

ORDINANCE NO. 98-7

ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS FOR  
DOGS AND CATS RUNNING AT LARGE

The Town Board of Hazelhurst, Oneida County, Wisconsin, does ordain the following ordinance to establish regulations for dogs and cats running at large in order to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of the Town of Hazelhurst.

Section 1. No owner of a dog or cat shall permit it to run at large within the Town of Hazelhurst at any time.

Section 2. A dog or cat shall be considered as "running at large" for purposes of this ordinance when it is not on the premises of its owner, unless it is on a leash or within the immediate presence of the owner, or the owner's employee or any member of the owner's family, and a formal warning has been given to the owner within the previous three months. An owner shall include any person owning the dog or cat or keeping or harboring it for more than ten days, dog or cat kenneled excluded. The "formal warning" referred to in this section shall be issued by the Town Clerk in writing upon notification that a dog or cat was off of the owner's premises and was not within the immediate presence of the owner, his employees or family members at that time.

Section 3. A hunting dog(s) shall not be considered "running at large" during hunting season unless it constitutes a nuisance by endangerment of life or property, or trespasses on the same private property more than twice within the previous six months. A formal warning shall be issued to the owner of a hunting dog(s) that trespasses on the same private property twice within the previous six months. A formal warning issued to the owner of a hunting dog(s) shall be valid for one calendar year (versus three months for non-hunting dogs).

Section 4. In the event that a dog or a cat endangers life or property, action may be take immediately by the Sheriff's Department under the authority of a Town Board member without benefit of previous warning.

Section 5. Any dog or cat found running at large in violation of the provisions of this ordinance shall be impounded at the owner's expense and Town officials may proceed as in Section 174.046 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Section 6. Owners of a dog or cat that defecates on property other than the owner's property shall be required to clean up and dispose of the feces. This includes all Town parks and all right-of-ways along Town roads.

Section 7. Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall receive a citation and be punished by forfeiture of not less than twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars, not more that fifty (\$50.00) dollars, and in default of payment of the said forfeiture, may be imprisoned in the county jail until such forfeiture is paid not to exceed thirty (30) days.

Section 8. It is the intent of this ordinance to protect the life and property of citizens from being endangered by dogs and cats, as well as to protect the individual's right to private property. It is not the intent of this ordinance to penalize those whose dog or cat may for the first time and without their knowledge cause a disturbance.

This ordinance shall be effective upon passage by the Hazelhurst Town Board and its publication as provided by law. This ordinance shall supersede any and all previously adopted ordinances pertaining to dogs and cats running at large.

Adopted this 16th day of March, 1998

Attest:

April Stonis  
April Stonis, Town Clerk

Pete Pertile  
Pete Pertile, Town Chairman

Duey Hoover  
Duey Hoover, Town Supervisor

Woody Hagge  
Woody Hagge, Town Supervisor