

We are dedicated to protecting people and animals. Violations of county code and/or state law can have big penalties - from a \$246 infraction to imprisonment.

The following are illegal:

- X Loose or roaming animals
- **X** Animal noise which is a public disturbance and/or nuisance
- X Dogs chasing vehicles
- X Leaving animals in a vehicle if it causes distress
- **X** Dogs jumping on or threatening pedestrians
- X Animals injuring humans, domestic animals, or livestock
- X Animals damaging property
- **X** Failure to confine female dogs or cats in heat
- X Animal cruelty
- X Failure to control dangerous or potentially dangerous dogs

If you see violations please report them. We all play a role in keeping animals safe.





FOUND A LOST PET?

Pierce County Auditor's Office

2401 South 35th Street, Room 200

www.piercecountywa.org/pets

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Pet Licensing 253 - 798-7445

Animal Control 253-798-PETS (7387)

Animal Services

Tacoma WA 98409

Contact the Humane Society of Tacoma/ Pierce County at 253-383-2733 or Metro Animal Services Shelter at 253-299-PETS.

THE **RESPONSIBILITIES OF BEING A PET OWNER**

RULES & REGULATIONS





Pierce County Animal Control 253-798-PETS (7387)







Pierce County Animal Control Officers are commissioned by the Pierce County Sheriff as Special Deputies. Officers are charged with enforcing the animal laws.

While the majority of laws regarding animals are directed at specific unacceptable behavior, it should be understood laws are not for animals, they are for the pet owners or keepers. In a sense, animal control problems are really people problems.

We are dedicated to promoting and protecting the health, safety and welfare of people and pets in unincorporated Pierce County. Our primary emphasis is on animals. If you have issues with *wildlife*, please contact the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife at 360-902-2200.

YOU CAN HELP . . .



Abide by the law. Attach a current pet license tag to your pet's collar. Keep your pets off the streets and your neighbor's property. Provide proper food, water, shelter and veterinary care.

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Spay or Neuter. Contact the Humane Society of Tacoma/Pierce County for information on low cost programs.

Be a good neighbor. Don't let your dog bark or become a nuisance in your neighborhood. Pick up after your pet.

PET LICENSING

All dogs and cats are required to be licensed within Pierce County, regardless if they are indoor pets or not. Licenses expire annually. Under the county code, each household is allowed five pets. If you have more than five pets, contact us for licensing requirements.

WHERE TO PURCHASE PET LICENSES AND PERMITS

Online

www.piercecountypets.org

By Mail

Pierce County Auditor - Pet Licensing, 2401 South 35th Street, Room 200, Tacoma WA 98409.

In Person

Visit our office or one of our subagents. Find a complete list at www.piercecountywa.org/pets.

QUESTIONS ABOUT PETS?

For questions about animal laws, complaints, or welfare please contact Animal Control at 253-798-PETS (7387).

For questions about licensing animals or animal related businesses please contact the Licensing Unit at 253-798-7445.

Visit us online at www.piercecountyauditor.org/pets



HOW TO MAKE A COMPLAINT

You may file a complaint with animal control by contacting us at the non-emergency phone number: **(253) 798-PETS (7387)**

If directed to leave a message, please include your name, address, phone number, the nature of your complaint and the animal owner's address, if known.

After making a complaint, you may be contacted to obtain a statement or additional information. If you are making a barking dog complaint, you will be required to document the violation dates and times.

Emergencies such as aggressive and threatening animals currently loose, injured domestic animals, and animal cruelty/abuse in progress should be reported to 911.