

CHAPTER 9

KENNELS

9 **Authority** The Norton Board of Health under authority granted by MGL Chapter 111 Section 31 and Chapter 140 Section 137A, hereby adopts the following regulations to protect the health and safety of town residents by ensuring that establishments and or residents with four or more dogs shall be maintained in appropriate, secure and sanitary conditions.

9.1 **Definitions** The following definitions apply to this chapter:

- i **Kennel**: A kennel is defined as any collection of four or more dogs of three months of age or older owned or kept by a person on a single premise, regardless of the purpose for which they are maintained.
- ii **Commercial Kennel**: Person, business or facility breeding dogs for the purpose of sale.
- iii **Boarding Kennel**: Any facility or business that takes dogs owned by others in temporarily for the purpose of boarding or day care.
- iv **Residential Kennel**: A resident that has a collection of four or more dogs on a single premise.

9.2 **Requirements** All kennels are required to register with the Norton Board of Health. The following information shall be required for registration:

- i Name and address of owner.
- ii Daytime, nighttime and emergency number phone numbers of owner.
- iii Name, address, and phone number of the kennel.
- iv Proof of State licensing and inspection reports if applicable.
- v Types of animals being sold if applicable.
- vi Description of waste handling.
- vii Rabies certificate for all animals if applicable.

9.3 **Scope** This regulation is in addition to Chapter 140, Section 137A and in no way intends to supersede, interfere, or reduce the authority of the Commonwealth governing kennels.

9.4 **Containment** A physical barrier of fencing six feet height, or of suitable height for the breed of dog(s) so that they can be properly contained. So-called invisible fencing, radio type collars and cable tie downs or run are not acceptable.

9.5 **Applicability** All new kennels, and animal shelter must register with the Board of Health prior to beginning operations. Licenses are non-transferable.

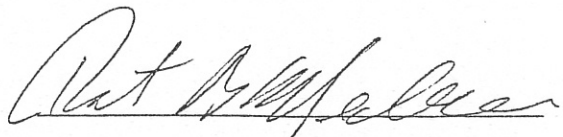
- 9.6 **Issuance** Upon receipt of necessary approvals and the payment of the appropriate fee to the Town of Norton, a kennel license will be issued after inspection by the Animal Control Officer.
- 9.7 **Vaccinations** At each annual license renewal the kennel owner must provide proof of rabies vaccination for dogs kept on site permanently.
- 9.8 **Enforcement Officers For Kennel Regulations** The following are considered enforcement agents: Health Agent, Building Inspector and Animal Control Officer.
- 9.9 **Inspections** All kennels shall be subject to a yearly inspection. Re-inspection upon yearly renewals is not required unless the Board of Health has acted upon a complaint concerning the kennel during the previous license period. Upon receipt of a complaint, the Board of Health will arrange for an inspection of the property within a reasonable amount of time.
- 9.10 **Review And Sign Off Requirement** The following offices must sign off on all new kennel applications; Building Inspector, Zoning Officer, Town Clerk, Animal Control and the Health Agent.
- 9.11 **Fees** A fee, Appendix A, shall be assessed for commercial, boarding, and residential kennels. All licenses must be posted. Licenses are not transferable.
- 9.12 **Exclusion** A veterinary hospital shall not be considered a kennel unless it engages in the boarding of dogs for other than medical or surgical purposes. In the event a license is determined to be required, the above procedures shall apply.
- 9.13 **Violations** Any person found in violation of these regulations shall be fined, upon conviction, not more than \$1,000 per violation. Each day of noncompliance shall constitute a separate and new offense. Any person who is issued a license by the Board and is found to be in violation of these or any other applicable regulation, may be subject to the immediate suspension or revocation of said license. The Regulation may be enforced by the use of Non-Criminal Citations as put forth in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, § 21D.

Board of Health Rules and Regulations

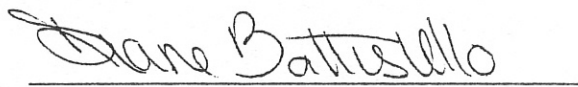
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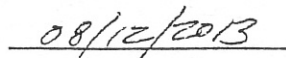
Steven H. Corr, P.E, Chairman



Robert B. Medeiros, Vice-Chairman



Diane Battistello, Clerk



Date