

Wake County Animal Ordinances Piedmont Region	Brunswick County Animal Ordinances Coastal Plain Region	Jackson County Animal Ordinances Mountain Region
<p><b>Sec. 91.05. Cruelty to animals:</b> The abuse, injury, deprivation of necessary sustenance and shelter, abandonment, or killing of any animal.</p> <p><b>Sec. 91.04. General duties of keepers of animals:</b> The breeding or reproduction of a diseased animal.</p>	<p><b>Sec. 1-3-103. General care and prohibited acts:</b> Requires all animal owners to keep and treat every non-human species, both domestic and wild, under sanitary and humane conditions to include providing food, water and clean shelter.</p> <p>Requires animal owners to provide proper medical attention for sick, diseased or injured animals within twenty-four (24) hours.</p> <p>Prohibits animal cruelty; illegal contest or combat; poisoning of animals; confining animals to motor vehicles or transporting animals for a potentially harmful duration of time; and abandoning animals.</p> <p>Requires the proper disposal of dead animals within twenty-four (24) hours after knowledge of death.</p> <p>Requires anyone who injures or kills a domestic animal, to include running over, into or otherwise striking with a motor vehicle or bicycle, to notify the owner, if known, immediately. If the owner is not known, the person responsible for injuring the animal must immediately notify the sheriff and provide his name and address.</p> <p>Requires anyone who finds an injured or suffering animal on his property to report the same to the sheriff immediately.</p> <p>Prohibits any live animal from being given away, raffled or offered as a prize, premium or advertising device for, or as an inducement, to enter, any contest, game or other competition involving skill or chance.</p> <p>Requires the public exhibit of animals to be in compliance with this Section and permits the sheriff to inspect and close down any exhibit for failure to comply.</p>	<p><b>Sec. 6.5. Cruelty to animals:</b> (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to keep animals under inhumane conditions. (b) Any animal which is found to have been treated in such a manner as is made unlawful by this section may be taken up and impounded by the animal control officer.</p>

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	<p>Prohibits tethering unless the dog is over six (6) months of age and has a minimum of ten (10) feet of perpendicular travel; the tether is attached to the dog with a buckled collar or body harness; the tether weighs no more than ten (10) percent of the animal's body weight; and one end of the tether must be a swivel to prevent entanglement. Prohibits tethering with a choke-type collar or pronged collar.</p> <p>Dogs used for hunting, sporting or as working dogs are exempt from these restraint requirements. Agencies conducting biomedical research or training; lawful activities for sport; the production of livestock or poultry for sale as consumer product; and the lawful destruction of any animal for the purpose of protecting livestock, poultry or humans are exempt from this Article.</p> <p><b>Sec. 1-3-104. Failure to report animal cruelty:</b> Requires anyone with knowledge of animal cruelty to immediately report such acts to the sheriff.</p>	
<p><b>Sec. 91.30. Compliance with State law for control of rabies:</b> Failing to comply with State law relating to the control of rabies.</p> <p><b>Sec. 91.31. Inoculation of dogs, cats and other animals:</b> Failing to provide current inoculation against rabies for any dog, cat, or ferret four months of age or older, or for any other pet should it be deemed necessary by County public health staff.</p> <p><b>Sec. 91.32. Inoculation tag and proof of vaccination for dogs and cats:</b> The owner of a dog failing to provide the dog with a collar upon which to attach the numbered metallic tag indicating when the dog has been inoculated against rabies.</p>	<p><b>Sec. 1-3-52. Vaccination for rabies:</b> Requires owners of dogs and cats to have said animals vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian or certified rabies vaccinator with a vaccine approved by the USDA and state commission for health services; to ensure that the animal wears the rabies tag at all times; and to be able to produce a current rabies vaccination certificate upon request. Requires that the veterinarian or certified rabies vaccinator mail the vaccination certificate to the sheriff within forty-five (45) days of the animal being vaccinated unless the sheriff has implemented another method for collecting vaccination certificates. If vaccinated outside the county, requires owners to file the rabies vaccination certificate with animal services within five (5) days of the inoculation or within five (5) days of their return to the local area.</p>	<p><b>Sec. 6-4. Vaccination for rabies:</b> (a) Every dog or cat located in the county, over the age of four months, must be vaccinated for rabies. The owner is responsible for to keep the vaccinations for rabies up to date. (b) Failure to keep a cat's or dog's rabies vaccination can result in fines.</p> <p><b>Sec. 6-18. Rabies control:</b> (a) It shall be unlawful for any dog or cat owner or other person to fail to comply with the state laws relating to the control of rabies.</p>

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<p><b>Sec. 91.32. Inoculation tag and proof of vaccination for dogs and cats:</b> Unlawful to use for an animal a rabies inoculation tag issued for another animal.</p> <p><b>Sec. 91.32. Inoculation tag and proof of vaccination for dogs and cats:</b> The owner of a dog or cat failing to provide written proof that he animal has a current rabies inoculation when Wake County Animal Control demands written proof.</p> <p><b>Sec. 91.34. Report and confinement of animals biting persons or showing symptoms of rabies:</b> Failing to report as soon as possible that an animal has bitten a person and failing to inform Wake County Animal Control of the whereabouts of an animal that has bitten a person.</p> <p><b>Sec. 91.38. Unlawful killing, releasing and the like of certain animals:</b> Killing or releasing: (i) any animal under observation for rabies, (ii) any animal suspected of having been exposed to rabies, or (iii) any animal that has bitten a human, or (iv) to remove the animal from the county without permission from the Animal Control Section.</p> <p><b>Sec. 91.39. Failure to surrender animal for quarantine or euthanasia:</b> Failing or refusing to surrender any animal for quarantine or euthanasia.</p>		
<p><b>Sec. 91.16. Required notification of Animal Control Section by owners of dangerous dog or potentially dangerous dog:</b> The owner of a dog that has been designated a “Dangerous Dog” or “Potentially Dangerous Dog” by Wake County Animal Control failing to: (i) restrain the dog on the owner’ real property either inside the house, within a secure enclosure, or within a solid, physical fence at least 6 feet tall and in the presence of an adult, (ii) have the dog on a leash controlled by a competent adult and muzzled when the dog is off the owner’s real property, or (iii) inform Wake County Animal Control no later than 24 hours after such dog assaults, attacks, or bites a human,</p>	<p><b>Sec. 1-3-353. Determination of dangerousness:</b> Prohibits a person from filing a false complaint about a dangerous dog.</p> <p><b>Sec. 1-3-354. Confinement and restraint of a dangerous dog:</b> Requires the owner of a dangerous dog, as defined in this Article, to keep the dangerous dog within a secure enclosure on his property or on the property of another with written permission and, if on the owner’s property, secured by appropriate restraint and firmly under control at all times. When the dog is not on the owner’s property, the dog shall be</p>	<p><b>Sec. 6.17. Control of dangerous dogs:</b> (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to keep any dangerous dog within the county unless it is confined within a fully enclosed pen (wireless fencing is not considered acceptable for a fully enclosed pen), or is securely under restraint by means of a leash or chain and firmly under the control of an adult at all times. The premises on which any animal under this section is confined shall be clearly marked with a warning sign.</p>

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attacks or bites any domesticated animal or pet while at large, or escapes.	<p>secured by muzzle and other appropriate restraint and firmly under control at all times. Requires the owner of a dangerous dog to notify animal protective services immediately if the dog escapes. Requires the owner of a dangerous dog to have the dog micro-chipped by a licensed veterinarian within ten (10) business days at owner’s expense and to provide animal protective services with the identification number. Requires the owner of a dangerous dog to purchase a sign from animal protective services that reads, “DANGEROUS DOG” and to post the sign on the enclosure where the dog is confined. Certain exemptions apply to dogs used by law enforcement officers and for lawful hunting or herding or in the event an injury is inflicted while a person was committing a willful trespass or tort or was tormenting, abusing or assaulting the dog.</p> <p><b>Sec. 1-3-355. Transfer of ownership of a dangerous dog:</b> Requires the owner of a dangerous dog who transfers ownership or possession of the dog to another person to provide written notice to the new owner or person taking possession that the dog is dangerous and to provide written notice to animal protective services that ownership is being transferred prior to the transfer.</p> <p><b>Sec. 1-3-53. Bites:</b> Requires any person with knowledge of a dog or cat inflicting a wound to notify the health director and the sheriff of such bite and provide the names and addresses of the person(s) bitten and the names and addresses of the owner(s) of any animals involved, if known. Requires every physician who treats a wound inflicted by any animal known to be a potential carrier of rabies to report the incident to the county health director and the sheriff and provide the names and addresses of the person(s) bitten and the owner(s) of any animals involved, if known, within twenty-four (24) hours of rendering treatment. Requires that biting dogs and cats or any</p>	

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	<p>animal suspected of having rabies be confined immediately. Requires that animals who have bitten a human being be delivered within eight (8) hours of the incident, by the owner, to the county animal shelter or licensed veterinary hospital for confinement of a period not less than ten (10) days. Requires that an animal suspected of having rabies be confined by the owner or possessor until further instructed by the county health director.</p>	
<p><b>Sec. 97.07. Animals at large:</b> The owner of an animal allowing the animal to be at large off the owner's real property when not under the restraint of a competent person (except for hunting dogs in the course of hunting). The owner or person having possession, custody, or control of a dog allowing the dog to enter any public park without being on a leash (unless the park is a dog park). The owner or person having possession, custody or control of a female dog or female cat allowing the dog or cat to be at large during its estrus period.</p>	<p><b>Sec. 1-3-153. Animals at large:</b> Requires owners of all animals, both domestic and wild (except cats), to keep said animals under appropriate restraint at all times.</p> <p><b>Sec. 1-3-203. Female cats in estrus:</b> Requires owners of female domestic felines in estrus to secure the female feline within a building or secure enclosure.</p> <p><b>Sec. 1-3-154. Female dog in estrus:</b> Requires owners of female dogs in estrus to secure the female dog within a building or secure enclosure.</p>	<p><b>Sec. 6.16. Animals creating a nuisance:</b> (a) It shall be unlawful for an owner to permit an animal to run at large if such animal is reported as creating a public nuisance as defined in section 6-1.</p>
<p><b>Sec. 91.08. Animals creating nuisance:</b> The owning, keeping, possessing, or maintaining of an animal in a manner that creates a nuisance by: (i) habitually disturbing or interfering with humans; (ii) tipping over garbage pails or damaging flowers, gardens or vegetables; (iii) failing to confine in a building or secure enclosure a female dog while in estrus; (iv) barking, whining, howling, or yowling in a continuous or untimely fashion, or making other noise that results in a serious annoyance or interference with the reasonable use and enjoyment of neighboring premises; (v) chasing, snapping at, or otherwise molesting pedestrians, bicyclists, motor vehicle passengers, or farm stock or domestic animals; (vi) habitually loitering on public places, or (vii) is diseased and dangerous to the health of the public unless under the care of a licensed veterinarian.</p>	<p><b>Sec. 1-3-202. Cat nuisance:</b> Requires owners of domestic felines to be responsible for any cat that creates a nuisance, as defined in this Article.</p> <p><b>Sec. 1-3-253. Animal creating a nuisance:</b> Requires the owner of all animals, both domestic and wild (except cats), to be responsible for any animal that creates a nuisance, as defined in this Article.</p> <p><b>Sec. 1-3-254. Animal housed or restrained less than 15 feet from public way:</b> Prohibits any animal from being housed or restrained less than fifteen (15) feet from a public street, road or sidewalk if, in the discretion of animal protective services,</p>	

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	it is deemed a public nuisance due to posing a threat to the general safety, health and welfare of the general public.	
<b>Sec. 91.18. Teasing and molesting:</b> Teasing or molesting any animal.		<b>Sec. 6.13. Luring, enticing, seizing, molesting, or teasing a dog or cat:</b> (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to entice or lure any dog or cat out of an enclosure or off the property of its owner or keeper, or to seize, molest, or tease any dog or cat while the dog or cat is held or controlled by its owner or keeper or while the dog or cat is on the property of its owner or keeper.
	<p><b>Sec. 1-3-302. Keeping stray animals:</b> Prohibits a person from harboring, feeding or keeping in possession by confinement or otherwise any stray animal unless said person has, within seventy-two (72) hours from the time the animal came into possession, notified animal protective services.</p> <p><b>Sec. 1-3-303. Refusal to surrender a stray animal:</b> Prohibits a person from refusing to surrender a stray animal to animal protective services upon demand.</p>	<b>Sec. 6.11. Keeping stray dogs and cats:</b> (a) For the protection of the citizens it shall be unlawful for any person in the county to knowingly and intentionally harbor, feed, keep in possession by confinement, or otherwise allow to remain on his property, any dog or cat which does not belong to said person, unless he has, within 72 hours from the time such dog or cat came into his possession, done one of the following: (1) Notified the animal's owner, animal control, or person duly authorized by animal control. Upon receiving such notice, animal control shall impound such dog or cat and place it in animal shelter as a stray. (2) Become the owner or keeper of the dog or cat by taking it to a veterinarian for rabies inoculation and check for disease and notified animal control.
<b>Sec. 91.14. Requirements for attack training facility:</b> Training dogs in mode of attack at any location where the training is not conducted within a fence or structure of adequate height to prevent the dog from jumping, climbing, or otherwise escaping.	<p><b>Sec. 1-3-501. Trapping:</b> Prohibits any person from trapping, by cage or mechanical device, a dog or cat without the written permission of animal services. Prohibits any person from releasing a dog or cat from a trap set by animal services or a person who has written permission from animal services. Requires a person who lawfully apprehends an animal by hand on his property to call animal services within twenty-four (24) hours of doing so.</p> <p><b>Sec. 1-3-403. Permit required to own or harbor a wild or exotic animal or a poisonous reptile:</b> Requires the owner of</p>	<p><b>Sec. 6.12. Collar and identification:</b> (a) Every owner is required to ensure that his dog is wearing a collar with the owner's name and address stamped on it or otherwise firmly attached to it.</p> <p><b>Sec. 6-14. Leaching of dogs:</b> Dogs not on a leach on county park property.</p> <p><b>Sec. 6-15. Selling or disposing of animals in public places:</b> a) Animals must not be displayed in a public place for the purpose of selling or giving away the animal.</p>



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	<p>a wild or exotic animal or poisonous reptile to: (1) obtain and maintain all required permits (whether temporary or annual, as determined by the sheriff); (2) complete an application supplied by animal protective services requiring specific information relative to the wild or exotic animal or poisonous reptile; (3) upon completion of the application, allow the sheriff to inspect the enclosure or confinement facility to determine its adequateness for the particular species and whether such enclosure or confinement facility may be maintained in a sanitary manner and in a way so as not to cause injury to the animal or persons who come onto the premises; (4) timely renew all annual permits; (5) pay the requisite permit fee; (6) not attempt to transfer any permit; and (7) display the permit in a prominent place on or near the enclosure or confinement facility. Certain exemptions apply to non-profit institutions licensed by the Department of Agriculture or Interior which own or harbor wild and exotic animals or poisonous reptiles for research or educational purposes; owners of non-poisonous reptiles, rodents, fish or birds; pet shops; and traveling fairs, circuses and carnivals.</p> <p><b>Sec. 1-3-405. Cages, pens and enclosures:</b> Requires the owner of a wild or exotic animal or poisonous reptile to confine said animals in primary and secondary cages, pens and enclosures in a size and height and constructed of materials as set forth in this Article (the requirements are dependent upon various animal breeds or hybrids thereof). Requires the owner to notify county animal services immediately of the escape of such animal.</p> <p><b>Sec. 1-3-406. Necessary equipment and chemicals:</b> Requires the owner of a wild or exotic animal or poisonous reptile to have on hand at all times sufficient equipment and chemicals necessary to tranquilize, or kill if necessary, any animal or reptile for which a permit has been granted.</p>	

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<b>Sec. 91.20. Interference with enforcement of chapter:</b> Interfering with any Wake County Animal Control officers or veterinarians in the performance of their duty or releasing any animal in the custody of Animal Control.	<b>Sec. 1-3-451. Interference:</b> Prohibits any person from interfering with, hindering or molesting the sheriff, deputy sheriff, animal protective services officer, employee, agent, volunteer, veterinarian or any other duly authorized individual while in the performance of duty. Prohibits any person from seeking to release, attempting to release or releasing any animal in the custody of animal protective services, except as otherwise permitted.	<b>Sec. 6-19. Interference with enforcement:</b> (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with, hinder, or molest an animal control officer or veterinarian in the performance of any duty authorized by this chapter, or to seek to release any animal in the custody of such officers, except as otherwise specifically provided. (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to kill or release any dog or cat under observation for rabies, any dog or cat suspected of having been exposed to rabies, or any dog or cat having bitten a human, or to remove such dog or cat from the county without written permission from animal control and the county health director.