

County Ordinances Regarding Pet Disturbances

Noise of Barking Dogs

Zoning Enforcement 324-1300: "The County's Noise Ordinance forbids excessive noise from musical instruments, radios, televisions, or other sound systems, as well as disturbances by barking dogs or other domestic animals. To violate the ordinance, noise must be clearly audible across property lines or through partitions. ... All complaints usually require monitoring to establish that a violation exists." Complaints should be reported to Zoning Enforcement, 703-324-1300 between 8 am and 4:30 pm M-F. Noise complaints can be reported to the Police Department, 703-691-2131, at any time. [Excerpted from the Raymondale Homeowner's Association web site.]

Cats

"County ordinances require rabies inoculation of cats over four months of age ... the wearing of an identification tag on a safety collar is recommended. If you have a problem with un-owned roaming cats, you may ... capture the cats and bring them to the Shelter. ... Roaming cats cause injuries to themselves, wildlife, and people. For the protection of your cat and the community, it is best to keep your cat indoors." [Excerpted from "Legal Aspects of Animal Ownership in Fairfax County"]

Animals Creating Nuisance/Animal Waste (Scooping)

"It is against the law to allow animals to trespass on, destroy, or damage another person's property. Animals must not make frequent and habitual loud and objectionable noises. ... The owner or custodian of any dog shall be responsible for the removal of excreta deposited by such dog ON THE PROPERTY OF ANOTHER, INCLUDING PUBLIC AREAS." (capitals added)
[County Code sections 441-1-2, Section 108-5-2, and 41-2-6.]

Animals Running Loose

"It is against the law to allow animals to run at large on public property or the private property of others. Dogs must be restrained by a dependable leash and controlled by a responsible person when off the property of the owner." [County Code Section 41-2-4]