

Frequently Asked Questions!

Q: I have a wild animal in my yard, how can I get rid of it?

A: Animals do not care too much for loud noises. By making loud noises you can drive an animal off of your property.

Q: I have found a baby animal that seems to be all by itself, what should I do with it?

A: It is best to leave wild animals alone. Do not remove them from an area if found.

Q: I found a stray cat, what should I do with it.

A: There are a lot of outdoor cats in the City. If you find what you believe to be a stray cat please do not feed it or bring it into your home. If left alone, animals generally tend to return to their natural habitats. You can also contact the Feline Rescue Society in Salisbury, MA at (978)462-0760.

Q: What does the Animal Control Officer do?

A: The Animal Control Officer enforces local and state laws concerning animals, provides for stray, sick and injured animals in the City's custody, and protects the public from free roaming dogs and sick wildlife.

Q: Can I bring my dog on the beach?

A: Dogs are not allowed on the beach between the dates of May 15th and September 15th. Outside of these dates dogs can be on the beach but must be restrained on a leash at all times.



Issues with Wildlife????

If you are having an issue with wildlife on your property you need to contact either a Problem Animal Control (PAC) Agent or a wildlife removal company to assist you in solving your problem. You as a land owner can trap on your own property but can not transport any animals caught elsewhere to release and relocate them per state law. If you do catch an animal in a trap you can release it on your own land.

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City of Newburyport Animal Control Services



This brochure is designed to provide information about Animal Control Services in the City of Newburyport. It contains answers to questions frequently asked of the Animal Control Officer as well as information about City Ordinances and off leash areas in the City.

Dog Licenses

All dogs six (6) months of age or older must be licensed through the City Clerk's Office. License tags must be worn on a collar at all times.

- Licensing for Newburyport residents is done through the office of the City Clerk by April 1st of each year.

Licensing fees are as follows

- Neutered/Spayed Dogs = \$10
- Reproductively Intact Dogs = \$15

In order to license your dog with the City you need to present proof of an updated rabies vaccine.

Leash Law

The City of Newburyport has a leash law ordinance. This means that "no person shall own or keep in the City, outside the confines of the owner's or keeper's property, any dog which is not held firmly on a leash.

Note: Dogs are allowed off-leash at the designated off leash areas, during the posted times for those areas. It is the responsibility of the owner or keeper of the dog to make sure the rules of these areas are followed and that the exclusions and restrictions of each area are respected and followed.

Off-Leash Area Locations and Hours

March's Hill: Hours- Dawn-10:30am; 4pm-Dusk

- Off-leash dogs are not allowed on the Basketball court at any time.
- Dogs are not allowed off leash when children are sledding.

Moseley Woods: Hours-Dawn-10:30am; 4pm-Dusk

- Off-leash dogs are not allowed in the pavilion, playground or picnic areas at any time.

Cashman Park: Hours- 7:30am-9am; 4pm-7pm

- Off-leash dogs are not allowed on the playground, basketball court, softball field, soccer field, tennis court, or walkways at any time.

Rules of the Off-Leash Areas

Owners, per the below rules, are defined as persons with direct care, custody, and control of a dog while in a designated off leash area.

- All dogs, whether leashed or unleashed, must be licensed and vaccinated as well as free of contagious conditions, diseases or parasites.
- Dogs must be leashed when entering and exiting a designated off-leash area.
- Dogs with a history of aggressive or dangerous behavior are prohibited from the use of designated off leash areas during off-leash times.
- Dogs younger than four(4) months of age are not allowed off leash due to the fact that all of their required inoculations are incomplete at this age.

- Intact unleashed male dogs must be supervised closely and immediately removed or leashed if interfering with other dogs.
- Female dogs in season/heat are not allowed off-leash.
- Owners must immediately remove dogs from the designated off leash areas if they exhibit aggressive behavior toward people, other dogs, or wildlife.
- While in designated off leash areas owners must remain with and monitor their dogs.
- Owners must carry a leash, one leash per dog is required.
- Owners must clean up after their dogs. Owners who fail to do so will be subject to a fine in accordance with applicable law and ordinance.
- Owners must fill in any holes dug by their dogs.
- No owner shall have more than two (2) unleashed dogs at one time.

What to do if your animal is lost?

Contact either the City Police Department or the City Health Department to report a missing animal. The Animal Control Officer shall be forwarded the information and shall search for your lost pet.