

VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSFIELD

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-2

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSFIELD,
KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROVIDING FOR ANIMAL REGULATIONS**

WHEREAS, 65 ILCS 5/2-3-8 provides that the Village of Williamsfield ("Village") shall have all the powers conferred in this Code upon cities not exceeding 5,000 inhabitants, except as otherwise provided in this Code;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the general corporate powers and police powers of the Village, the Village may enact rules and regulations that are in the best interest of the health and safety of the residents of the Village;

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Williamsfield finds and hereby declares that it is necessary and in the best interests of the health and safety of the residents of the Village to set forth rules and regulations as set forth below;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSFIELD, ILLINOIS:

SECTION 1: DEFINITIONS

ANIMAL: Any animal, other than man, which may be affected by rabies

CONFINED: Restriction of an animal at all times by the owner, or his agent, to an escape-proof building or other enclosure away from other animals and the public

DOG: A domesticated carnivorous mammal (*Canis familiaris*)

CAT: A small carnivorous mammal (*Felis catus* or *F. domesticus*)

LEASH: A cord, rope, strap, or chain which shall be securely fastened to the collar or harness of a dog or other animal and shall be of sufficient strength to keep such dog or other animal under control.

OWNER: Any person having a right of property in a dog or other animal, or who keeps or harbors a dog or animal, or who has it in his/her care, or acts as its custodian or agent of the owner, or who knowingly permits a dog or other domestic animal to remain on or about any premises occupied by him/her.

POUND: Any facility approved by the City for purpose of enforcing this Chapter and used as a shelter for seized, stray, homeless, abandoned, or unwanted dogs or other animals, including shelter and cages provided by the Village of Williamsfield.

SECTION 2: REGISTRATION PROVISIONS

A. Registration: Every owner of any dog, cat or animal, within the limits of this Village, shall register the same with the Knox County Animal Control Department. The owner shall maintain current rabies tags and documentations to prove the above registration. Every owner shall show the above documentation to any Williamsfield Police Officer upon request of the same. Violation of this subsection shall be a fine, not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

B. Collars/Tags: Every dog and cat shall be provided by its owner with a collar, to which shall be securely attached and kept the Knox County Rabies Tags. Violation of this subsection shall be a fine not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

SECTION 3: RESTRICTIONS; OFFENSES BY DOGS OR CATS

A. At large: All dogs and cats, within the limits of the Village, shall be confined at all times to the premises of the owners or custodians thereof, or if not on said premises, such dogs and cats shall be kept on a leash under the control of the owner. Any owner violating this subsection shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), and the said dog or cat maybe impounded under the Impounding provisions set in this chapter.

B. Disturbances: On complaint being made to the President or Police Chief or any Police Officer of this Village, of any dog within the Village, which shall be barking or howling in a continuous manner, disturbing the quiet of any person or persons whosoever, the President or Chief of Police or any Police Officer of this Village shall give notice thereof to the owner or person harboring such dog and in case such person or person shall, for a space of one day after such notice, neglect to cause such dog to cease the above disturbance, he/she, shall be subject to a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

SECTION 4: CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

No owner of any dog, cat or animal shall subject the dog, cat or animal or cause the dog, cat or animal to be subjected to cruelty, beating, injury, abuse or killing; and no such owner shall neglect to provide sufficient and proper food, drink and shelter for dog, car or animal. Violating this subsection shall be a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00). Depending on the seriousness of the incident, the Police Officers may charge such owner or keeper of the dog(s) or cat(s) with violations of State of Illinois Laws rather than Village of Williamsfield Ordinances.

SECTION 5: KILLING DANGEROUS DOGS OR CATS

The members of the Police Department or any officer of the Village authorized with the power of a police officer are authorized to kill any dangerous dog, cat or animal when it is necessary for the protection of person(s) or property.

SECTION 6: IMPOUNDING PROVISIONS

Any Police Officer or other employee by the Village of Williamsfield may catch any stray dogs or cats within the Village of Williamsfield.

A. Dog: In addition to any penalty provided by subsection (Restrictions; Offenses by Dogs or Cats), any dog running at large in violation of said subsection may be caught and taken to the pound. The owners of said dog will pay any fees required by the pound for the release of said Dog. After seventy-two hours (72) ownership of the dog is transferred to the pound.

B. Cat: In addition to any penalty provided by subsection (Restrictions; Offenses by Dogs or Cats), any cat running at large in violation of said subsection may be caught and taken to the Village of Williamsfield Maintenance building and will be maintained, fed and housed for a period of seventy-two hours (72). After seventy-two (72) hours the cat will be considered abandoned and homeless, and such cat will be transported to a Veterinary Facility and will be disposed of humanely. If the owner of said cat wishes to claim such cat, it will have to show proof of registration and/or rabies vaccinations, and will pay ten dollars (\$10.00) per day to the Village Clerk for each day that the cat was in the possession of the Village of Williamsfield. At the discretion of the Police Chief or his Officers the cat may be released to the owner, after appropriate assurances are made to register said cat and to ensure it has the appropriate rabies shots within seventy-two (72) hours of release of said cat by the Village of Williamsfield.

SECTION 7: ENFORCEMENT

The Village of Williamsfield Police Chief and his/her Officers will enforce the Ordinances as stated. The Knox County Animal Control Department also has the authority to enforce all Knox County Animal Control Ordinances as well as State of Illinois Laws concerning Animals within the Village of Williamsfield.

SECTION 8: LIMITS ON OWNERSHIP OF DOGS AND CATS

A residence within the Village of Williamsfield may have up to combination of (4) four dogs/cats. The total number of dogs and cats combined may not be more than (4) four. Any owner in violation of this subsection shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each offense. The owner in violation of this subsection shall be given one (1) week to remedy this violation. After one (1) week, each and every day during which a violation continues to exist will be considered a separate offense.

GRANDFATHER CLAUSE: A residence that is in violation of this subsection on the date that this Ordinance is approved is authorized to continue maintaining the same dog or cat that they presently own. No new dog or cat, or any additional dog or cat may be owned or kept at the residence until the numbers reaches what is legally allowed under this ordinance. It is the responsibility of the owners of the dogs or cats to maintain appropriate paperwork (Registration Documents and /or Rabies Documents) to prove that they were owned at the time of the approval of this ordinance. Failure to maintain the appropriate paperwork voids this grandfather clause.

SECTION 9:

When interpreting this ordinance, the singular shall include the plural.

SECTION 10:

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 11:

This ordinance shall control over any prior, conflicting ordinance.

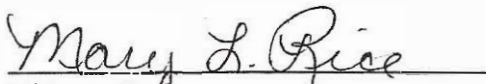
PASSED THIS 2nd day of March, 2015.

APPROVED:



President of the Board of Trustees
Village of Williamsfield
Knox County, Illinois

ATTEST:




Village Clerk
Village of Williamsfield, Illinois

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF KNOX) SS.
VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSFIELD)

CERTIFICATE

I, Mary Rice, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I am the Village Clerk in and for the Village of Williamsfield; that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance duly passed by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Williamsfield being entitled: "AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSFIELD, KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS, PROVIDING FOR ANIMAL REGULATIONS," at a regular meeting held on the 2nd day of March, 2015, the ordinance being a part of the official records of said village.

DATED: This 2nd day of March, 2015.


Mary L. Rice

Mary Rice, Village Clerk
Village of Williamsfield
Knox County, Illinois

(SEAL)