

Chapter 4

**ANIMALS AND FOWL\***

**Art. I. In General, §§ 4-1—4-30**

**Art. II. Dogs, §§ 4-31—4-33**

**ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**

**Sec. 4-1. Livestock at large prohibited.**

It shall be unlawful for any owner or person in control of any horse, mule, jack, jenny, cow, calf, goat, sheep, hog or pig in the town to permit the same to run, rove and be at large and outside of the premises owned or under the control of such owner or person.

(Code 1964, § 4-4)

**State law reference**—Authority to prohibit livestock running at large, R.S. 3:2531.

**Sec. 4-2. Impounding livestock at large; redemption by owner.**

(a) The police chief or any police officer shall impound any livestock found at large in violation of section 4-1. The officer impounding such livestock shall give notice thereof, containing a description of the impounded animal, either by publication once in a newspaper published in the town or by posting the notice in some public place on the courthouse square.

(b) The owner or keeper of such stock may redeem it within ten (10) days of the publication or posting of the notice by paying the reasonable costs of impounding and keeping the stock. If not redeemed within the time specified above, the stock shall be sold in the manner provided by law and the proceeds used to defray the cost of impounding and keeping the stock. The surplus of such proceeds shall be paid to the owner if he makes demand therefor within one (1) year. If he does not make such demand, the surplus shall revert to the town.

(Code 1964, § 4-5)

**Sec. 4-3. Impoundment procedure.**

The procedure to be used by town personnel to impound any animals running at large in the town is contained in a rules and regulations manual which is on file in the office of the town clerk.

(Ord. No. 755, 6-3-87)

**\*Charter references**—Authority to suppress hog pens, § 16(3); to establish pesthouses, § 16(15).

**Cross references**—Slaughtering animals prohibited, § 10-6; animals prohibited on sidewalks, § 14-4.

**State law reference**—Animals running at large, R.S. 3:2531 et seq.

**Sec. 4-4. General cleanliness of places where animals or fowl are kept.**

(a) Every owner, lessee or manager of any stable, stall or other place where animals or fowl are kept shall cause all manure and stable refuse therein collected to be properly and promptly removed and shall keep the premises in a clean and sanitary condition at all times.

(b) Such stable or premises shall comply with the rules and regulations of the state department of health and human resources as set forth in the state sanitary code.  
(Code 1964, § 4-6)

**Cross reference**—Cleanliness of premises generally, § 10-3.

**Sec. 4-5. Requirements for hog pens.**

(a) *Area.* All pens, yards and other enclosures in which hogs are kept shall contain not less than twelve hundred (1200) square feet for the first hog, plus eight hundred (800) square feet for each additional hog.

(b) *Cleanliness.* All places where hogs are kept shall be maintained in clean, sanitary, inoffensive condition at all times.

(c) *Violations.* All violations of this section shall be misdemeanors, shall constitute public nuisances and are punishable in accordance with section 1-11.

(Code 1964, § 4-7)

**Charter reference**—Authority to suppress hog pens, § 16(3).

**Sec. 4-6. Keeping hogs near buildings prohibited.**

The keeping of hogs or pigs in any enclosure, pen, barn, stable, garden, yard, or lot which extends to within two hundred (200) feet of any residence, place of business, or other building in which people reside or work is prohibited and further is declared to be a public nuisance.  
(Code 1964, § 4-8)

**Sec. 4-7. Disposal of dead animals.**

Any person who shall bring into the town or cause to be brought into the town any dead animal, or fail to remove or otherwise properly dispose of the carcass of any animal owned by him or in his possession at the time of death shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

(Code 1964, § 4-9)

**State law reference**—Proper disposal of dead animals, R.S. 3:2131.

**Sec. 4-8. Town declared bird sanctuary; acts prohibited; procedure when birds constitute nuisance.**

(a) The entire area embraced within the corporate limits of the town is hereby designated as a bird sanctuary.

(b) It shall be unlawful to trap, hunt, shoot, or attempt to shoot or molest in any manner any bird or wild fowl or to rob bird nests or wild fowl nests. Provided, however, if starlings or similar birds are found to be congregating in such numbers in a particular locality that they

constitute a nuisance or menace to health or property in the opinion of the proper health authorities of the town, then in such event the health authorities of the town shall meet with representatives of the Audubon Society, Bird Club, Garden Club, Humane Society, or as many of such clubs as are found to exist in the town, after having given at least three (3) days actual notice of the time and place of the meeting to the representatives of the clubs.

(c) If, as the result of such meeting, no satisfactory alternative is found to abate such nuisance, then the birds may be destroyed in such numbers and in such manner as is deemed advisable by the health authorities under the supervision of the police chief.

(Code 1964, § 4-10)

**Secs. 4-9—4-30. Reserved.**

## ARTICLE II. DOGS\*

### Sec. 4-31. Running at large prohibited.

No person shall suffer or permit any dog in his possession, or kept by him about his premises, to run at large on any unenclosed land, or trespass upon any enclosed or unenclosed lands of another.

(Code 1964, § 4-1)

**State law reference**—Dogs running at large, R.S. 3:2771.

### Sec. 4-32. License and tag required for dogs and cats.

(a) Owners of cats and dogs over four (4) months must obtain and maintain a current town license and tag for each dog and cat.

(b) Owners will be responsible for meeting all requirements concerning dogs and cats as set forth in the rules and regulations approved by the mayor and selectmen which will be made available to the owners.

(Ord. No. 771, 10-2-89)

### Sec. 4-33. Killing vicious or uninoculated dogs.

Any citizen or officer may kill any dangerous or vicious dog, and any officer may kill any dog not wearing a tag or identification showing that it has been inoculated against rabies. No citizen or officer shall be liable to damages or to prosecution by reason of killing a dog pursuant to this section.

(Code 1964, § 4-3)

**State law reference**—Similar provisions, R.S. 3:2773.

---

\*State law reference—Regulation of dogs by municipalities, R.S. 3:2731 et seq.