

Cherokee County Animal Control Ordinance

ARTICLE I.

Section 1. Definitions

Animal Boarding Facility/ Shelter: Any premises designated by the county for the purpose of impounding and caring for all animals found running at large or otherwise subject to impounding in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance and may include any animal shelter contracted by the Board of Commissioners.

At Large: Any animal shall be deemed to be at large when he is off the property of its owner and not under restraint of a competent person.

Attack: An approach to a person by an unrestrained animal in a vicious, terrorizing or threatening manner or apparent attitude of attack, without the animal having been teased, molested, provoked, beaten, tortured, or otherwise harmed.

Attack Training Facility: Any person, group of persons, partnership or corporation engaged in boarding, breeding, selling or training dogs or other animals in mode of attack.

Dangerous Animal: Any animal that has demonstrated a fierce or dangerous propensity or tendency to do any act which may endanger persons or property and/or any non-domesticated animal indigenous to the state of North Carolina including hybrid animals that are part wild. This would include but not be limited to any dog which has (1) assaulted, bitten, attacked or inflicted serious injury on a human being without provocation on public and/or private property and/or (2) which has killed or injured a pet or domestic animal without provocation.

Exceptions: No dog is dangerous pursuant to this definition if at the time the threat, injury or damage was sustained, the person attacked was teasing, tormenting, abusing or assaulting the dog, or has in the past teased, tormented, abused or assaulted the dog or was committing or attempting to commit a crime. Nor shall a dog be considered dangerous pursuant to this definition if it has attacked or injured a pet or domesticated animal in defense of an attack by another animal or if it is protecting or defending its young.

Dealer: Any person who is licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a dealer.

Domestic Animal: Any of various animals as horses, sheep, cattle, goats, hogs, poultry, etc; domesticated by man so as to live and breed in a tame condition.

Exhibitor: Any person who is licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as an exhibitor.

Exposed to Rabies: An animal has been exposed to rabies within the meaning of this ordinance, if it has been bitten by, or been exposed to, any animal known or suspected to have been infected with rabies.

Inherently Dangerous Mammal: Inherently dangerous mammal is any live member of the canidae, felidae, or ursidae families, including hybrids thereof, which, due to their inherent nature, may be considered dangerous to humans and which include:

1. **Canidae**, including any member of the dog (canid) family not customarily domesticated by man, or any hybrids thereof, including wolf hybrids which are a cross between a wolf and a domestic dog, but not including domestic dogs (Canis Familiaris).

