



Town of Effingham

Animal Control Ordinance

Animal Control Ordinance, regulation of horses, farm animals and poultry as follows: Pursuant to the authority conferred by the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated Chapter 31:39, I (b) in order to promote the general welfare of the citizens of the Town of Effingham, the following Ordinance is hereby enacted:

SECTION 001. REGULATION

1.1 It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any horse, farm animal or poultry to either willfully or negligently allow such animal to run at large in public places. "Run at large" shall be construed to mean off the property of the owner or keeper and not under the control of the owner or keeper by leash, cord, chain, or otherwise.

1.2 Any horse, farm animal or poultry found in a public place, and not under the control of its owner or keeper, may be taken into custody by the Effingham Animal Control Officer or a Effingham Police Officer or other designee. The Officer or designee shall make reasonable efforts to notify the owner or keeper of the animal, before seizing it.

1.3 Any horse, farm animal or poultry that is seized by the Effingham Animal Control Officer or a Effingham Police Officer or other designee in a public place, where the owner or keeper cannot be identified or located, shall be held by the Town at a Town approved facility. The owner or keeper of the animals shall be responsible for all damages and expenses incurred in the capturing, transporting and holding of the escaped animal, boarding costs, and any medical care required by the holding facility.

SECTION 002. PENALTIES

2.1. Any owner or keeper of a horse, farm animal or poultry who willfully or negligently permits such animals to run at large in public places, may be subject to a penalty not exceeding \$1,000 for each offense. Any fine or penalty collected under this Ordinance shall be paid to the Town of Effingham.

2.2. In addition to any penalty, in conjunction with any penalty, or as an alternative to any penalty imposed under this Ordinance, the Town of Effingham may request that the Court require the owner or keeper of the horse, farm animal or poultry which has been impounded for running at large, to pay for the boarding and impoundment fees established by the animal shelter or holding facility and any reasonably necessary medical expenses incurred during the impoundment of the animal regardless of whether the owner or keeper retrieves the animal.

Adopted March 18, 2023 Town Meeting