



The City of Parsons is issuing a reminder about a few animal ordinances regarding pets within the city limits.

For more detailed information, residents can go online to www.parsonsk.com, scroll through the government tab to Municipal Court and click on the eCodebook.

Below is a very brief summary of the Prohibited Animals Ordinance 205-11:

Did you know that it is unlawful to keep, harbor, own or in any way possess within the corporate limits of the City:

- **Exotic Animals**
- **Any warm-blooded, carnivorous or omnivorous, wild/exotic animal**
- **Poisonous Animals/Reptiles, etc.**
- **Any animal having poisonous bites**
- **Fowl.** Any fowl, other than domestic chickens and pigeons, except for caged birds kept as pets within a residence structure; provided, however, that domestic geese and domestic ducks may be kept on any pond, lake or waterway normally containing three acres feet of water or normally

impounding water covering 1-1/2 acres of water surface area so long as the total population of fowl does not exceed eight in total number; provided, further, that the number prescribed above may be exceeded during the annual spring hatching season... et.al.

- **Dogs.** Any pit bull dog, provided that pit bull dogs licensed with the City on or before the date of June 18, 1997, may be kept within the City subject to the standards and requirements set forth by the city commission. *All others are prohibited.*

Definition of Pit Bull:

- The Staffordshire bull terrier breed of dog.
- The American pit bull terrier breed of dog.
- The American Staffordshire terrier breed of dog.
- Any dog which has the appearance and characteristics of being predominantly of the breeds of Staffordshire bull terrier, American pit bull terrier, American Staffordshire terrier, or a combination of any of these breeds.

- In determining if a dog is one of the above-listed breeds or has the characteristics and appearance of these breeds, it shall be prima facie evidence that the dog if signed affidavits are presented to the court from the Animal Control Officer and the impounding entity.

Harboring a pit bull in the city limits of Parsons can result in the following violations and penalties:

- Any person violating or permitting the violation of any provision of this section shall, upon conviction in the Municipal Court, be fined a sum of not less than \$200 and not more than \$1,000.
- In addition to the fine imposed, the Court may sentence the defendant to imprisonment in county jail for a period not to exceed 30 days.
- Any dog found to be the subject of a violation shall be subject to immediate seizure and impoundment.

If you have questions related to this ordinance, please call the City Attorney, Ross Albertini at 620-421-7030 or send email to ralbertini@parsonsk.com