

## Thurston County Ordinance

Please be aware that the on-line Thurston County Code information is not maintained by Thurston County and may not be up to date. If you have questions about the Thurston County Codes, please contact LaBonita Bowmar on (360) 754-3355, extension 6308.

This document is current through Ordinance 13999, passed December 17, 2007. For more recent provisions, please contact the County.

### Chapter 6.80 PET SHOP LICENSE

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6.80.010 Definitions.

The following words and phrases shall have the following meaning for purposes of this chapter:

(1) "Pet animal" means dogs, cats, monkeys and other primates, rabbits, birds, guinea pigs, hamsters, mice, snakes, iguanas, turtles, fish and any other species of animal sold or retained for the purpose of being kept as a household pet.

(2) "Pet shop" means any store, place or establishment within Thurston County where pet animals are held for sale either at wholesale or retail with the intent of making a profit. The term shall not include Hobby Kennels as defined by this code at 9.10.030(f)(1). (Ord. 9702 § 1 (part), 1991)

6.80.020 License required.

(1) No person, firm partnership, corporation or other entity shall own, maintain or operate a pet shop without first obtaining a pet shop license issued pursuant to this chapter.

(2) Applications for pet shop licenses shall be made to the Thurston County Auditor. An application for a pet shop license shall contain the following information:

(a) The name, address, telephone number and emergency telephone number of the person, firm or corporation owning the pet shop;

(b) The name, address, phone number and emergency phone number of the person managing, operating or otherwise having supervision of the pet shop;

(c) The business name, address and location of the pet shop;

(d) A list of all species of pet animals that are to be sold;

(e) The name and address of a licensed veterinarian who will care for any animals which become sick or injured while at the pet shop;

(f) The applicant must attach to the application any necessary approvals from the county health department which are required to assure that adequate provisions for sanitary facilities will be provided;

(g) The applicant shall be required to pay a nonrefundable license fee upon filing the application in the sum of one hundred fifty dollars;

- (h) Within five days after receipt of any application for a pet shop license, the auditor shall transmit copies of such application to the planning department and to the director of joint animal control;
- (i) Within thirty days of receipt of an application for a pet shop license, the license shall be issued unless the planning department has advised that the use or proposed use of the premises is not in conformity with the county's zoning code or other applicable land use laws and regulations or that the buildings upon the subject premises fail to meet the requirements of the building, fire, mechanical or plumbing codes applicable to the proposed use or the director of joint animal control has determined that the applicant has previously been convicted of neglect or cruelty to animals or that a pet shop or other similar license held by such applicant has been revoked or renewal refused either pursuant to the terms of this chapter or by any other licensing jurisdiction;
- (j) The pet shop license shall expire on December 31 and must be renewed annually. (Ord. 9702 § 1 (part), 1991)

#### 6.80.030 License renewal.

Pet shop licenses must be renewed annually. All license renewals shall be processed in the same manner as the original application except that the written statement from the health department and referral to the planning department shall not be necessary. The renewal fee shall be in the sum of one hundred twenty-five dollars. (Ord. 9702 § 1 (part), 1991)

#### 6.80.040 Transfer of license.

If there is a change in ownership of any pet shop, the new owner may have the current license transferred into the name of such new owner upon proof that the new owner meets the requirements of this chapter and upon the payment of a transfer fee in the sum of one hundred dollars. (Ord. 9702 § 1 (part), 1991)

#### 6.80.050 Facility requirements.

Any building used for a pet shop shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) Animal housing shall be structurally sound and designed to prevent the pet animals from injury and shall provide sufficient security to contain the pet animals while preventing entry of unwanted pets.
- (2) The facilities shall include a washroom with sinks for hot and cold running water.
- (3) Heating, air cooling and shade shall be provided to protect the pet animals from temperatures to which they are not acclimated.
- (4) Adequate ventilation shall be provided. (Ord. 9702 § 1 (part), 1991)

#### 6.80.060 Operational requirements.

Any person, firm or corporation owning, operating or maintaining a pet shop shall do so in accordance with the following requirements:

- (1) The license issued in accordance with this chapter shall be prominently displayed on the premises at all times.
- (2) A list of all species of pet animals that are to be sold on the premises shall be maintained and displayed in a prominent manner and nutrition and care information for each said species shall be available on the premises.
- (3) No species of pet animals shall be sold or maintained on the premises which are prohibited from such sale or possession by state or federal law.
- (4) Suitable food and bedding and adequate potable water shall be provided. The food shall be free from contamination, wholesome, palatable and of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to meet the normal daily requirements for the condition, use and size of the animal.
- (5) Food shall be stored in a manner which prevents contamination or infestation.
- (6) Provision shall be made for the timely removal of animal excreta, food wastes, soiled bedding, dead animals and debris. Disposal facilities shall be maintained so as not to be a health hazard.
- (7) Sick animals shall be separated from those appearing healthy and normal and shall be removed from display and sale and kept in isolation quarters with adequate ventilation to keep from contaminating well animals. Timely veterinary care shall be provided for sick or injured animals.
- (8) There shall be an employee on duty at all times during any hours a pet shop is open whose responsibilities shall include the care and welfare of the animals in the facility. An employee or owner

shall feed, water and perform the necessary cleaning of pet animals on each day that the pet shop is closed.

(9) Pet animals shall be immunized from disease as is usual and customary for the animal's age and species. Records of vaccination shall be subject to inspection and shall be provided to a buyer.

(10) Reasonable care shall be taken not to place for sale, trade or adoption any pet animal which is diseased or injured. (Ord. 9702 § 1 (part), 1991)

#### 6.80.070 Inspection.

It shall be a condition of the issuance of a license that animal control officers shall be permitted to inspect all animals and the premises where the animals are kept, at reasonable intervals to protect the health and safety of the animals and the community. Such right of inspection shall extend not only to the pet shop, but to any place where pet animals held for sale through said pet shop are located or kept. If permission for such inspection is refused the license may be revoked or denied. (Ord. 9702 § 1 (part), 1991)

#### 6.80.080 Impoundment.

An animal control officer may impound any animal in the possession or under the control of a pet shop if such officer deems the animal to be disabled or diseased due to neglect, abuse or improper care, or any animal whose condition constitutes a threat or danger to the public health or safety. The animal being impounded shall be taken to or seen by a veterinarian for treatment as soon as possible after impoundment. (Ord. 9702 § 1 (part), 1991)

#### 6.80.090 Violation.

Any person, firm or corporation who violates any provision of this chapter shall upon conviction, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to punishment in accordance with the provisions of this code. (Ord. 9702 § 1 (part), 1991)

#### 6.80.100 Revocation or nonrenewal of license.

If the director of joint animal control determines that a licensee has violated the terms of this chapter either after conviction as set forth in Section 6.80.090, above, or upon other competent evidence, the director may petition the auditor to revoke said license or deny an application to renew said license. The nature of said petition, its processing and determination shall be as follows:

(1) The petitions shall set forth the specific violations upon which it is based.

(2) The county auditor's office shall set a date for hearing said petition which date shall not be less than fourteen days after the receipt of said petition by the auditor.

(3) A copy of the petition and notice of the hearing date shall be served either personally or by certified mail, return receipt requested, upon the licensee.

(4) If the auditor determines upon the basis of the evidence presented at such hearing that it is necessary in order to provide for the humane care and treatment of animals or to protect the public health and safety that such license either be revoked or an application for a renewal of said license be denied, the auditor shall so revoke or deny the renewal of such license. If the auditor finds that there have been violations of this chapter, but that such violations do not warrant the revocation or nonrenewal of the license, the auditor may set forth such lesser conditions for continued operation as shall be appropriate in order to promote humane care and treatment of animals or to better protect the public health and safety.

(5) If the licensee wishes to appeal the decision of the auditor, said licensee shall file with the auditor's office a written request for review of the auditor's decision within ten days after the receipt of said decision.

(6) If review is requested within the time limit set forth above, the decision of the auditor shall be reviewed by the Thurston County hearings examiner at a hearing to be held not more than thirty days after the filing of such request for review. The decision of the auditor shall be held in abeyance pending such review hearing. The hearings examiner may affirm, reverse or modify the decision of the auditor. (Ord. 9702 § 1 (part), 1991)