

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-\_\_\_\_**

**SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 20 (ANIMALS AND FOWL) OF THE SEMINOLE COUNTY CODE; REPEALING SECTION 20.52 (LICENSE TAG REQUIRED); SECTION 20.53 (PREREQUISITES TO LICENSE ISSUANCE); SECTION 20.54 (DURATION OF TAG; ISSUANCE GENERALLY); SECTION 20.55 (COST OF LICENSE TAG); SECTION 20.56 (INFORMATION TO BE ON TAG); SECTION 20.57 (ANIMAL TO WEAR TAG); AMENDING SECTION 20.17 (DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT-LARGE; CUSTODY AND CONFINEMENT AUTHORIZED); SECTION 20.28 (CONFINEMENT OF DOGS DECLARED DANGEROUS BY THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICIAL OR SPECIAL MAGISTRATE; DANGEROUS DOG CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS); SECTION 20.31 (AGGRESSIVE DOGS); SECTION 20.37 (IMPOUNDING, DISPOSING OF, AND REDEEMING ANIMALS); SECTION 20.38 (ANIMALS EXEMPT FROM PART); SECTION 20.51 (VACCINATION REQUIRED); SECTION 20.83 (STANDARDS FOR CARE); SECTION 20.136 (VIOLATIONS; ISSUANCE OF CITATIONS; MANDATORY COURT APPEARANCE); PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION IN THE SEMINOLE COUNTY CODE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article VIII, Section (1)(g) of the Florida Constitution and Section 125.01, Florida Statutes, the Board of County Commissioners of Seminole County has broad home rule powers to carry out county government; including the power to adopt ordinances to provide for the common good; and

**WHEREAS**, Seminole County Ordinance No. 74-8 established comprehensive animal control and protection in Seminole County, which included the creation of the Animal Control Board and outlined the regulation of animal treatment, management, and licensing; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to preserve the public peace and good order, and to safeguard the health, safety, and general welfare of the community and citizens of Seminole County, it is necessary and advisable to amend Chapter 20 (Animals and Fowl) of the Seminole County Code; and

32           **WHEREAS**, the requirement that every person owning, keeping, harboring, caretaking or  
controlling any rabies-susceptible animal within the County to register such rabies-susceptible  
34 animal with the Animal Control Official and obtain a license tag number is not the most efficient  
method of advancing the public purposes served by the Animal Services Division; and

36           **WHEREAS**, Seminole County has implemented comprehensive animal control and  
protection measures that adequately ensure vaccination against rabies; and

38           **WHEREAS**, those measures ensure that rabies vaccinations are recorded and the  
vaccination records are maintained in a system available to establish animal ownership if the need  
40 arises; and

**WHEREAS**, the license tag process does not provide any additional benefit beyond the  
42 benefit provided by this system of maintaining vaccination records; and

**WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 2.2(D) of the Seminole County Home Rule Charter  
44 requires an Economic Impact Statement be prepared to address the potential fiscal impacts and  
economic costs of this Ordinance upon the public and taxpayers of Seminole County, and such  
46 Economic Impact Statement has been prepared and has been made available for public review and  
copying prior to the enactment of this Ordinance unless waived by a majority plus one vote of the  
48 entire Board of County Commissioners.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY**  
50 **COMMISSIONERS OF SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA:**

**Section 1. Incorporation of Recitals.** The above recitals represent the legislative findings  
52 of the Seminole County Board of County Commissioners supporting the need for this Ordinance.

**Section 2.** Chapter 20 (Animals and Fowl) of the Seminole County Code is hereby  
54 amended to read as follows:

## **Chapter 20**

### **ANIMALS AND FOWL**

#### **Part 1. AMINAL CONTROL**

#### **ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**

\* \* \*

#### **Sec. 20.17. Domestic Animals at-large prohibited; custody and confinement authorized.**

(a) It is unlawful for any animal owner to allow, either willfully or through failure to exercise due care and control, the owner's animals to run at-large upon public property, unless the owner of such public property expressly authorizes such activity, or upon private property of others, including common areas of condominiums, cluster homes, planned unit developments, and community associations, without the consent of all affected owners, unless such private property owners authorize such activity by express consent.

(b) All dogs must be under restraint by a leash when being walked off the dog owner's property. There is a rebuttable presumption that a dog is not under restraint or within the owner's direct control when the leash length exceeds eight (8) feet and in the presence of a domestic animal or person. Service animals are exempt from this Section 20.17(b).

(c) When any domestic animal is found at-large anywhere within the County, ~~whether licensed or otherwise and~~ whether owned or otherwise, such animal may be taken into custody by the Animal Control Official or other law enforcement officer to be impounded at the animal shelter and disposed as provided in Section 20.37 of this Code.

(d) Seminole County is not liable for any injury of an animal that may occur while any Animal Control Official or employee or other law enforcement officer is trying to capture,

transport, load, or unload any animal found at-large in violation of this Part. In the event an animal is injured, the Animal Control Official shall file a written report of the circumstances with the Chief Administrator for the Office of Emergency Management within one (1) working day of such incident.

(e) Trap–Neuter–Vaccinate–Return (TNVR) programs are permitted in Seminole County. These programs, provided by partnership with non-profit organizations, are used to control and manage Community Cats. All efforts will be made to return Community Cats to the non-profit that provides the TNVR. These Community Cats are exempt from licensing requirements as they have no known legal owners and are being used to control the cat population.

(f) Community Cats are exempt from Section 20.17 of this Code.

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**Sec. 20.28. Confinement of dogs declared dangerous by the Animal Control Official or Special Magistrate; Dangerous Dog Certificate of Registration requirements.**

(a) A dog that has been declared dangerous by the Animal Control Official or Special Magistrate must be kept securely confined in one of the following ways:

(1) The dog may be securely confined inside the owner’s residence behind locked doors.

(2) The dog may be securely confined inside a pen constructed on the owner’s property according to the following specifications:

(A) The floor must consist of a concrete pad, no less than four (4) feet by eight (8) feet (32 square feet).

(B) The sides must consist of chain link at least six (6) feet in height.

(C) The top must be enclosed and provide adequate shade and protection from the elements along with an additional shelter of three (3) sides and a top, such as a dog house inside the pen.

(D) The structure must have secure sides and a secure top to prevent the dog from escaping over, under, or through the structure.

(E) The gate must be lockable and remain locked when the dog is penned and must be suitable to prevent the entry of young children and designed to prevent the dog from escaping.

(F) Before the release of the dog from the Animal Control Official, the pen must be completed and inspected by the Animal Control Official. The owner will have the sole responsibility to contact the Animal Control Official to arrange for the inspection.

(b) Additional requirements:

(1) The dog must be kept in the locked pen or inside the owner's residence when the owner is not present on the property.

(2) The dog must not be let outside the residence or pen unless the dog is muzzled and restrained by a substantial chain or leash and under control of a competent person. No tethering is permitted. The muzzle must be made in a manner that will not cause injury to the dog or interfere with its vision or respiration. The muzzle must prevent the dog from biting any person or animal. The owner may exercise the dog in a securely fenced or enclosed area without a muzzle or leash if the dog remains within sight of the owner and only members of the owner's immediate household or persons eighteen (18) years of age or older are allowed in the enclosure when the dog is present on property owned by the dog owner or has written consent of the property

owner. The dog must not be brought to a dog park or any commercial establishment other than a  
124 veterinary office or other medical facility where the dog is being treated.

(3) The premises at which the dog is located must be posted by the owner with  
126 a clearly visible warning sign at all entry points that informs both children and adults of the  
presence of a “dangerous dog” on the property.

(c) Prior to release to the owner, the owner shall show proof that the dog meets the  
128 following requirements:

130 (1) Current rabies vaccination.

(2) ~~Current Seminole County Animal License.~~

132 ~~(3)~~ Dangerous Dog Certificate of Registration is paid.

(d) The owner shall immediately notify the Seminole County Animal Control Official  
134 if the dog:

(1) Is loose or unconfined.

136 (2) Has bitten a human being or attacked another animal.

(3) Is sold, given away or dies.

138 (4) Is moved to another address.

(e) Prior to the dog being sold or given away, the owner shall provide the name, address  
140 and telephone number of the new owner to the Animal Control Official to confirm the new owner  
understands and complies with the Dangerous Dog Certificate of Registration requirements. If the  
142 dog is to leave Seminole County, written notification must be made to the jurisdiction’s animal  
control offices by Seminole County Animal Services.

(f) When being transported, the owner shall ensure the dog is safely and securely  
144 restrained within a motor vehicle or trailer.

(g) Failure to renew the annual Dangerous Dog Certificate of Registration within thirty (30) days of the anniversary date that the declaration letter was signed will violate the certificate and a hearing with the Special Magistrate will be held to determine if the certificate will be revoked.

**Sec. 20.29. Reporting animal bites.** It is the duty of every attending practitioner licensed to practice medicine, osteopathic medicine, or veterinary medicine or any other person knowing of or in attendance on a case to promptly report to the Seminole County Health Department every instance in which a person is bitten by an animal.

**Sec. 20.30. Capture, impoundment, and other procedures for animals that bite people.**

(a) Any rabies susceptible animal that is reported to have bitten a person must be captured alive, if possible, or taken into custody pursuant to Section 20.25 of this Code. If the animal is subject to the jurisdiction of the State of Florida, it must be placed under the surveillance of the Seminole County Health Department or their authorized representative and must be handled pursuant to state law and Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services rules and regulations. If not subject to state jurisdiction, such animal must be impounded and quarantined by the Animal Control Official while the applicable procedures are followed to determine whether the animal is dangerous or aggressive.

(b) In the event the animal is killed, the Animal Control Official shall file a report of the conditions and reasons for killing the animal with the Chief Administrator for the Office of Emergency Management within ten (10) days of such killing.

(c) If the animal is deemed unowned pursuant to Section 20.37 of this Code, it must either be quarantined for a period of time necessary to determine if it has rabies, or be immediately

destroyed in a humane fashion, and its head detached without mutilation. The head must  
170 immediately be submitted to the nearest Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services Virus  
Laboratory.

172 (d) If the animal is claimed by its owner pursuant to Section 20.37(c) of this Code the  
animal must not be released until it has been quarantined for a period of ten (10) days or such  
174 longer period as the Animal Control Official determines is necessary to determine the presence of  
rabies. In the event there is no licensed vaccine available for the species of animal being held and  
176 the necessary incubation period would, in the opinion of the Animal Control Official,  
unnecessarily jeopardize the health or life of the bite victim, then the animal must be immediately  
178 euthanized in a humane manner and the head must immediately be submitted to the nearest  
Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services Virus Laboratory. If, at any time during the  
180 period the animal is impounded, it is determined by the Animal Control Official that the animal  
has rabies, the animal must immediately be euthanized in a humane manner. The owner must be  
182 notified of the provisions of this Section at the time the animal is claimed. Failure to provide this  
notice will not impose any civil or criminal liability upon Seminole County, its agents, or  
184 employees.

**Sec. 20.31. Aggressive dogs.**

186 (a) As attested to by a witness in a sworn affidavit along with any additional evidence,  
after investigation, the Animal Control Official may declare a dog aggressive that:

- 188 (1) Causes injury to a human without being provoked and not under restraint;  
or  
190 (2) Causes injury to a domestic animal without being provoked and not under  
restraint.



192 (b) A letter of the “aggressive dog declaration” will be sent or given to the owner with  
notification. The owner will have thirty (30) days from receipt of the notice to obtain an aggressive  
194 dog certificate from Seminole County Animal Services, or

(c) A written request for appeal from the owner must be delivered to the Chief  
196 Administrator of the Seminole County Office of Emergency Management within fourteen (14)  
calendar days after a dog has been classified aggressive for the case to be reviewed. The Chief  
198 Administrator will review the case and make a final determination within thirty (30) days of  
receiving the appeal request.

200 (d) The owner of the aggressive dog shall comply with the following requirement and  
responsibilities to be able to obtain and maintain an aggressive dog certificate:

202 (1) The owner shall provide the Animal Services Division with two (2) color  
photographs of the dog (front view and side view) that clearly identify the dog.

204 (2) The dog must not be relocated or have a transfer of ownership without  
notifying the Animal Control Official.

206 (3) Dogs classified as “aggressive” must not be brought to a dog park.

(4) Dogs classified as “aggressive” must not be brought to any commercial  
208 establishment other than a veterinary office or other medical facility where the dog is being treated.

(5) The owner shall register the dog as aggressive with the Animal Services  
210 Division, and obtain an aggressive dog certificate, which must be renewed annually after the initial  
two (2) years.

212 (6) The owner must ensure that the dog, while on the owner’s property, is  
securely confined indoors or in a securely fenced or enclosed area from which the dog may not  
214 escape (over, under, or through the fence). The dog must be muzzled, leashed, and under restraint

of a person capable of controlling the dog whenever the dog is not within such securely fenced or enclosed area or within the passenger portion of a vehicle. Tethering of a declared aggressive dog is not permitted.

(7) The owner must maintain a current rabies vaccination ~~and animal license~~ for the dog.

**Secs. 20.32—20.35. Reserved.**

**Sec. 20.36. Disposition of dead animals; required; procedure.** When any animal dies on public or private property, it will be the responsibility of the owner of such animal or the owner of such private property to remove and dispose of such animal immediately. If the owner is not aware of such animal's presence, the following procedures apply:

(a) When any dead animal is found upon public property, the owner of such animal shall remove and dispose of the animal, upon notification by the Animal Control Official or any other law enforcement officer, so as not to constitute a nuisance. If the owner of such animal fails to do so within a reasonable time, the County shall remove and dispose of such animal and charge the cost of removal and disposal to the owner of the animal if the owner is known.

(b) When any dead animal is found upon private property, the owner of such animal or the owner of such property shall remove and dispose of the animal, upon notification by the Animal Control Official or any other law enforcement officer, so as not to constitute a nuisance. If the owner of such animal or the owner of such property fails to do so within a reasonable time, the County shall remove and dispose of the animal and charge the cost of said removal and disposal to the owner of the animal if the owner is known, and if the owner is not known, then to the owner of the property.

**Sec. 20.37. Impounding, disposing of, and redeeming animals.**

(a) When any rabies-susceptible animal is found without a current tag, or when any animal is found in violation of any provision of this Part, the Animal Control Official or any other law enforcement officer may take such animal into custody to be impounded at the animal shelter and disposed of as follows:

(1) Where such animal bears no indicia of ownership, the animal must be confined by the Animal Control Official for five (5) days from the date the animal is taken into custody. At the expiration of the five (5) days, if no owner has appeared to claim the animal, the animal will be deemed unowned and euthanized in a humane fashion or otherwise disposed of alive.

(2) Where such animal bears an indicia of ownership, the Animal Control Official shall notify the owner of the animal by certified mail, return notification requested, email and telephone, if known, of the animal's impoundment. The Animal Control Official shall confine the animal for five (5) days from the date of certified mail delivery or last documented delivery attempt. At the expiration of the five (5) days, if no owner has appeared to claim the animal, the animal will be deemed unowned and euthanized in a humane fashion or otherwise disposed of alive.

(b) Live animals may not be disposed of to any medical school, college, university, person, firm, association, or corporation, for experimentation or vivisection purposes, or to any person providing, selling, or supplying dogs and cats and other animals to any medical school, college, university, person, firm, association or corporation for experimentation or vivisection purposes.

(1) Live animals that, in the personal discretion of the Animal Control Official, or a licensed veterinarian, are ill or injured so seriously that medical treatment would needlessly prolong the animal's life, may be euthanized in a humane manner.

(c) Animals will be released to owners only upon presentation of proof of ownership and after proper rabies inoculation, ~~licensing~~, and payment of impounding fees, unpaid citations issued over thirty (30) days, and such other fees as the Board of County Commissioners may establish from time to time by resolution.

(d) At the discretion of the Animal Control Official, animals may be disposed of by adoption, under conditions specified by the Animal Control Official. These animals may be adopted by agreement in writing to the conditions of adoption and payment of such fees as may be established by resolution of the Board of County Commissioners. The conditions and cost of adoptions must be prominently displayed at the animal shelter.

**Sec. 20.38. Animals exempt from Part.**

~~(a) The licensing provision of this Part do not apply to animals remaining in the County for a period of less than thirty (30) days, to livestock, or to purebreds kept, maintained, or brought into the County for the purpose of training, except that nothing in this Section prohibits the demand for proof of vaccination done in another state. Failure to provide such proof upon demand will require such animal to be vaccinated under the provisions of Section 20.51 of this Code upon order of the Animal Control Official.~~

~~(b)~~ During legally declared hunting seasons, as they may be designated from year to year by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission or the Legislature, hunting dogs will be exempt from the terms of Section 20.17 of this Code when engaged in a hunt or at-large as a result of a hunt.

**Sec. 20.39. Use of a fixed-point restraining device.**

(a) A fixed-point restraining device is hereby defined as a trolley system, chain, cord, leash, cable, or similar device which is attached to one or more fixed points to include, without limitation, a house, tree, fence, post, garage or shed, used to confine a dog or cat to the owner's property and designed to be used for such purposes. The device must be a minimum length of ten feet in length and must be no longer than what is necessary to keep such dog or cat confined to the owner's property.

(b) A fixed-point restraining device must not be used to confine a dog or cat outdoors between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., except as provided in this Part. A dog or cat may be attached to a fixed-point restraining device for a period of time not to exceed one hour per day, and must be directly supervised and accompanied by the owner outside for the duration of the time the dog or cat is attached to the fixed-point restraining device.

(c) The use of a fixed-point restraining device between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. is allowed under the following conditions:

(1) The fixed-point restraining device must be a minimum of ten feet in length and must be placed in a location that keeps such dog or cat confined exclusively to the owner's property.

(2) The fixed-point restraining device must be used in conjunction with an appropriate collar or harness designed for use with the specific size of dog or cat. Pinch, choke or pronged type collars must not be used when restraining a dog or cat in this manner.

(3) The fixed-point restraining device must be placed in a manner as to prevent injury, strangulation, or entanglement.

304                   (4)     If there are multiple dogs or cats, each must be confined separately and in  
such a manner the fixed-point restraining device do not become entangled with each other.

306                   (d)     It is unlawful to use a fixed-point restraining device to confine any dog or cat under  
the age of six (6) months.

308                   (e)     During any time of severe weather, the use of a fixed-point restraining device to  
secure a dog or cat onto the owner's property is strictly prohibited. This includes, but is not limited  
310 to, lightning storms, tornado warnings, hurricane warnings, heat index above ninety (90) degrees  
Fahrenheit, temperatures below thirty-two (32) degrees Fahrenheit.

312                   **Secs. 20.40—20.50. Reserved.**

## **ARTICLE II. RABIES-SUSCEPTIBLE ANIMAL**

### **Sec. 20.51. Vaccination required.**

314                   (a)     It is unlawful for the owner of any rabies-susceptible animal, for which a licensed  
316 vaccine is available, to fail to have the rabies-susceptible animal vaccinated against rabies by a  
licensed veterinarian of his choice as provided in subsection (d).

318                   (b)     Evidence of vaccination will consist of a County certificate signed by the licensed  
veterinarian administering the vaccine. The certificate in triplicate must show the date and type of  
320 vaccination, the name and address of the owner, the year and serial number of the animal's required  
tag, the breed, age, color and sex of the animal, and any other pertinent data for proper  
322 identification of the animal. One copy of the certificate must be provided to the owner, one copy  
filed with the Animal Control Official, and one copy retained by the veterinarian administering  
324 the vaccine. For their services provided in the handling of these certificates, veterinarians may be  
allowed to retain such portion of the certificate fee as shall be established by the Board of County  
326 Commissioners by duly adopted resolution.

(c) The Animal Control Official may demand proof of vaccination done in another state. Failure to provide such proof upon demand will require such animal to be vaccinated under the provisions of Section 20.51 of this Code upon order of the Animal Control Officer.

(d) No rabies-susceptible animal need be vaccinated for rabies where a licensed veterinarian has examined the rabies-susceptible animal and certified that vaccination would endanger the animal's health at that time because of its age, infirmity, debility, or other physiological consideration, and such certificate is presented to the enforcing agency within five days of such examination. Such certificate will not be valid for more than twelve (12) months from the date of issuance.

~~(d)(e)~~ All rabies-susceptible animals must be vaccinated with a modified live virus, rabies vaccine, inactivated rabies vaccine or other vaccine that may be developed and licensed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

~~**Sec. 20.52. License tag required.** Every person owning, keeping, harboring, caretaking or controlling any rabies-susceptible animal within the County, or bringing any rabies-susceptible animal, except livestock, into the County, shall register such rabies-susceptible animal, except livestock, with the Animal Control Official and obtain a license tag number within thirty (30) days of bringing such animal into the County.~~

~~**Sec. 20.53. Prerequisites to license issuance.** As a prerequisite to the issuance of a license tag for any rabies-susceptible animal, the Animal Control Official shall require satisfactory proof that such animal has been inoculated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian. The inoculation must be certified valid through the period from date of sale to expiration of the tag. The certificate of a licensed veterinarian will be accepted as conclusive evidence to the fact and time of such inoculation. A certificate of a licensed veterinarian certifying that inoculation for rabies would~~

350 ~~endanger the health of the particular animal as provided by Section 20.51 of this Code will be~~  
~~accepted for the issuance of a license tag.~~

352 ~~**Sec. 20.54. Duration of tag; issuance generally.** Upon payment of all required fees and~~  
~~receipt of a certificate from a licensed veterinarian that the animal has been inoculated against~~  
354 ~~rabies, a license tag may be issued for rabies susceptible animals. The license may be issued on~~  
~~the same day as the rabies inoculation is given, but must be applied for within ten days in order~~  
356 ~~for a license to be issued by the Animal Control Official. A license will be valid for twelve (12)~~  
~~months after the date of inoculation and will automatically expire on that date.~~

358 ~~**Sec. 20.55. Cost of license tag.**~~

(a) ~~License tags for rabies susceptible animals will be issued after payment of the~~  
360 ~~license fee as may be established by the Board of County Commissioners.~~

(b) ~~If such a tag is lost or damaged, the owner may secure a duplicate by presenting a~~  
362 ~~copy of the certificate of vaccination to the Animal Control Official and by making payment of~~  
~~such fee as may be established by the Board of County Commissioners by duly adopted resolution.~~

364 (c) ~~Licensed veterinarians may issue animal license tags under direction of the Animal~~  
~~Control Official. If a licensed veterinarian elects not to issue animal license tags on the date of~~  
366 ~~inoculation, the veterinarian shall provide the animal owner with an envelope provided by the~~  
~~Animal Control Official that instructs the owner on how to otherwise apply for an animal license~~  
368 ~~tag.~~

~~**Sec. 20.56. Information to be on tag.** All license tags for a rabies susceptible animal~~  
370 ~~must have a number and show the issue year of the tag.~~



~~**Sec. 20.57. Animal to wear tag.** The required license tag must be worn by the rabies-  
susceptible animal at all times unless a licensed veterinarian or the Animal Control Official  
certifies that the wearing of such a tag is impossible, impractical, or dangerous to the particular  
type of animal involved.~~

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#### **ARTICLE IV. CARE AND HOUSING OF ANIMALS**

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**Sec. 20.83. Standards for care.**

(a) Every licensed facility shall keep a permanent record of the deaths of any warm-blooded animals, excluding rodents, under its control. Such record must state species of the deceased animal and the date and the cause of death, if known. These records must be open to inspection by the Animal Control Official.

(b) Disease or illness. Any animal which exhibits symptoms of disease or illness must be separated to the greatest extent possible from other healthy animals. No animal that is known to have, or may reasonably be suspected of having, a disease contagious or communicable to humans may be exposed to or offered for sale to the public.

(c) Drinking Water. Fresh water must be continuously available to all animals and replaced whenever necessary during each day, including Sundays and Holidays.

(d) Feeding. All animals requiring the daily intake of food must be fed at least once every 24-hour period, including Sundays and Holidays. The type of food provided must be appropriate for each particular species and must be of sufficient nutritive content for the health and well-being of the species.

(e) Sanitation. All areas of confinement, display and sales and storage areas must be maintained in a healthful and sanitary condition. These areas must be cleaned and disinfected regularly as conditions warrant. Feed and water dishes must be emptied and cleaned at least once daily, including Sundays and Holidays.

(f) Treatment. All animals exhibiting symptoms of illness or disease must be treated by a licensed veterinarian. If required, diseased animals must be euthanized in a humane manner under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian or Animal Control Official.

(g) No animal may be transported by private or public means in an open vehicle, unless housed in a container designed for that purpose including provisions for adequate ventilation and food and water. The container must have an open grill at one end, have a solid top and bottom, and have a minimum of fifteen percent (15%) of the total accumulated side and end area incorporate an open grill for air circulation.

(h) Every licensed facility shall keep on record a medical statement from or notation of consultation with a licensed veterinarian, if for any reason an animal in its care would need to be exempted from any requirement of this Section.

(i) In all non-agriculturally zoned districts outside the ~~urban-growth~~ rural boundary, dogs are limited to no more than six (6) per residence and cats are limited to no more than eight (8) per residence. A Kennel License is required for any household that exceeds this threshold.

(j) Pet owners and Community Cat Caregivers are prohibited from leaving pet food and food bowls unattended or during hours of darkness for pets or Community Cats, unless kept in a secured enclosed kennel with a roof or in cases where food is placed inside a trap in an effort to capture an animal. Pet owners and Community Cat Caregivers must make every effort to minimize the impact on local wildlife, which includes, but is not limited to, storing pet food in

a secure area that does not attract local wildlife. Pet owners and Community Cat Caregivers who reside in area that is a designated Urban Bear Management Area, as defined in Chapter 258 of this Code, must store pet food in a Secured Structure or in a Residential Bear Resistant Refuse Container. Measures must be taken to mitigate problems with other residents including, but not limited to, discarding food that is left over to prevent it from becoming rancid and attracting pests. Feeding areas must be kept free of debris. If feeding is being conducted on another's property, consent must be obtained from the property owner.

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## **PART 2. ENFORCEMENT OF ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE**

### **ARTICLE 1. CITATION ISSUANCE**

\* \* \*

#### **Sec. 20.136. Violations; issuance of citations; mandatory court appearance.**

(a) Noncriminal infractions of the Animal Control Ordinance for which citations may be issued include but are not limited to:

(1) Unlawful interference with any Animal Control Official or his or her employee in the performance of their duties. (Section 20.10, SCC)

(2) Animals at large. (Section 20.17, SCC)

(3) Animals that defecate on private or public property. (Section 20.18, SCC)

(4) Animals that repeatedly or excessively bark, cry, howl, whine, or cause other objectionable noises which disturb the comfort, peace, quiet or repose of any person residing in the vicinity excluding property classified as Agricultural by the Seminole County Property Appraiser or noises from a commercial kennel building. (Section 20.19, SCC)

438 (5) Animals that damage or destroy property; or injure a person or animal.  
(Section 20.20, SCC)

440 (6) Offensive odors from animal or the premises that extend beyond the  
property line upon which the animal is maintained which disturb the comfort, peace or repose of  
442 any reasonable person residing in the vicinity, excluding odors caused by livestock animals in  
properties zoned for agricultural purposes. (Section 20.21, SCC)

444 (7) Failure to confine any dangerous dog. (Section 20.23, SCC)

(8) Failure to comply with Dangerous Dog Certificate of Registration  
446 requirements. (Section 20.28, SCC)

(9) Failure to comply with Aggressive Dog certificate requirements.  
448 (Section 20.31(d), SCC)

(10) Failure to have rabies-susceptible animal vaccinated. (Section 20.51,  
450 SCC)

~~(11) Failure to register rabies-susceptible animal with the Animal Control~~  
452 ~~Official and obtain an animal license. (Section 20.52, SCC)~~

~~(12) Failure to wear required license tag by the rabies-susceptible animal.~~  
454 ~~(Section 20.57, SCC)~~

~~(13)~~(11) Failure to impound rabies-susceptible animal suspected of having  
456 rabies or placing the animal in custody of a licensed veterinarian. (Section 20.58, SCC)

~~(14)~~(12) Failure to register kennel with the Animal Control Official and obtain  
458 a license. (Section 20.71, SCC)

~~(15)~~(13) Improper disposition of dead animals. (Section 20.36, SCC)

460           ~~(16)~~(14) Prohibited retail sale of dogs and cats in public places.  
(Section 20.183, SCC)

462           ~~(17)~~(15) Prohibited retail sale of dogs and cats in a pet shop.  
(Section 20.182, SCC)

464           ~~(18)~~(16) Prohibited inhumane treatment of wild or exotic animals on display.  
(Section 20.16(b), SCC)

466           ~~(19)~~(17) Prohibited Backyard Breeding. (Section 20.185, SCC)

~~(20)~~(18) The foregoing violations endeavor to include all noncriminal  
468 infractions currently contained in Chapter 20, Seminole County Code (Animal Control  
Ordinance), but do not purport to be all inclusive. Any noncriminal infraction subsequently  
470 included in Chapter 20, Seminole County Code, or its successor may be enforced by enforcement  
officers or any law enforcement officer and they are authorized to issue citations for violations  
472 of subsequently included noncriminal infractions without further amendment to this Part.

\*       \*       \*

474       **Section 3. Codification.** It is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners that  
the provisions of this Ordinance will become and be made a part of the Seminole County Code,  
476 and that the word “ordinance” may be changed to “section”, “article”, or other appropriate word  
or phrase and the sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or re-lettered to accomplish such  
478 intention, except that Sections 1, 3, 4 and 5 of this Ordinance are not to be codified.

**Section 4. Severability.** If any provision or application of this Ordinance to any person  
480 or circumstance is held invalid, then it is the intent of the Board of County Commissioners that  
such invalidity will not affect other provisions or applications of this Ordinance that can be given

effect without the invalid provision or application and, to this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are declared severable.

**Section 5. Effective date.** This Ordinance will take effect upon filing a copy of this Ordinance with the Department of State by the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners.

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Seminole County, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

\_\_\_\_\_  
GRANT MALOY  
Clerk to the Board of  
County Commissioners of  
Seminole County, Florida

\_\_\_\_\_  
BOB DALLARI, Chairman

DTE/sjs  
6/7/22  
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