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
Signature Page: Chapter 9

Steven H. Corr, P.E, Chairman

Robert B. Medeiros, Vice-Chairman

Diane Battistello, Clerk

Date 08/12/2013