

**VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD CLUB  
COUNTY OF MUSKEGON  
STATE OF MICHIGAN**

Village Ordinance No. 7-A

SHORT TITLE: DANGEROUS ANIMAL ORDINANCE

**A. Purpose.**

It is the purpose of this Amendment to amend the Code of Ordinances for the Village of Lakewood Club to include regulations governing possession of dangerous animals so as to preserve the health, safety and welfare of the residents and guests of the Village.

**B. Definitions.**

1. Dangerous animals means and includes:

a. Any mammal, amphibian, reptile or fowl which is of a species which, due to size, vicious nature or other characteristics would constitute a danger to human life, physical well-being, or property, including but not limited to lions, tigers, leopards, panthers, bears, wolves, apes, gorillas, monkeys of any species, foxes, elephants, alligators, crocodiles, and snakes which are poisonous or otherwise present a risk of serious physical harm or death to human beings as a result of their nature or physical makeup, including all constrictors.

b. Any dog or cat having a disposition or propensity to attack or bite any person or animal without provocation is hereby defined as a “dangerous animal.”

c. Any pit bull dog. Pit bull dog is defined to mean any and all of the following dogs:

- (1) The Staffordshire Bull Terrier breed of dogs.
- (2) The American Staffordshire Terrier breed of dogs.
- (3) The American Pit Bull Terrier breed of dogs.
- (4) Dogs which have the appearance and characteristics of being predominately of the breeds of dogs known as Staffordshire Bull Terrier, American Pit Bull Terrier, or American Staffordshire Terrier.

2. Person includes any natural person, association, partnership, organization or corporation.

**C. Prohibition**

No person shall own, keep, feed, shelter or harbor any dangerous animal in the Village unless the owner/keeper/harbinger meets the following requirements:

1. Leash and Muzzle. No person shall permit a dangerous animal to go outside its kennel or pen unless such dangerous animal is securely leashed with a leash no longer than four (4) feet in length. No person shall permit a dangerous animal to be kept on a chain, rope or other type of leash outside its kennel or pen unless a person is in physical control of the leash. Such dangerous animals may not be leashed to inanimate objects such as trees, posts, buildings, etc. In addition, all dangerous animals on a leash outside the animals= kennel must be muzzled by a muzzling device sufficient to prevent such dangerous animals from biting persons or other animals.

2. Confinement. All registered dangerous animals shall be securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen or kennel, except when leashed and muzzled as above provided. Such pen, kennel or structure must have secure sides and a secure top attached to the sides. All structures used to confine registered dangerous animals must be locked with a key or combination lock when such animals are within the structure. Such structure must have a secure bottom or floor attached to the sides of the pen or the sides of the pen must be embedded in the ground no less than two (2) feet. All such structures must be adequately lighted and ventilated and kept in clean and sanitary conditions.

3. Confinement Indoors. No dangerous animal may be kept on a porch, patio or in any part of a house or structure that would allow the dangerous animal to exit such building of its own volition. In addition, no such animal may be kept in a house or structure when the windows or screen doors are the only obstacle preventing the dangerous animal from exiting the structure.

4. Signs. All owners, keepers or harborers of dangerous animals within the Village shall within ten (10) days of the effective date of this ordinance display in a prominent place on their premises a sign easily readable by the public using the words Beware of Dangerous Animal. In addition, a similar sign is required to be posted on the kennel or pen of such animal.

5. Insurance. All owners, keepers or harborers of dangerous animals must within ten (10) days of the effective date of this ordinance provide proof to the Village Clerk of public liability insurance in a single incident amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) for bodily injury to or death of any person or persons or for damage to property owned by any persons which may result from the ownership, keeping or maintenance of such animal. At the time of initial registration the owner, keeper or harborer must present proof to the Village Clerk of the required insurance. At the time of subsequent registration the owner, keeper or harborer must show proof of insurance for the present registration period and proof that there was insurance coverage throughout the period of the prior registration year. In the event the liability insurance is canceled, lapsed, or for any other reason becomes nonenforceable, the owner, keeper, or harborer shall be in violation of the provisions of this division and subject to the penalties provided herein.

6. Identification Photographs. All owners, keepers or harborer of dangerous animals must within ten (10) days of the effective date of this ordinance provide to the Village Clerk two (2) color photographs of the animal clearly showing the color and approximate size of the animal.

7. Reporting Requirements. All owners, keepers or harborers of registered dangerous animals must, within ten (10) days of the incident, report the following information in writing to the Village clerk as required hereinafter.

- a. The removal from the Village or death of a registered dangerous animal.
- b. The birth of offspring of a registered dangerous animal.
- c. The new address of the dangerous animal owner should the owner move.

8. Animals Born of Registered Dangerous Animals. All offspring born of dangerous animals registered with the Village must be registered with the Village within six (6) weeks of the birth of such animal.

9. Penalties. It shall be unlawful for any person, owner, keeper or harborer of a dangerous animal to fail to comply with the requirements and conditions set forth in this division. Any dangerous animal found to be the subject of a violation of this division shall be subject to immediate seizure and impoundment.

In addition, failure to comply with the requirements and conditions set forth in this chapter shall be a ninety three (93) day misdemeanor and a fine of \$500.00 shall be imposed upon the offender.

Further, a violation of this section shall result in the revocation of the license of such animal and the permit providing for the keeping of such animal, resulting in the immediate removal of the animal from the Village.

**D. Severability.**

The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable, and the holding of any court of competent jurisdiction that any section hereof is invalid shall not impair or invalidate any other section.

**E. Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances.**

All Ordinances, or any section thereof, in conflict with this Ordinance to the extent of such conflict are hereby repealed.

**Section 5. Effective Date.**

This Ordinance will become effective upon adoption.

Wendy Bloem  
Village Clerk

Adopted: November 26, 2007

Published: December 2, 2007

Effective: November 26, 2007

### **CERTIFICATE**

The undersigned, being duly qualified clerk of the Village of Lakewood Club, Muskegon County, Michigan, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of an ordinance adopted by the Village Council of the Village of Lakewood Club at a regular meeting of the Village Council on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007, at which meeting a quorum was present and remained throughout, and that the original of said ordinance is on file in the records of the Village of Lakewood Club. I further certify that the meeting was conducted and public notice was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended, and that minutes were kept and will be or have been made available as required thereby.

Dated: November 26, 2007

*Wendy Bloem*  
Clerk, Village of Lakewood Club

Publish: Notice of Adoption to be published once within ten (10) days of final adoption.