WAUKESHA COUNTY DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
515 W Moreland Blvd, Rm AC 260, Waukesha, WI 53188 Tel: (262) 896-8300 Fax: (262) 896-8298
www.waukeshacounty.gov/rabies Email: humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov

ANIMAL QUARANTINE PROCEDURES

Dogs that **Do Not** have a current rabies vaccination are **NOT eligible** for a home quarantine and must be quarantined at a facility.

Procedures to follow when home quarantine is allowed per Wisconsin State Statutes 93.07(10) and 95.21(10)(b):

1. During quarantine, the animal must be kept in strict isolation which means away from non-family members and non-family animals. It must be kept in a facility where it cannot escape or be stolen. Adults are to be the primary caregivers of the animal. At a minimum, there are at least 10 days of quarantine beginning from the date of the bite. There must be three examinations of the quarantined animal by a professional.

   - Under Waukesha County's local rabies control program, a County Humane Officer can make two observations of the quarantined animal with the third observation made by a licensed veterinarian on Day 10 or 11 post-incident. **The quarantine ends only when the veterinarian signs the release papers**.

   - Alternatively, all 3 observations can be done by a veterinarian, with the final exam on day 10 or 11 after the bite. It is the responsibility of the owner (owner is defined as a person who owns, harbors, keeps or controls an animal) to make the appropriate appointments with the veterinarian for the required examination(s) and to pay for all professional fees. The isolation facility must be approved by the Humane Officer.

2. If the quarantined animal's behavior or appearance changes or if the animal becomes ill or dies, you must notify the department immediately by telephoning 262-896-8300. On weekends or after normal working hours telephone the Waukesha County Communications at 262-446-5070 to contact the Humane Officer.

3. If the quarantined animal is a dog, it must be leashed while outside to relieve itself and remain on keeper's property, with no walks or car rides. If the quarantined animal is a cat or ferret, it cannot be allowed to go outside at all. Do not risk the animal running away, getting injured or coming in contact with something that would cause it to become ill.

Animals can **NOT** be vaccinated for rabies or any other vaccinations during the quarantine. **If your dog is unvaccinated for rabies, it must be vaccinated at the time of release from quarantine**. Ask your veterinarian to fax your quarantine release and proof of rabies vaccination to the county's rabies control office. **All dog owners must obtain/possess a current dog license each year**. Licenses are available at your city/town/village hall.

Some municipalities require cats to have a current rabies vaccination and cat license. Cats and ferrets may be vaccinated for rabies at the time of release from quarantine and obtain a license if required by the municipality.

Failure of an owner to comply with an order to quarantine may result in a fine of not less than $100 nor more than $1,000 or imprisonment up to 60 days or both. Each day of violation is considered a separate offense.
Failure to vaccinate an animal against rabies may result in a fine of not less than $50 nor more than $100.

YOU MAY NOT MEDICATE WITHOUT VETERINARY SUPERVISION OR DISPOSE OF THE ANIMAL IN ANY WAY DURING THE QUARANTINE. THE ANIMAL SHALL NOT BE SOLD, GIVEN AWAY, DESTROYED OR REMOVED FROM PREMISES WITHOUT THE WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE HUMANE OFFICER.

Thank you for your cooperation.

_____ _____
Animal Owner/ Keeper Date

_____ _____
Humane Officer Date

updated 09/2020