RULES CONCERNING ANIMALS

LOST & FOUND ANIMALS

Contact SPA Brome-Missisquoi (Mr. Carl Girard) to report any lost or found animal. You can reach him by phone at (450) 263-1117 or my email.

RULES GOVERNING ANIMALS

By-law no. 560 governs all the matters concerning animals. Please refer to the document to access to the detailed rules concerning animals.

Number of domestic animals – urban sectors

Within the urban sectors (Knowlton, Foster, Fulford, West-Brome and Iron-Hill), it is forbidden to keep more than five (5) domestic animals of which there shall be no more than two dogs in a residential unit and its accessory buildings.

This limit of five animals does not apply to fish or birds in cages.

If an animal gives birth, the young may be kept for a period not to exceed three months after their birth.

As an interim step, an owner who, at the coming into force of this by-law, owned more than two dogs may keep these dogs until their death, sale or until they are given away. However, the said owner shall not own more than five (5) dogs.

Leash

Except in agricultural zones, any animal kept in an owner's residential unit or in an accessory building shall be held by some means of retention to stop the animal from leaving the building or the building shall be fenced.

All dogs are required to be held or controlled by their owner on a leash which shall not exceed 2 m in length except when the dog is within the limits of the residential unit or accessory buildings or its owner.

Wandering

It is prohibited to allow an animal to wander on a public roadway, in a park or on private property other than on the property belonging to the animal's owner.

Nuisances subject to a fine

The following are considered nuisances and are prohibited:

a) Feeding, keeping or otherwise attracting pigeons, squirrels, skunks, cats or other animals that are free in a manner that might impair public health, safety or the comfort of the neighbourhood;

b) Keeping an animal that suffers from a contagious disease;

c) Destroying, damaging or soiling the property of others by leaving fecal or urinary matter in parks, public roadways;

d) For a cat, meowing or howling so as to disturb the peace and tranquility of one or more persons;

e) Allowing a domestic animal to destroy or damage bags of garbage or recycling;

f) Failing to care for a domestic animal to the extent of creating a health hazard in the residential unit;

g) Permitting a domestic animal to cause damage to property, including public property;

h) Whoever permits, tolerates or encourages an act of cruelty mentioned in this by-law commits an offence.

Cruelty

It is forbidden to mistreat or to be cruel to an animal.

The following constitutes cruelty to an animal:

a) To cause or to permit pain, wounding or suffering to be unnecessarily caused to an animal;

b) To voluntarily wound or injure an animal while it is transported;

c) To muzzle or permit to be muzzled an animal on a continuous basis resulting in the animal being unable to drink;

d) Being the owner or keeper of an animal, to neglect or omit to provide food, water, shelter and appropriate and sufficient care;

e) To organize or encourage in any manner, animal fighting or harassment or to aid and assist thereat;

f) Being the owner, occupant or person in charge of premises, to permit such premises to be used in total or in part for the purposes set out in the previous paragraph;

g) Voluntarily and without a reasonable motive, to administer to an animal a drug or poisonous or toxic substance or to permit someone to do so;

h) To organize, direct, or facilitate meetings, contests, recreational events, demonstrations or other events during the course of which captive birds are released either by hand, trap or other device, to be shot at upon their release, or to take part in such an event or to receive money for same;

i) To leave a domestic animal outdoors or in a vehicle when it is -15 C or colder.

j) To leave a domestic animal in a vehicle without having first opened the window by a minimum of 5 cm's to allow air to enter or having failed to open the roof if the vehicle is so equipped.

Abandon

It is forbidden to abandon an animal for the purpose of disposing of it within the Town limits.

License

A license is required for any dog three months old or older, living within the limits of the Town.

Said license can be obtained from Ms Phillis Sise (450-243-6080), who is entitled to sell the licenses for the Town.

The license is sold at the price of 30.00$ and is valid for three (3) years. The fee is not refundable is the dog dies during that period.

In the event of loss or destruction of the dog license, the owner of the dog to which it was issued may obtain a replacement upon paying the sum set by the Town's tariff by-law.

Capture of dogs without licenses

A dog caught without a dog license by the Controller shall be taken to the dog pound. Costs shall apply to recover the dog.

Dog Nuisances

The following constitute a nuisance:

- If a dog, whether wandering or not, causes damage to the property of others;
- If a dog, whether wandering or not, bites or chokes or tries to bite or choke a person or another animal or constitutes a danger for persons or other animals;
- If a dog, whether wandering or not, barks, howls or otherwise disturbs the peace and tranquility of the one or more persons;
- If a dog is found outside his owner's premises and is not held on a leash of a maximum of 2 m;
- If a dog, whether wandering or not, is found on private property without the express consent of the owner, tenant or occupant of such property;
- If a dog is found untethered inside the unfenced property of its owner.

Excrements

The owner of a dog shall immediately remove and dispose of any fecal matter produced by the dog in parks, roadways, and private property.

A dog owner shall always carry a bag for this purpose.

The owner of a dog who refuses or neglects to abide by the provisions of this section shall be found to be in contravention of this by-law.

This section does not apply to service dogs or guide dogs.

Bites

When a dog has bitten a person, its owner shall advise the Sûreté du Québec as soon as possible and, at a minimum, within 24 hours of the occurrence of the event.

Guard Dogs

The owner of a dog used for guarding or for security purposes shall install signage to that effect on his property.

Enforcement of the by-law

The by-law and its rules are enforced by the SPA Brome-Missisquoi, c/o Mr. Carl Girard. You can reach the animal controller by phone (450-263-1117) or by email.