

Section 5. Kennels

(ART. 13 -04/29/13)

A. Personal Kennel (Kennel A)

1. License optional (Kennel A-1). An owner or keeper of four or fewer dogs, three months or older, may elect to secure a Personal Kennel License from the Town Clerk rather than licensing each dog under Section 4, above.
2. License mandatory (Kennel A-2). An owner or keeper of five or more dogs, three months or older, must secure a Personal Kennel License from the Town Clerk or other type of kennel license as may be applicable under this section.
3. Definition. A Personal Kennel is a pack or collection of five or more dogs (or fewer dogs, as in the case of a License-Optional Personal Kennel (Kennel A-1) as defined above at Section 5.A.1), three months or older, owned or kept under single ownership for private personal purposes.
4. Breeding. Breeding of dogs owned or kept under a Personal Kennel License may be done only for the purpose of improving, exhibiting, or showing the breed; for legal sporting activity; or for other personal reasons.
5. Sales allowed. Dogs bred at a Personal Kennel may be sold, traded, bartered, or otherwise distributed only by private sale to other breeders or individuals and not to wholesalers, brokers, or pet shops.
6. Sales prohibited, restricted. No holder of a Personal Kennel License may sell, trade, barter, or otherwise distribute any dog not bred from a personally owned dog, except dogs temporarily housed at a Personal Kennel in conjunction with an animal shelter or rescue program registered with the state Department of Agricultural Resources if the sale, trade, barter, or other distribution is not for profit.

B. Other Types of Kennels.

1. Commercial Boarding or Training Kennel (Kennel B) is an establishment used for boarding, holding, day care, overnight stays, or training of animals that are not the property of the owner of the establishment where such services are rendered for a fee or other consideration and generally rendered in the absence of the owner of the animal. A "Commercial Boarding or Training Kennel" shall not include an animal shelter or animal control facility, a pet shop licensed by the state Director of Animal Health, a grooming facility operated solely for the purpose of grooming animals and not for overnight boarding, or an individual who temporarily and not in the normal course of business boards or otherwise cares for animals owned by others.
2. Commercial Breeder Kennel (Kennel C) is an establishment, other than a Personal Kennel, engaged in the business of breeding animals for sale or exchange to wholesalers, brokers, or pet shops for a fee or other consideration.
3. Domestic Charitable Corporation Kennel (Kennel D) is a facility operated, owned, or maintained by a domestic charitable corporation registered with the state Department of Agricultural Resources or an animal welfare society or other nonprofit organization incorporated for the purpose of providing for and promoting the welfare, protection, and humane treatment of animals, including a veterinary hospital or clinic operated by or under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian that operates consistent with such purposes while providing veterinary treatment and care.
4. Veterinary Kennel (Kennel E) is a veterinary hospital or clinic that boards dogs for reasons in addition to medical treatment and care; a "Veterinary Kennel" shall not include a hospital or clinic used solely to house dogs that have undergone veterinary treatment or observation or will do so only for the period of time necessary to accomplish that veterinary case.

C. License Requirements

1. License required. A person or entity maintaining any type of kennel listed in this section (except a License-Optional Personal Kennel (Kennel A-1) as defined above at Section 5.A.1) shall obtain the appropriate kennel license from the Town Clerk and in accordance with procedures that the Town Clerk shall determine.
2. Renewal. Licenses issued under this section shall be renewed periodically in accordance with a schedule and

procedures to be determined by the Town Clerk.

3. License fees, calculation, and exemption. The fees for licenses issued under this section will be established by the Town Clerk. For purposes of calculating kennel license fees, only dogs over the age of six months shall be counted in the total number of dogs kept in a kennel. No kennel license fee shall be charged to a domestic charitable corporation incorporated exclusively for the purpose of protecting animals from cruelty, neglect, abuse, or suffering.

4. Licensing inspection. No kennel license shall be issued or renewed until a kennel has passed inspection by the Town Animal Control Officer or designee.

5. Failure to comply, penalty. Failure to comply with the licensing requirements of this section shall be punishable by a fine of \$50.

D. Kennel Operation.

1. Standards. Kennels must be operated and maintained in a sanitary and humane manner.

2. Records. The name and address of the owner of each dog kept in a kennel, other than dogs belonging to the person maintaining the kennel, shall be kept at the kennel and available for inspection at any time.

3. Kennel tags. A holder of a kennel license shall cause each dog kept in its kennel to wear, while in the kennel, a collar or harness of suitable material to which a tag shall be securely attached. This tag shall be inscribed with the number of the kennel license, name of the Town of Arlington, and year of issue. Such tags shall be issued by the Town Clerk in such number as the number of dogs kept in the kennel.

4. Inspections. The Select Board, the Chief of Police, the Animal Control Officer or the agent of any of these ("Inspecting Authority") may inspect any kennel at any time for compliance with the above requirements.

5. License suspension, revocation. If the Inspecting Authority determines that the kennel is not being maintained in a sanitary or humane manner or if records are not properly kept, the Inspecting Authority may revoke or suspend the kennel license.

E. Citizen Complaints.

1. **Filing.** Twenty-five citizens of the Town may file a petition with the Select Board stating that they are aggrieved or annoyed to an unreasonable extent due to excessive barking or other conditions associated with a kennel.

2. **Hearing.** Within seven days of the filing of such petition, the Select Board shall give notice to all interested parties of a public hearing concerning the petition to be held within fourteen days after the date of the notice.

3. **Investigation.** At the hearing, the Select Board may cause an investigation of the kennel that is the subject of the petition or take such other action as it deems prudent.

4. **Disposition.** Following the public hearing and any investigation or other proceedings, the Select Board may suspend or revoke the kennel license, may take other such action to regulate the kennel that it deems prudent, or may dismiss the petition. The Select Board shall cause written notice of any order issued under this section to be mailed immediately to the holder of the kennel license and the Town Clerk.

5. **Appeal.** Within ten days of the issuance of any order under this paragraph, the holder of the affected license may bring a petition for judicial review in the district court for the judicial district in which the kennel is located, which shall consider the petition in accordance with Section 137C of Chapter 140 of the General Laws.

6. **Penalties.** A person maintaining a kennel after revocation or during suspension of a license under this section shall be punished by a fine of \$250."

Part I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT**Title XX** PUBLIC SAFETY AND GOOD ORDER**Chapter 140** LICENSES**Section 137C** INSPECTION OF KENNELS; REVOCATION, SUSPENSION AND REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSE; NUISANCE

Section 137C. The mayor of a city, the selectmen of a town, the police commissioner in the city of Boston, a chief of police or an animal control officer may at any time inspect a kennel or cause the inspection of a kennel. If, in the judgment of such person or body, the kennel is not being maintained in a sanitary and humane manner or if records are not properly kept as required by law, such person or body shall, by order, revoke or suspend the license for the kennel. Upon the petition of 25 citizens, filed with the mayor of a city, the selectmen of a town or the police commissioner in the city of Boston setting forth a statement that such citizens are aggrieved or annoyed to an unreasonable extent by a dog maintained in such city or town due to excessive barking or other conditions connected with a kennel constituting a nuisance, the mayor, selectmen or police commissioner, as the case may be, shall, within 7 days after the filing of the petition, give notice to all parties in interest of a public hearing to be held within 14 days after the date of such notice. The mayor, selectmen or police commissioner shall, within 7 days after the public hearing, investigate or cause to be investigated the subject

matter of the petition and shall, by order, either suspend or revoke the kennel license, otherwise regulate the kennel or dismiss the petition. Written notice of an order revoking or suspending the license, regulating the kennel or dismissing the petition shall be mailed immediately to the officer issuing the license and to the holder of the license. Within 10 days after the order, the holder of the license may bring a petition in the district court within the judicial district in which the kennel is maintained, addressed to the justice of the court, praying that the order be reviewed by the court. After notice to all parties as the court may consider necessary, the court shall review the action, hear the witnesses and affirm the order unless it shall appear that it was made without proper cause or in bad faith, in which case the order shall be reversed. The decision of the court shall be final and conclusive upon the parties. A person maintaining a kennel after the license to maintain a kennel has been so revoked, or while such a license is suspended, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500 for a first offense and a fine of not more than \$1,000 for a second or subsequent offense.