Information on Dogs in CBTB Lancaster County Ordinances

• Sec. 10-42. - Running at large generally.

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All dog owners are prohibited from permitting their dogs to run at large within the county from May 1 to September 1 of each year. For the purpose of this section, a dog shall be deemed to run at large while roaming, running or self-hunting off the property of its owner or custodian and not under its owner's or custodian's immediate control. Any person who permits his dog to run at large, or remain unconfined, unrestricted or not penned up shall be deemed to have violated the provisions of this section. (Res. of 5-7-41)

State Law reference— Similar provisions, Code of Virginia, §§ 3.1-796.93, 3.1-796.128.

• Sec. 10-43. - Vicious dogs running at large.

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It shall be the duty of any animal warden or any citizen seeing or finding any dog, which is off the property of its owner or custodian, in the act of biting, injuring, worrying, chasing or threatening the safety of any person, to apply to a justice of the peace of the county who shall issue a warrant requiring the owner or custodian, if known, to appear before a judge of the county court at a time and place fixed therein, at which time evidence shall be heard and if it appears that such a dog is in the habit of or has in fact bitten, injured, worried, chased or threatened the safety of or has committed any of the depredations mentioned in this section, the dog shall be ordered put in such restraint by the owner or custodian as shall effectively prevent the repetition of such acts or depredations. Further, the animal warden shall take custody of the dog found in the act of biting, injuring, chasing or threatening the safety of any person and hold the same pending the court determination. If a second complaint shall be brought by the process outlined above, the dog may be ordered destroyed, which the animal warden or other officer designated by the judge to act, shall do.

(Ord. of 2-23-82; Ord. of 3-9-82)

State Law reference— Similar provisions, Code of Virginia, § 3.1-796.100.

Lancaster County Animal Control Warden James H. Abbott Michelle Lackert 804-462-7175