Division of Natural Resources.
  2. The Animal Control Program Manager supervises the Animal Control Officers who are commissioned to enforce this Chapter.
- C. All offenses within the Act are civil and may be brought to the Navajo Nation District Courts via citation by the Animal Control Officer or other Navajo Nation Law Enforcement Officers.

**§ 1701. Definitions**

In this Chapter, the following words and terms shall, unless the context indicates a difference in meaning, have the meaning given herein:

- A. “Abandonment of Animals”. Any owner, or owners, who leaves an animal off the premises without provision for care or control by another person.
- B. “Adequate Care” means care sufficient to preserve the health and well-being of an Animal, except for emergencies or circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the Animal Owner, which includes but is not limited to the following:
  1. Adequate food of sufficient quantity and quality to allow for normal growth or maintenance of body weight;
  2. Open or adequate access to potable water of a drinkable temperature in sufficient quantity to satisfy the Animal’s needs;



3. Access to an enclosed structure sufficient to protect the Animal from wind, rain, snow, sun, heat, cold, or dampness;
  4. Veterinary care deemed necessary by a reasonably prudent person to relieve from distress from injury, pain, neglect or disease;
  5. Continuous access to an area with adequate space for exercise necessary for the health of the Animal, with adequate ventilation, and kept reasonably clean and free from excess waste or other contaminants that could affect the Animal's health.
- C. "Animal" means any domesticated or feral dog, dog hybrid, or cat.
- D. "Animal owner" means a person who has control, custody, possession, title or other legal interest in the animal.
- E. "Animal Shelter" means a facility operated by a humane society, governmental agency, or authorized agents for the purpose of impounding or caring for animals held under authority of this Chapter or Navajo Nation law.
- F. "Bite" means a puncture or tear of the skin inflicted by the teeth of an animal.
- G. "Cat" means all members of *Felis Domesticus*.
- H. "Commercial Animal Establishment" means any pet shop, grooming shop, performing animal exhibition or kennel.
- I. "Confine" means to secure indoors or within an enclosed area upon the animal owner's property.
- J. "Cost of Care". Any expense related to the care and treatment of a seized or forfeited Animal including: boarding, feeding and veterinary services.
- K. "Dangerous" means any animal that poses a threat to the public health and safety.
- L. "Dispose" means to remove in a proper and sanitary manner any animal that is determined to be dead.
- M. "Dog" means all members of *Canis Familiaris*.
- N. "Dog Pack" means three or more dogs running at large together.
- O. "Equine" means horses, mules, burros and asses.



- P. "Euthanasia" means the humane destruction of an animal administered by a method that causes immediate unconsciousness without visible evidence of distress to the animal.
- Q. "Feral" means any cat or dog that is or becomes undomesticated, untamed, wild or is not a pet and not under the control of an animal owner.
- R. "Harboring" means to allow an animal to customarily return to an individual's property or premises for daily food and care, or to allow an animal to remain on an individual's property or premises for three (3) or more days.
- S. "Health Advisor" means a person with specialized training in the identification and control of zoonotic diseases in dogs and cats such as rabies which might infect humans and other animals. This individual may be a representative of the United States Public Health Service, a veterinarian or of the Director of the Navajo Nation Animal Control Program.
- T. "Kennel" means any premises wherein a person boards, breeds, buys, lets for hire, trains for fee, or sells dogs or cats; or any property or premises of any person harboring five (5) or more animals over three (3) months of age. This definition does not apply to working dogs that herd or protect livestock, assist a disable person, carry out search and rescue activities, carryout law enforcement functions.
- U. "Licensing Authority" shall mean the Navajo Nation Animal Control Program within the Department of Fish & Wildlife, Division of Natural Resources of the Navajo Nation.
- V. "Livestock" means cattle, dairy cattle, buffalo, sheep, goat, swine, and llamas, except feral pigs.
- W. "Microchip" means a computer chip that is preprogrammed with a unique alphanumeric combination code, which is placed under the skin of an animal for identification purposes.
- X. "Person" means any individual, household, firm, partnership, corporation, or any other legal entity.
- Y. "Poultry" means any domesticated bird, whether live or dead, and includes chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, guineas, ratites and squabs.



- Z. "Program Manager" means the Program Manager of the Animal Control Program.
- AA. "Rabies Vaccination" shall mean the inoculation of a dog or cat with rabies vaccine approved by the Licensing Authority.
- BB. "Restraint" means securing an animal by leash or lead, or under control of a responsible person and obedient to that person's command, or within a fenced area capable of confining the animal or leashed on a run line.
- CC. "Running at Large" means to be off the premises of the animal's owner and not under the control of the animal's owner or any authorized person over 12 years of age, either by leash or otherwise, but an animal within the automobile or other vehicle of its owner shall be deemed to be upon the owner's premises.
- DD. "Veterinarian" means a person with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree licensed to practice within the United States and the Navajo Nation.
- EE. "Vicious Animal" means any animal that inflicts unprovoked bites or attacks human beings or other animals either on public or private property, or in a vicious or terrorizing manner, approaches any person in an apparent attitude of attack upon the streets, sidewalks or any public grounds or places.

#### § 1702. Licensing

- A. License Required. Any person owning, keeping, harboring, or having custody of a dog or cat three (3) months of age or older within the territorial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation shall obtain a license as herein provided. All licenses shall expire December 31 of each year and the full amount for a required license shall be paid for any fraction of the licensing year. Upon collection of the license fee by the Licensing Authority, a dated receipt shall be issued indicating the name and address of the owner, description of the animal, the appropriate fee, license numbers, year and location of issuing office.
  - 1. Animal owners will be limited to the maximum number of four (4) dogs per household.
  - 2. Animal owners will be limited to the maximum number of four (4) cats per household.

- 3. Animal owners, under a lease agreement within housing sites, will abide by the number of dogs and/or cats allowed per household.
- B. Licensed Displayed. The license tag shall be attached to a collar, harness or other device and shall be worn with the rabies tag by the licensed animal at all times, and shall not be removed from any animal by an unauthorized person. The original license receipt and rabies vaccination certificate shall be retained by the animal owner or harbinger for inspection by any person charged with the enforcement of this Chapter.
- C. Microchip. Licensed animals are to be microchipped. This permanent identification can be implanted and purchased at any Navajo Nation Animal Shelter. Upon collection of the microchip fee by the Licensing Authority, a dated receipt shall be issued indicating the name and address of the animal's owner, description of the animal, the appropriate fee, microchip numbers, and location of issuing office.
- D. Rabies Vaccination. No animal shall be licensed without proof of rabies vaccination as provided in this Chapter.
- E. Duplicate Tags. In the event of loss or destruction of the original license tag, the animal's owner shall obtain a duplicate tag from the Licensing Authority.
- F. License Fees. Licenses and duplicate tags shall be issued by the Licensing Authority after payment of a fee; fees shall be set by the Licensing Authority.
- G. Failure to Obtain or Display License. Any person who fails to obtain, or to display the license tags shall be required to pay a fine set by the Licensing Authority.
- H. Transferability. Animal licenses are not transferable. Any person attaching a license or rabies tags to any animal other than the animal for which such tag was originally issued shall be subject to a penalty.

#### § 1703. Commercial animal establishment permits

- A. Permits Required. No person shall operate a commercial animal establishment, kennel or animal shelter within the territorial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation without first obtaining a permit in compliance with this Section and with all other licensing laws of the Navajo Nation. All permits shall expire December 31 of each



year and all fees shall be prorated for any fraction of the licensing year. Upon collection of the permit by the Licensing Authority, a dated receipt shall be issued indicating the name and address for the owner of the commercial animal establishment, and the appropriate fee.

- B. Change in Ownership. If there is a change in ownership of a commercial establishment, the new owner may have the current permit transferred to his name upon payment of a transfer fee.
- C. Permit Fees. Animal permits shall be issued upon payment of the applicable fee to be set by the Licensing Authority pursuant to § 1702(A).
- D. License Option. A person operating a kennel for the breeding of dogs or cats may elect to license animals individually.
- E. Failure to Obtain Permit. Any person who fails to obtain a permit before opening any facility covered by this Section shall pay a fine set by the Licensing Authority.
- F. All facilities covered by this Section shall be operated in a safe and sanitary manner. Humane treatment of animals, including the adequate care of each animal, covered under this Section is required. Persons in violation of this Section shall be charged a penalty, have their permit revoked, or both.

#### § 1704. Rabies control

- A. Vaccinations.
  - 1. Every person owning or harboring a dog and cat three (3) months of age or older for five (5) or more days shall have such animals vaccinated with rabies vaccination by a veterinarian or by a person authorized by the Program Manager.
  - 2. Animals whose vaccination expires during the calendar year will be vaccinated, licensed and microchipped, unless previously microchipped.
- B. Certificate of Vaccination. Upon vaccination, the veterinarian or person authorized by the Program Manager administering the vaccine, shall execute, retain a copy and furnish to the owner of the animal as evidence thereof a certificate upon a form furnished by the Licensing Authority. The veterinarian or administrator of a rabies



vaccine shall retain a duplicate copy thereof shall be filed with the Licensing Authority. Such certificate shall contain the following information:

1. The name, address and telephone number of the animal's owner or harbinger of the vaccinated animal;
  2. The date of vaccination;
  3. The type of vaccine used including the manufacturer and the serial (lot) number;
  4. The date the vaccination expires with the animal;
  5. The year and serial number of the rabies tag; and,
  6. The breed, age, color and sex of the animal.
- C. Rabies Tag. Concurrent with the issuance and delivery of the certificate of vaccination, the animal's owner shall attach to the collar or harness of the vaccinated animal a metal tag, serially numbered and bearing the year of issuance, the Licensing Authority shall furnish an adequate supply of such tags to each veterinarian or authorized person designated to perform vaccination, with a fee to be set by the Licensing Authority.
  - D. Duplicate Tags. In the event of loss or destruction of the original tag provided in Subsection (C), the animal's owner shall obtain a duplicate tag from the Licensing Authority for a fee set by the Licensing Authority.
  - E. Designation of Qualified Persons. All veterinarians are hereby designated and authorized to vaccinate animals against rabies and to execute certificates of vaccination as provided by law. Also, health advisors, who have received specialized training in vaccinating animals against rabies, are authorized to vaccinate animals as well as other persons authorized by the Program Manager.
  - F. Proof. It shall be unlawful for any person who owns or harbors any dog or cat to fail or refuse to exhibit a copy of the certificates of vaccination upon demand to any person charged with the enforcement of this Chapter.



### § 1705. Animal bite reporting and quarantine

- A. Duty to Report. All animal bites must be reported within twenty-four (24) hours to the Animal Control Program by the animal's owner, victim, or parent/guardian of the victim. It shall be the duty of every physician, veterinarian, and/or hospital to report to the Animal Control Program the names and addresses of persons treated for bites inflicted by animals, in addition to report the description of the animal and physical location of where the incident occurred.
- B. Quarantine of Animals. The Animal Control Officer, upon receiving a report of an animal bite, shall quarantine the animal for observation for a period of ten (10) days in a secure enclosure to prevent any contact with people or other animals. The Animal Control Program may remove the animal from the animal owner's premises for the duration of the quarantine period. The animal's owner must:
1. Provide proof of current rabies vaccination to the Animal Control Officer, failure to do so will result in requiring the animal to be vaccinated at the end of the ten (10) day quarantine period.
  2. The animal owner will be liable for any of the necessary expenses for the ten (10) day quarantine period resulting in boarding and, if required, the rabies vaccination cost.
  3. If an animal is quarantined due to biting a person and exhibits aggressive behavior during the quarantine period, it will not be returned to the animal owner and will be humanely euthanized. The animal owner will be responsible for the euthanasia fees.
  4. The animal that inflicted a bite on a person may be quarantined at the owner's residence if the animal's owner meets the following conditions:
    - a. show proof the animal's rabies vaccination is up to date;
    - b. has an enclosure that will not permit the animal to be running at large;
    - c. can show proof the animal will not be in contact with any animals;
    - d. will ensure that no other person besides the animal's owner will enter the enclosure to feed and water the animal, and;



- e. the Animal Control Officer is allowed to inspect the animal and the enclosure anytime within the ten (10) day quarantine period.
  5. After the ten (10) day quarantine period the Animal Control Officer shall release the animal from quarantine.
  6. Failure to maintain the animal in quarantine on the property, exposing the quarantined animal to other people and animals shall result in the animal being impounded and removed off the animal owner's property for the remainder of the quarantine period.
- C. Any animal being held in quarantine which develops signs and symptoms which may be indicative of rabies shall be humanely euthanized by a Health Advisor or veterinarian and its head submitted to a laboratory qualified to conduct rabies analysis.
- D. Any feral dog or cat that inflicts a bite shall be humanely euthanized by a health advisor or veterinarian and its head submitted to a laboratory qualified to conduct a rabies analysis.
- E. Removal of Animals of Quarantine. No person shall remove any animal from any place of isolation or quarantine without the written consent of the Licensing Authority.

### § 1706. Dogs or cats bitten by rabid animals

- A. Any dog or cat bitten by an animal known or proved to be rabid shall be humanely euthanized immediately, unless the bitten animal has received a rabies vaccination thirty (30) days prior to being bitten.
- B. Any such vaccinated animal shall be revaccinated against rabies and quarantined for ninety (90) days:
1. The place of quarantine shall be at the sole discretion of the Animal Control Officer. If the animal is quarantined at a veterinary facility or animal shelter, the animal's owner shall be liable for any expenses incurred.
  2. At the end of the ninety (90) day quarantine period, the animal shall be released when declared free of rabies by a veterinarian.



3. If the veterinarian declares that the animal developed rabies during the quarantine period, the animal shall be humanely euthanized and properly disposed of to protect the public health, safety and welfare.

C. Failure to quarantine an animal bitten by a rabid animal. A person who intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly fails to quarantine an animal known to have been bitten by a rabid animal will be subject to penalty.

**§ 1707. Dogs killing, injuring or chasing livestock, equine, poultry, or pets; liability of dog owner**

- A. The owner of a dog is liable for all damages caused by the dog chasing, killing or wounding livestock, equine, poultry or pets; provided that the livestock, equine, poultry is within an area of authorized use or the pet is on the animal owner's property or under his or her control.
1. The court shall award damages to the owner of the livestock, equine, poultry, or pet including but not limited to veterinary expense and other fees associated with damages.
  2. When livestock, equine, or poultry is killed or wounded, the court may award damages for up to three times (3x) the value of that livestock, equine, or poultry.
- B. A dog owner shall be subject to a penalty if they intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly allow their dog to kill, injure or chase livestock, equine, poultry, or pets; provided that the livestock, equine or poultry is within an area of authorized use or the pet is on the owner's property or under their control.
- C. No person shall keep any dog after it is known that the dog has killed or injured livestock, equine, poultry, or pet, and it shall be the duty of the animal's owner to humanely euthanize the dog or have the dog humanely euthanized by an Animal Control Officer.
- D. If the owner of livestock, equine or poultry discovers a dog killing or wounding his or her livestock, equine or poultry, he/she may drive off and/or kill the dog.



E. If a dog is observed attacking livestock, equine, poultry, pet or wildlife, an Animal Control Officer shall take appropriate action to humanely euthanize the dog.

**§ 1708. Nuisance**

- A. "Nuisance". An animal shall be considered a nuisance if it is allowed by the owner:
- a. To damage, soil, defile, or defecate on private property other than on the owner's property, or on public walks and recreation areas, unless such waste is immediately removed and properly disposed of by the animal's owner;
  - b. To cause unsanitary, dangerous or offensive conditions;
  - c. To cause a disturbance by excessive barking or other noise-making;
  - d. To chase vehicles or pedestrians;
  - e. That an unaltered female animal in heat be running at large;
  - f. To disturb the peace and quiet of the inhabitants of the neighborhood; or
  - g. To endanger the health and welfare of the inhabitants of the neighborhood
- B. Animal owners allowing their animals to cause a nuisance shall be subject to a fine set by the Licensing Authority.

**§ 1709. Animals running at large**

- A. It is unlawful for any person owning or having charge of any animal, except a domestic house cat, to permit the animal to run at large in or on any street, sidewalk, vacant lot or private property without the permission of the owner.
- B. Any animal owner who allows their animal to be running at large is in violation of this Section and shall be declared to be allowing their animal to cause a nuisance, be a menace to the public health and safety, and shall have their animal impounded.
1. Animals with a collar or Microchip will be held for seventy-two (72) hours. If the animal's owner does not reclaim their animal after the seventy-two (72) hour impoundment period, the animal will be considered abandoned and humanely euthanized, be put up for adoption for a fee, or



placed with an animal welfare agency, at the sole discretion of Animal Control.

2. Animals without a collar or microchip will be determined feral, considered abandoned, and shall be humanely euthanized, put up for adoption for a fee, or placed with an animal welfare agency, at the sole discretion of Animal Control.
- C. It shall be unlawful for any animal owner to fail to confine female animals and allow their female animal(s) in heat to be running at large in or on any street, sidewalk, vacant lot or any other unenclosed place or private property without the permission of the owner. Any female animal running at large in violation of this Section is declared to be a nuisance, a menace to the public health and safety, and shall be impounded.
- D. This Section does not apply to working dogs that herd or protect livestock, assist a disabled person, carry out search and rescue activities, or those dogs that carryout law enforcement functions.

**§ 1710. Vicious animals confined to premises; liability for dog bites**

- A. “Vicious animal” means any animal that:
  1. Inflicts unprovoked bites or attacks human beings or other animals either on public or private property;
  2. In a vicious or terrorizing manner, approaches any person in apparent attitude of attack upon the streets, sidewalks or any public grounds or places; or,
  3. Which kills or seriously injures a person or domesticated animal, chases or attacks a person or domesticated animal; resulting in muscle tears or disfiguring lacerations; requiring a hospital visit and treatment with sutures or extensive corrective or cosmetic surgery; or resulting in the treatment of an injured animal at a veterinary clinic.
  4. Vicious animal does not include an animal which bites, attacks or injures a person or animal that is unlawfully upon its owner’s premises. The



provocation of an animal by a person is an affirmative defense to a charge of keeping or harboring a vicious animal.

5. Animal owners with vicious animals confined to a premise are required to register their animal with the Navajo Nation Animal Control Program.
6. The vicious animal registration will follow the animal throughout the animal’s life time.
- B. It is unlawful for a person to keep any animal known to be vicious and liable to attack and injure human beings unless such animal is securely kept so as to prevent injury to any person. The animal’s owner must post a sign on his property warning others to be aware of the animal.
- C. Vicious animals will not be allowed out of the animal owner’s property. A vicious animal in the public is a threat to the public health and safety, and such an animal will be immediately impounded and humanely euthanized.
- D. The owner of any dog which bites a person when the person is lawfully on the property of the owner of the dog shall be liable for damages suffered by the person bitten, regardless of the former viciousness of the dog or the owner’s knowledge of its viciousness.
- E. A person is lawfully in or on the private property of the owner of a dog within the meaning of this Section when an invitee or guest, or when in the performance of a duty imposed upon him by law or by ordinance.
- F. Proof of provocation of the attack by the person injured shall be an affirmative defense in an action for damages against the animal’s owner.

**§ 1711. Impounded animals**

- A. Animal Shelter. An Animal Shelter shall be established for the purpose of caring for any animal impounded under the provisions of this Chapter, and such shelter shall be constructed in a manner which facilitates cleaning and sanitizing, and shall provide adequate heating and water supply. The Animal Shelter shall be operated in a safe and sanitary manner and shall meet Indian Health Services and Navajo Nation standards.





- B. Removal of Animals from Animal Shelter. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove any impounded animal from the Animal Shelter without the consent of the Licensing Authority.
- C. Removal of Bite Animals from Quarantine. Animals impounded because of bites shall not be removed from the pound until after the 10 days observation period and a release of the Licensing Authority is secured.
- D. Disposition of Impounded Licensed Animals.
  - 1. As soon as practicable after impoundment, the Licensing Authority shall notify the animal's owner, provided that an identification tag including the owner's name and address or telephone number is attached to the dog or cat collar or harness.
  - 2. Any impounded animal which is licensed may be redeemed by the owner upon payment of the impoundment fee, care and feeding charges, veterinary charges and presentation of proof of rabies vaccination, and such other costs as set by the Licensing Authority.
  - 3. If such animal is not redeemed within seventy-two (72) hours, it shall be deemed abandoned and the Licensing Authority may humanely euthanize said animal, put the animal up for adoption for a fee, or place it with an animal welfare agency, at the sole discretion of Animal Control.
- E. Disposition of Impounded Unlicensed Animals.
  - 1. As soon as practicable after impoundment, the Licensing Authority shall notify the animal's owner, provided that an identification tag including the owner's name and address or telephone number is attached to the dog or cat collar or harness.
  - 2. Any impounded animal which is not licensed may be redeemed upon payment of the license fee, impound fee, care and feeding charges, veterinary charges, and presentation of proof of rabies vaccination, and such other costs as set by the Licensing Authority.
  - 3. If such animal, not wearing its tags as required by this Code, is not redeemed within seventy-two (72) hours, it shall be deemed abandoned and



- the Licensing Authority may humanely euthanize the animal, put it up for adoption for a fee, or place it with an animal welfare agency, at the sole discretion of Animal Control.
- F. Impoundment Fee. An owner reclaiming an impounded animal shall pay a fee to be set by the Licensing Authority.
- G. Unwanted Animals. Unwanted and/or feral dogs and cats can be euthanized, put up for adoption for a fee, or be placed with an animal welfare agency, at the sole discretion of Animal Control.
- H. Neutered/Spayed. All male dogs and cats shall be neutered prior to adoption. All female dogs and cats shall be spayed prior to adoption. The cost of these services shall be the responsibility of the person/persons adopting the dog and/or cat.

#### **§ 1712. Safety provisions**

- A. Interference with the Licensing Authority or Its Authorized Representatives. No one shall interfere with, molest, hinder, or prevent the Licensing Authority or its authorized representatives in the discharge of their duties as herein prescribed, or to violate the provisions of this Chapter:
  - 1. It shall be unlawful for any person(s) to knowingly interfere with any Animal Control Officer in the execution of their duties.
  - 2. It shall be unlawful for any person(s) to remove an animal from the custody of an Animal Control Officer, or the Animal Control Shelter by force, deceit or otherwise, when such animal has been impounded by an Animal Control Officer under Navajo Nation law, unless such person has first obtained written consent from the impounding Animal Control Officer for removal.
  - 3. No person shall remove, alter, damage or otherwise tamper with a trap and/or equipment set out by the Navajo Nation Animal Control Program including the Animal Control vehicle.
  - 4. It shall be unlawful for any person(s) to falsely claim to be an Animal Control Officer.



- B. Penalty for Violation. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Section shall be fined no less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00).
- C. Severance Clause. Should any provision of this Act or its applicability be found to be invalid by the Courts of the Navajo Nation the remaining provisions, which can be implemented without the invalid provisions, will be given full force and effect. To this extent the provisions of this Act are severable.
- D. Safety Clause. The Navajo Nation Council hereby finds, determines and declares that this Chapter is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public's peace, health and safety.

**§ 1713. Dog hybrids**

- A. "Dog hybrid" means any domesticated dog (*Canis Familiaris*) that is bred with a wolf (*Canis Lupus*) or coyote (*Canis Latrans*).
- B. Any person acting as guardian over a dog hybrid shall:
  - 1. Sterilize, micro-chip, and obtain a dog hybrid permit from the Licensing Authority.
  - 2. Keep the dog hybrid within a fenced yard with a ten (10) feet or higher fence sufficient to prevent the dog hybrid from escaping.
  - 3. Post signs every 50 feet on property fence stating a dog hybrid is on the property.
  - 4. Allow inspection of the enclosure by the Licensing Authority when requested.
- C. Any person found to be in violation of this Section will be subject to a penalty, or be required to forfeit the dog hybrid, or both.

**§ 1714. [Reserved]**

**§ 1715. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES**

- A. Animal Control Officers.
  - 1. Animal Control Officers are limited-authority peace officers commissioned by the President of the Navajo Nation or in accordance with Navajo Nation Peace Officer Standards to enforce the provisions of this Chapter and other currently and subsequently enacted animal control laws of the Navajo Nation relating to dogs and cats.
  - 2. Animal Control Officers have the authority to:
    - a. Impound animals that are feral, at large, or considered dangerous by the Animal Control Officer.
    - b. Issue citations for and conduct investigations of violations under this Chapter and other, currently and subsequently, enacted animal control laws of the Navajo Nation relating to dogs and cats.
    - c. Humanely euthanize animals in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.
    - d. Secure evidence to support the animal cruelty allegation with appropriate chain of custody transfer of the evidence.
    - e. File citations for violations of this Chapter with the appropriate district court.
- B. Penalties.
  - 1. Any person convicted of an infraction for violation of this Chapter shall be fined a minimum of \$50.00 not to exceed \$200.00.
  - 2. Any person convicted of a second infraction for violation of this Chapter occurring within one year of a prior infraction, shall be fined a minimum of \$100.00 not to exceed \$400.00.
  - 3. Any person convicted of a third infraction occurring within one year of two or more prior infractions, shall be fined a minimum of \$200.00 not to exceed \$800.00.
- C. The District Courts of the Navajo Nation shall have original exclusive jurisdiction over Animal Control violations detailed in this Chapter.



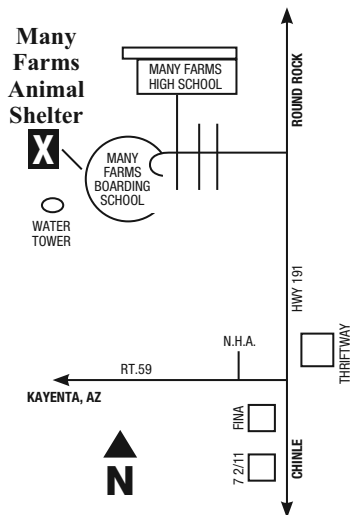
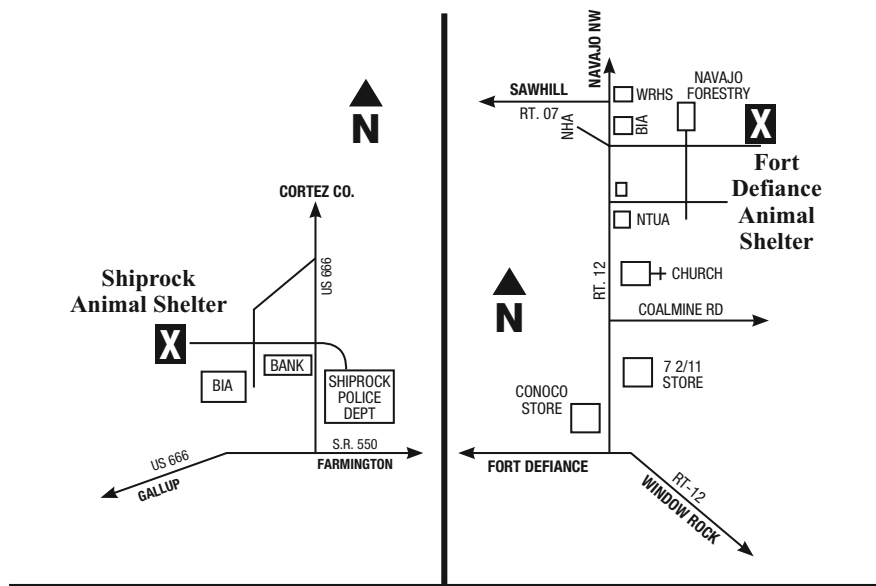
**SCHEDULE OF PENALTIES / FINES**

<b>§ 1702 Licensing</b>	
(A)(1) Excessive number of dogs in the household.....	\$50.00
(A)(2) Excessive number of cats in the household.....	\$50.00
(A)(3) Failure to compile with lease agreement for number of allowable pets per household.....	\$75.00
(C) Failure to microchip your pet.....	\$50.00
(G) Failure to obtain or display animal license.....	\$50.00
Second Offense.....	\$100.00
(H) Transfer of Animal Tags.....	\$50.00
<b>§ 1703 Commercial Animal Establishment Permits</b>	
(E) Failure to Obtain Permit.....	\$100.00
(F) Failure to Operate in a Safe/Sanitary Manner.....	\$200.00
<b>§ 1704 Rabies Control</b>	
(A) Failure to vaccinate for rabies.....	\$50.00
(B) Failure to produce certificate of vaccination.....	\$50.00
(F) Failure to show proof of vaccination.....	\$50.00
<b>§ 1705 Animal Bite Reporting and Quarantine</b>	
(A) Failure to report an animal bite.....	\$50.00
(B) Failure to produce animal for quarantine.....	\$100.00
(E) Removal of animal from quarantine.....	\$200.00
<b>§ 1706 Dogs and cats bitten by rabid animals</b>	
(C) Failure to quarantine an animal bitten by a rabid animal.....	\$200.00
<b>§ 1707 Dogs killing, injuring or chasing livestock, equine, poultry or pets; liability of dog owner</b>	
(A) Dogs killing, injuring or chasing livestock, equine, poultry or pets....	MANDATORY COURT APPEARANCE
(B) Dog owner intentionally, knowingly or recklessly allows dog(s) to kill, injure or chase livestock, equine, poultry or pets.....	\$200.00
(C) Violation of keeping a dog that has killed, injured or chased livestock, equine, poultry or pets..	\$200.00
<b>§ 1708 Nuisance</b>	
(B) Nuisance Animal.....	\$100.00
<b>§ 1709 Animals running at large</b>	
(A) Failure to restrain or confine animal.....	\$100.00
(C) Failure to confine dog/cat in heat.....	\$150.00
<b>§ 1710 Vicious animals confined to premises; liability for dog bites</b>	
(A)(5) Failure to register vicious animal with Animal Control Program.....	\$100.00
(B) Failure to post warning signs of vicious animal on premise.....	\$100.00
(C) Failure to confine or restraint vicious animal within premise.....	\$200.00
(D) Liability of owner of a vicious dog for dog bites to a person.....	MANDATORY COURT APPEARANCE
<b>§ 1711 Impounded animals</b>	
(B) Removal of animal without consent.....	\$200.00
(C) Removal of animal in quarantine without consent.....	MANDATORY COURT APPEARANCE
<b>§ 1712 Safety provision</b>	
(A) Interference with licensing authority.....	MANDATORY COURT APPEARANCE.....\$200.00
<b>§ 1713 Dog Hybrids</b>	
(B)(1) Failure to sterilize, microchip or obtain a dog hybrid permit.....	\$75.00
(B)(2) Failure to have a 10 ft. fence to confine dog hybrid.....	\$75.00
(B)(3) Failure to post signs every 50 ft. to warn of dog hybrid on property.....	\$75.00

**\*\*\* NOTICE: SECOND & THIRD VIOLATIONS TO THE ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE  
RESULT IN AN INCREASE IN FINES TO THE ANIMAL OWNER \*\*\***

**\*\*\* SEE § 1715 ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES \*\*\***

# ANIMAL SHELTER LOCATIONS

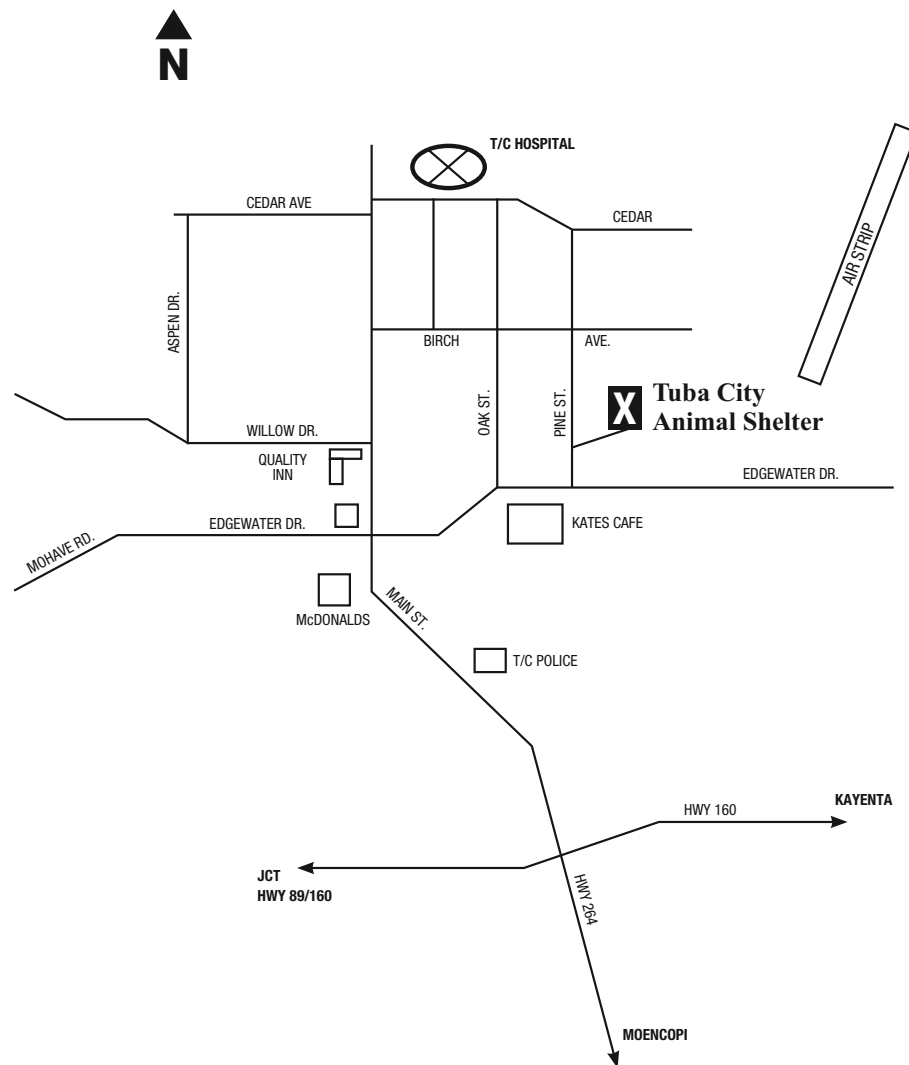


Tuba City Location on Back Cover

**COMING SOON!**  
Crownpoint Agency Animal Shelter, NM

Continued from Inside Back Cover

# ANIMAL SHELTER LOCATIONS



**PLEASE**  
*Control your pets.*  
*Be a responsible pet owner.*