

CHAPTER 5

ANIMALS AND FOWL¹

Art. I. In General, Sections 5-1-5-12

Art. II. Rabies Control, Sections 5-13-5-35

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Art. IV. Wild, Exotic, Vicious Animals, Sections 5-57-5-64

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

SECTION 5-1. Hunting Deer with Dogs.

(a) Except for a period of thirty (30) days immediately preceding the open season for the taking of deer, it shall be unlawful for any person to hunt with dogs or to permit or allow a dog or dogs to hunt, chase, run, pursue, or otherwise attempt to capture or overtake any deer at a time when the season for the hunting of deer as prescribed by the state wildlife and fisheries commission is closed.

(b) Any peace officer and agent of the state wildlife and fisheries commission is hereby authorized and empowered to enforce the provisions of hereof.

(c) Whoever violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished therefor by a fine of not in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or imprisoned in the parish jail for not more than thirty (30) days, or both, in the discretion of the court.

(Ordinance of 11/12/68, Section I through III; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 dated 12/08/99)

a.

SECTION 5-2. Animals - Restraints Required; Exceptions.

(a) Prohibition. No animal and/or fowl shall be allowed to run at large in the rural areas of Iberia Parish, whether it is tagged or untagged for rabies control, or whether it is on private or public property, without the owner or person in charge thereof

¹**Cross Reference:** Restrictions on animals brought on regional airport premises, Section 3-48; Health and Sanitation, Chapter 12.

State Law References: Authority to regulate animals at large, R.S. 33:1236 (5); Authority to regulate dogs, R.S. 3:2731.

having direct physical control over such animal and/or fowl by means of a leash, which leash shall not exceed six foot (6') in length, and/or containment, except:

where such private property is the property of such owner or person responsible for said animal or fowl; or

where the animal is engaged in valid and lawful hunting or field exercises and therefore, properly supervised by such owner or person responsible for said animal; or

where the animal is engaged in valid and lawful "work" such as seeing-eye dogs for the blind, etc. (Ord. 2003-07-2940, 07/09/03)

(b) Penalties. Persons issued citations for violation of this Section and found guilty shall be punishable as follows:

(1) For a first offense, any person violating the provisions of this Section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished therefor by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than four hundred dollars (\$400) or imprisoned in the Parish Jail for not more than six (6) months, or both, at the discretion of the Court.

(2) For a second conviction of violation of this section, such person violating the provisions of this Section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished therefor by a fine of not less than two hundred dollars (\$200) nor more than four hundred dollars (\$400) or imprisoned in the Parish Jail for not more than six (6) months, or both, at the discretion of the Court.

(3) For a third or subsequent conviction of violation of this section, any person violating the provisions of this Section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished therefor by a fine of not less than three hundred dollars (\$300) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500) or imprisoned in the Parish Jail for not more than six (6) months, or both, at the discretion of the Court.

(4) Each owner will be charged and assessed an impoundment fee on a per day basis, not to exceed \$15.00 daily per animal and/or fowl, in addition to any other penalties charged for violation of this section. (2003-06-2927, dated 06/11/03)

(c) Authority. Any police or law enforcement officer, any agent of the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program, or any constable or their authorized designee shall be given the authority to enforce any and all of the regulations of this Section and to issue notices or court citations for violations of the regulations and controls herein. (Ord. 96-07-2339, 07/10/96; Ord. No. 99-12-2640, 12/08/99)

SECTION 5-3 through 5-12. Reserved.

ARTICLE II. RABIES CONTROL

SECTION 5-13. Definitions.

Dog shall mean dogs of either sex unless otherwise specified.

Cat shall mean cats of either sex unless otherwise specified.
(Ord. of 05/27/92)

Ferret shall mean ferrets of either sex unless otherwise specified. (Ord. of 08/09/06)

Inoculated shall be understood to mean the administration of an antirabies vaccine, which shall be approved by the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program, by or under the direction of a licensed veterinarian. (Ord. of 05/24/56, Section 1)

(Ord. 99-12-2640, 12/08/99)

SECTION 5-14. Registration and Inoculation of Dogs/Cats/Ferrets Required.

It shall be the duty of every person owning or having in his/her possession any dog or other animal of the canine species, or cat or any animal of the feline species, or ferret in the Parish over the age of three (3) months to have such animal registered with the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program once every twelve months and inoculated as follows:

- (a) Any dogs, cats, and ferrets shall be vaccinated with a series of two vaccinations, with the first being administered at three (3) months of age; and
- (b) A second vaccination being administered one year after the initial vaccination; and
- (c) Booster vaccinations being given either one year or three years thereafter as required, as recommended by a licensed veterinarian

(Ord. of 05/24/56, Sections 2, 5; Ord. 09/11/58; Ord. of 05/27/92; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99; Ord. 2000-09-2693, 09/13/00; Ord. 2006-08-3809, 08/09/06)

SECTION 5-15. Inoculation Certificate Prerequisite to Registration of Dogs/Cats.

Before the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program shall register any dog or other animal of the canine species or cat or other animal of the feline species as described in Section 5-14, he shall be presented by the owner or any person having possession of such animal a certificate certifying to inoculation, signed by a licensed veterinarian showing that such animal has been inoculated on some date previous thereto, and recommending that such animal be isolated for ninety (90) days after inoculation, which shall render such animal immune for the period of registration as provided in this article.

(Ord. 05/24/56, Section 3; Ord. of 05/27/92; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)

SECTION 5-16. Reserved.

SECTION 5-17. Registration Certificates; Tags; Term.

Each registration certificate and tag issued by the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program shall be issued from the date of registration expiring on the twenty-eighth day of February of each year. (Ord. of 05/24/56, Section 5; Ord. of 09/11/58; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)

SECTION 5-18. Issuance of Registration Tags.

The Iberia Parish Animal Control Program, at the time of registration, shall furnish each person owning or having charge of an animal registered pursuant to Section 5-14 with a metal tag for each animal which tag shall be attached to such animal's

collar, which shall be numbered and shall indicate the calendar year for which such tag has been issued.
(Ordinance of 05/24/56, Section 4; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)

SECTION 5-19. Failure to Register, etc., Dogs/Cats Declared Unlawful.

It is hereby declared to be unlawful for any person, whether as the owner of or in any other capacity, to harbor, keep or have possession of within the parish any dog or other animal of the canine species or cat or other animal of the feline species over the age of three (3) months without having had such animal registered and inoculated with an approved and recognized antirabies serum, so that such animal may be immunized from rabies at that time, and without first having paid any necessary registration fee, and without keeping such metal tag issued him on such animal at all times where the same is visible.
(Ord. of 05/24/56, Section 6; Ord. of 09/11/58; Ord. of 05/27/92; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99; Ord. 2000-09-2693, 09/13/00)

SECTION 5-20. Impoundment - Required for Uninoculated and Unregistered Dogs/Cats.

All dogs or any animals of the canine species or cats of any animals of the feline species found in the parish, over the age of three (3) months, at any time which have not been inoculated and registered with the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program shall be seized and impounded by the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program and held for a period not to exceed five (5) days, during which time the owner or keeper of any such animal may claim the same after having it duly inoculated and registered as provided in this article and paying the registration and inoculation fee in this article, together with an impounding fee not to exceed fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per day; provided, further, that if any such animal is not claimed within five (5) days after impoundment and the requirements of this article are not complied with, it shall be the duty of the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program to humanely destroy such animal, or sell such animal at public or private sale. (Ord. of 05/24/56; Section 7; Ord. of 09/11/58; Ord. of 05/27/92; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99; Ord. 2000-09-2693, 09/13/00)

SECTION 5-21. Same - Animals Suspected as Rabies Carriers.

It shall be the duty of the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program to impound or to cause to be impounded any dog, cat, or other animal, whether registered or not, that has bitten a human being within the parish or has been bitten by an animal suspected of having rabies, or any infection associated therewith, for a period of ten (10) days or longer for observation, and if such animal so impounded shows indications of rabies, it shall be the duty of the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program to kill such animal and dispose of the same as provided by law for the disposal of other dead animals.

(Ord. of 05/24/56, Section 8; Ord. of 05/27/92; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)

SECTION 5-22. Same - Redemption of Dogs/Cats after Sale.

The owner of any dog/cat that has been impounded and sold to another person pursuant to this article shall be entitled to claim such animal within thirty (30) days after sale, provided that all fees and costs of maintenance are reimbursed to the new owner. (Ord. of 05/24/56, Section 12; Ord. of 05/27/92; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)

SECTION 5-23. Reserved.

SECTION 5-24. Penalty.

All owners, custodians, or keepers of dogs/cats who shall fail to comply with any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or imprisoned not more than thirty days, or both, in the discretion of the court. (Ord. of 05/24/56, Section 9; Ord. of 09/11/58; Ord. of 05/27/92; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)

SECTIONS 5-25 through 5-35. Reserved.

ARTICLE III. RESERVED.

SECTIONS 5-36 through 5-56. Reserved.

ARTICLE IV. WILD, EXOTIC, VICIOUS ANIMALS

SECTION 5-57. Definitions.

For the purposes of this article, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning ascribed to them:

Animal. Any live or dead vertebrate creature, domestic or wild, not to include fish, birds or rodents bred and raised in captivity or Homosapiens.

Pet. Any animal kept for pleasure rather than utility.

Vicious animals. Any animal that constitutes a physical threat to human beings or other animals, not to include law enforcement or guard dogs.

Wild or exotic animal. Any live monkey, (nonhuman primate), raccoon, skunk, wolf, squirrel, fox, leopard, panther, lion, lynx, or any other warm-blooded animal, poisonous snake or tarantula which can normally be found in the wild state or any member of crocodilian, including, but not limited to, alligators, crocodiles, caimans and gavials. Ferrets, nonpoisonous snakes, rabbits, rodents which have been bred and raised in captivity and which have never known the wild shall be excluded from this definition. ((Ord. of 3-13-91, Section 1; Ord. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)

Section 5-58. Display of wild or exotic animals prohibited.

No person shall keep or permit to be kept on his premises any wild, exotic, vicious animal or reptile for display or for exhibition purposes whether gratuitously or for a fee. This section shall not apply to zoological parks, performing animal exhibitions, circuses or veterinary clinics.

Section 5-59. Wild or exotic animals as pets prohibited.

No person shall keep or permit to be kept any wild, exotic, vicious animal or reptile as a pet without having first obtained a license from the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program. (Ord. of 3-13-91, Section 1; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)

Section 5-60. Posting of notices.

Any person who offers for sale a wild or exotic animal shall post conspicuously at the place of sale or display the following notice:

"No person may lawfully keep or permit to be kept in the Parish of Iberia, any live monkey (nonhuman primate), raccoon, skunk, wolf, squirrel, fox, leopard, panther, tiger, lion, lynx or any other warm-blooded animal, poisonous snake, tarantula, crocodile or alligator which can normally be found in the wild state."

(Ord. of 3-13-91, Section 1; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)

Section 5-61. License for wild animals.

(a) The Iberia Parish Animal Control Program may approve the issuance of a temporary license for the keeping, care and protection of injured wild animals or infant wild animals native to this area which have been deemed to be incapable of surviving without assistance.

(b) Any person wishing to house a wild, exotic or vicious animal or reptile as a pet must demonstrate knowledge of the proper care for the animal or reptile involved and must have facilities for their care inspected by the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program. It may be required that adequate insurance coverage and/or bond be procured prior to issuance of a license. It shall be the responsibility of the above-mentioned agency to approve or deny the issuance of a license following the inspection.

(c) Any denials will be explained in writing to the owner. Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program may appeal such decision to the Iberia Parish Council.

(Ord. of 3-13-91, Section 1; Ord. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)

Section 5-62. Release of wild animals.

The Iberia Parish Animal Control Program shall have authority to release or order the release of any wild animal or reptile kept under license which is deemed capable of survival.

(Ord. of 3-13-91, Section 1; Ord. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)

Section 5-63. Disposition and impoundment.

Any person who keeps a wild, exotic or vicious animal in contravention of this article may dispense of the animal or reptile by removal of the animal or reptile to a zoological park or by releasing the animal or reptile to the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program. Such agency is authorized to release the animal or reptile to the wild, to a zoological park, or to a responsible adult who shall remove the animal or reptile from the parish, or to dispose of the animal or reptile in some humane manner. The Iberia Parish Animal Control Program is authorized to release the animal or reptile to any licensed institution for research purposes.

(Ord. of 3-13-91, Section 1; Ord. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)

Section 5-64. Penalty.

(a) Any person who violates any provision of any section of this article or who shall hinder or molest or interfere with any officer or agent of the Iberia Parish Animal Control Program in the performance of any duty provided for by this article shall, upon conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction, be deemed guilty of misdemeanor and may be fined any amount up to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) dollars or may be imprisoned for not more than sixty (60) days, or both fined and imprisoned, in the discretion of the court.

(b) The Iberia Parish Animal Control Program may enforce any provisions of this article by instituting a suit for injunctive relief and use of summary process, including all temporary restraining orders permitted by law.
(Ord. of 3-13-91, Section 1; Ord. No. 99-12-2640 of 12/08/99)