

MBAW VIOLATION(S) CHECK LIST

() 5-10. LICENSING; RABIES INOCULATION; TAG; FEES.

- (a) **License required.** Any person owning, keeping, harboring, or having custody of a dog or cat six (6) months old or older within the territorial limits of Macon-Bibb County for more than 120 days in a 12-month period is required to obtain a registration license tag for such animal by registering it with the Macon-Bibb County Animal Welfare Department.
- (b) **Rabies inoculation.** When initially registering an animal, the owner shall produce proof of current rabies vaccination and shall thereafter forward proof of vaccination renewal to the Macon-Bibb County Animal Welfare Department. Failure to maintain current rabies vaccination records with Macon-Bibb County shall render the annual animal registration invalid. All dogs and cats must be inoculated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian before a license can be issued; provided, however, a license may be issued in cases where a licensed veterinarian certifies that a vaccination against rabies would be detrimental to the dog or cat.
 - (1)(b) The numbered tag tags so issued shall be attached to a collar or harness which shall be worn by the dog or cat at all times. All cat and dog owners shall be required to furnish proof of their licenses upon a request by the officers of the Animal Welfare Department and the Office of the Sheriff.

() 5-12. CARE AND CONTROL OF LICENSED OR PERMITTED ANIMALS.

- (a) It shall be the duty of the owner, caretaker, or possessor of any licensed or permitted animal to provide adequate shelter, food, water, and sanitary conditions for said animal at all times, and to provide said animal with necessary medical care including, but not limited to , the required annual rabies vaccination.
- (b) The owner of any licensed or permitted animal shall be responsible for maintaining control of that animal at all times so as not to be a danger to the person or property of others, or constitute a nuisance as defined in sections 12-1 and 12-26(b)(3)

The owner of any licensed or permitted animal shall be in violation of this code section if he or she allows their animal to (1) defecate on private property other than that of the owner or on public property unless such waste is immediately removed and properly disposed of by the animal owner; (2) chase moving vehicles including bicycles; (3) molest, attack or interfere with persons in the use of the public rights-of-way; (4) otherwise act in a manner that is contrary to the public health, welfare or safety according to the law.

() 5-13. ABANDONMENT OF ANIMALS PROHIBITED.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly and intentionally abandon any domesticated animal upon any public or private property or public right-of-way within Macon-Bibb County. Each person who does abandon, knowingly or willingly permits such abandonment, or aids in the abandonment of any domesticated animal shall be in violation of this section.

() 5-19. INTERFERENCE.

It shall be a violation of this Code for any person to resist, interfere with, hinder or molest any agent of the Animal Welfare Department or the Health Officer or Rabies control Officer in the performance of the duties imposed upon them in this chapter, or seek to release an animal in the custody of the Animal Welfare Department or its agents, or the Rabies Control Officer, except as provided by this chapter.

() 5-22. TETHERING AND TRANSPORT, PROHIBITED CONDUCT.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any owner or other person controlling or possessing any dog or cat to:
 1. Leave a dog or cat tethered outdoors while unattended by its owner.
 2. Tether a dog or cat except by means of a properly fitting harness or collar of nylon or leather construction and a tether in proportion to the size of the animal. The tether must be at least fifteen (15) feet in length with a swivel at both ends.
 3. Tether a dog or cat outdoors under conditions where the animal or tether can become entangled on the tether, another animal, or some other object or where the tether can restrict the animal's access to suitable, edible, and sufficient food, clean water (cool in the summer and unfrozen in the winter), and appropriate shelter.
 4. Tether a dog or cat outdoors in unsafe or unsanitary conditions or when said tether does not allow the animal to defecate or urinate in an area separate from the areas where it must eat, drink or lie down.
 5. Expose a dog or cat to any weather conditions that cause immediate imminent threat to the animal's physical well-being.
 6. Transport any dog or cat in the bed of a pickup truck, unless the dog or cat is secured inside of commercially designed container intended for the safe transport of dog and cats or otherwise secured so as not to allow the dog or cat the ability to escape from the vehicle.

() 5-42. STERILIZATION REQUIREMENT.

No person may own, keep, harbor, or have custody of a dog or cat six (6) months of age or older within Macon-Bibb County that has not been spayed or neutered unless such person holds an unaltered animal permit of reach unaltered dog or cat, or unless the dog or cat is otherwise exempt under this article.

() 5-45. DEADLINE FOR COMPLIANCE

A dog or cat governed by this article shall be spayed or neutered by its owner or, if eligible, the owner shall obtain an unaltered animal permit within 30 days of the dog or cat becoming six (6) months of age or by July 1, 2014, whichever is the later in time, or, in the case of the owner who has acquired a dog or cat after it becomes six (6) months of age, within 30 days of acquisition.