

**SOUTHSIDE TOWNSHIP, MINNESOTA
ORDINANCE PROHIBITING DOGS FROM RUNNING AT LARGE
AND PROHIBITING VICIOUS DOGS**

The Town Board for the Southside Township, Wright County, Minnesota ordains:

Section 1. Definitions

A. The terms "running at large" and "run at large", when used in this ordinance, shall mean and be defined as any place within the platted residential area in

Southside Township other than on the premises of the owner, keeper or custodian of any dog.

B. As used in this ordinance "owner" shall mean any person, keeper, custodian, firm or corporation owning, harboring or keeping a dog.

C. As used in this ordinance "platted residential area" refers to housing developments where three or more homestead lots are abutted to each other.

It would not apply to homesteads where there are agriculture or pasture land between lots.

Section 2. Barking Dogs

No person, owner or keeper shall keep or harbor a dog, within the platted residential area in Southside Township that habitually barks, howls, or cries.

Any such dog is hereby declared to be a public nuisance and shall be impounded and destroyed.

Section 3. Vicious Dogs

No owner or keeper shall keep or harbor a dog within the platted residential area in Southside Township which is known to be vicious or destructive. Any such dog is hereby declared to be a public nuisance and shall be impounded and destroyed.

Section 4. Running at Large Prohibited

No dog shall be permitted to run at large within the platted residential area in Southside Township.

Section 5. Leash and Control

The restriction imposed by Section 4 above shall not prohibit the appearance of any dog upon the streets of public property when such dog is on a leash and kept under control of the accompanying person, or when such dog is not on a leash, but is under the immediate and complete control of the person charged with its care, either by voice control or otherwise.

Section 6. Inspection

The duly designated officer or agent of the township is hereby authorized, empowered and instructed to enter upon any private premises within the platted residential areas in Southside Township in the enforcement of the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 7: The Township Board is authorized to appoint an animal control officer to enforce the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 8: The Township Board shall designate an official pound to which animals found in violation of this ordinance shall be taken for safe treatment, and if necessary, for destruction.

Section 9: No person shall in any manner molest, hinder, or interfere with any person authorized by the Township Board to capture dogs and convey them to the pound while engaged in that operation. Nor shall any unauthorized person take or attempt to take from any agent any animal taken up by him or her in compliance with this ordinance, or in any other manner to interfere with or hinder the officer in the

discharge of his or her duties under this ordinance. To enforce this ordinance, said animal officer may enter upon any private premises in pursuit of a dog running at large.

Section 10: The Township, upon impounding of any dog, shall, through the township's animal control officer, immediately notify the owner personally or through the United States mail, if the owner is known. If the owner is unknown, then the township's animal control officer shall notify the Clerk and a notice of impound will be posted at the Township Hall. The notice shall state that the dog may be killed if the dog is not claimed within five regular business days after posting the notice.

Unless the dog is claimed within the time specified and all costs, fees, and charges are paid, the pound may kill the dog and dispose of the carcass, or the pound may hold the dog and sell it to anyone paying all costs, fees and charges. It shall be presumed that the right to redeem an impounded dog shall be forfeited if the dog is not claimed and all costs, fees and charges paid within five regular business days.

The pound shall house and feed any dog held at the pound in a humane manner. An impounding fee of \$40.00, impounding costs and daily feeding charge shall be assessed for any dog held at the pound on the first impoundment. An impounding fee of \$60.00, impounding costs and a daily feeding charge shall be assessed for the second impoundment of the same dog. An impounding fee of \$75.00, impounding costs and a daily feeding charge shall be assessed for the third and subsequent impoundment of the same dog.

Section 11. Penalty

Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not to exceed Seven Hundred Dollars (\$700.00) and/or by imprisonment not to exceed Ninety (90) days or both.

Passed in the name of Southside Township by the Town Board this 4th day of March 2002.

James P. [Signature]
Chairman

3-4-02

Attest: *Carman Merrill*
Clerk

3-4-2