

The Philadelphia Code - TITLE 10. REGULATION OF INDIVIDUAL CONDUCT AND ACTIVITY

§ 10-114. Animal Care – Requirements for Animal Owners and Kennels. 39

(1) Every person who owns any animal or who owns, conducts, manages or operates any kennel shall comply with all of the following conditions:

(a) Buildings and enclosures in which animals are kept shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition to control odors and prevent the spread of disease. Enclosures shall be kept in good repair.

(b) Animals shall be supplied with appropriate food and potable water, free from contaminants, as often as the feeding habits of the respective animals require.

(c) Animals shall not be neglected, abused, or mistreated, and no condition that presents an immediate threat to the welfare of an animal may be maintained.

(d) No animal shall be allowed to constitute or cause a hazard, or be a menace to the health, peace or safety of the community.

(2) Every person who owns, conducts, manages or operates any kennel shall, in addition to the requirements of subsection (1), comply with all of the following conditions:

(a) All facilities and animal enclosures shall be constructed so as to prevent escape of animals, restrict the entrance of other animals, and protect the animals from injury, and shall be kept structurally sound and in good repair. All facilities, including areas where animals are kept, must be equipped with working smoke alarms and shall have a means of fire suppression on the premises. Animals shall be afforded appropriate shelter from the elements at all times.

(b) All animal enclosures, including, but not limited to rooms, cages, kennels and kennel runs, shall be of sufficient size to provide adequate and proper accommodations for the animals kept therein. An enclosure with a wire bottom may never be used. Enclosures shall be securely placed and fastened so that there is no danger of an enclosure falling; the animals do not have direct access to one another; and waste from one enclosure cannot be transmitted to another. Food and water containers must be secured to prevent spillage. Crates may be stacked no more than two high.

(c) Animals shall be directly observed at least once every 12 hours. Whenever any animal is left unattended, the telephone number of the Animal Control Agency, and the name, address and telephone number of the responsible person, shall be posted in a conspicuous place at the front of the property. Kennels that breed 51 or more dogs or cats in a year shall provide staffing at least eighteen (18) hours per day.

(d) Sick animals shall be isolated so as not to endanger the health of other animals. Animals shall be vaccinated as required by law. Newborn animals and new animals introduced into a kennel shall receive a wellness examination from a licensed veterinarian within three calendar days after entry into the kennel.

(e) Animals shall be so maintained as to eliminate excessive and nighttime noise.

(3) In addition to the requirements of subsections (1) and (2), any person who owns or has possession, custody or control of a dog shall not allow the animal to remain outdoors (except for brief walks and brief periods of exercise) whenever a Code Blue, Code Grey or Code Red weather emergency has been declared by the City. 40

(a) A dog shall be considered outdoors unless the dog has access to a doghouse or structure that is in good repair and complies with the following requirements:

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(.1) It shall be of a suitable size to accommodate the dog in both standing and lying positions;

(.2) It shall be moisture-proof, windproof, ventilated, and in cold temperatures shall promote the retention of body heat;

(.3) It shall be made of durable material with a solid, moisture-proof floor raised at least two inches from the ground;

(.4) It shall have a sufficient quantity of suitable clean bedding material consisting of hay, straw, cedar shavings or the equivalent to provide insulation and protection against cold and dampness;

(.5) Drinking water is available in a clean, liquid state. Snow or ice is not an acceptable water source;

(.6) The doghouse or similar structure and the surrounding area shall be free from excessive dirt,

trash and waste;

(.7) In Code Blue and Code Grey situations (relating to extreme cold temperatures), in addition to the requirements set forth in subsections (3)(a)(.1) through (.6), the doghouse or similar structure shall have a windbreak at the entrance; and

(.8) In Code Red situations (relating to extreme heat), in addition to the requirements set forth in subsections (3)(a)(.1) through (.6), all dogs must be afforded one or more separate areas of shade large enough to accommodate the entire body of the dog at one time and protect it from the direct rays of the sun.