



ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL

Village of Jones Creek

7207 Stephen F. Austin Road

979-233-2700

jc.cityhall@coastal-link.net



Animal Control Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. What Ordinances covers Animal Control?** Ordinance #471
- 2. What does animal at large mean?** An animal that is found off of the premise of the owner as well as an animal that is found outside of the enclosure in which it is required to be kept.
- 3. What is an enclosure?** An enclosure means a barn, shed, or fence, constructed of wood, masonry, chain link, or any combination thereof, sufficient to restrain any animal kept therein.
- 4. What is a nuisance animal?** An animal that attacks a person or another animal, an animal that is repeatedly at large, an animal which barks, whines, or howls excessively, an animal that causes an odor, or an animal this is continuously stray.
- 5. What is a cable runner and can I put my animal on one?** A device or cable suspended between two fixed objects that tag line can be attached to in order for an animal to have the ability to run and get exercise. You may contain your animal by a cable runner.
- 6. What does tether mean and can my animal be tethered?** A tether is a single cable or chain attached to a stake in the ground or fixed object that prevents an animal from freely moving for exercise. You may not tether your animal.
- 7. How many animals am I allowed to have?** There is no limit to the number of animals you have; however, City Council has the right to re-address it at a later date.
- 8. What is a stray animal?** A stray is an animal that roams, with no physical restraint, beyond the premises of such animal's owner or keeper, or an animal that has no known owner.
- 9. When do I become the owner of a stray animal?** By ordinance of Jones Creek a person becomes the owner of a stray if that person allows the animal to stay on their property under their control for any part of three out of five consecutive days. To avoid becoming the owner of a stray, a person should call the Village offices and report it so that animal control can take possession of it and attempt to locate the owner or a home for the animal.
- 10. What is an unrestrained dog or cat?** An unrestrained dog or cat is one that is allowed to run loose without a leash and leave the confines of the owner's property.
- 11. What is a vicious dog or cat?** An animal which makes an unprovoked attack on a person, or another animal that causes bodily injury; or shows any sign of aggression which would make a person believe the animal would attack.
- 12. What happens if my dog or cat bites someone?** If your animal bites someone, the animal must be placed in quarantine for a period of ten days to allow the animal to be observed for signs of the rabies virus. After the quarantine period the owner can get the animal back unless it test positive for rabies. The owner will be responsible for all fees charged during the quarantine.
- 13. What happens if my dog or cat is declared vicious?** An animal will be declared vicious by the Animal Control Officer by written notice; thereafter, the animal will no longer be allowed to be kept, possessed, harbored, or allowed to remain in the Village.
- 14. Can I keep a wild animal on my property?** You may NOT keep a wild animal in the village of Jones Creek. Examples of a wild animal are raccoons, alligators, skunks, coyotes, venomous reptiles and snakes.

- 15. Is there a penalty for any of these violations?** Yes there are penalties that can be assessed by the judge for violating these laws. That can be as much as \$2,000.00.
- 16. What happens to my animal if picked up by an animal control officer?** If your animal is picked up by the Animal Control Officer, it will be taken to City of Brazoria Animal Shelter. The Shelter will make every attempt to locate the owner and return the animal.
- 17. Who is the Animal Control Officer?** The Village has contracted with the City of Brazoria to use their Animal Control Officer.
- 18. If my animal is picked up by the Animal Control Officer what steps do I have to take to get the animal back?** You will contact Jones Creek City Hall to see if your animal has been impounded and how to reclaim your animal.
- 19. How long will the shelter hold my animal if picked up?** The shelter will hold an animal for three days if it is not registered and five days if it is registered. During this time the shelter staff will make every effort possible to locate the owner of the animal.
- 20. How much are the fees to get my animal back from the shelter?** Fees for pickup for a licensed animal are \$25.00 and \$50.00 for unlicensed animals. Also, boarding fees are \$5.00 per day will be added. You will pay this at Jones Creek City Hall.
- 21. Where can I call to find out if my animal was picked up?** You can call the Jones Creek City Hall, 979-233-2700, or the Jones Creek Marshal's Office, 979-233-3091, to see if your animal was picked up.
- 22. Can I call someone to pick up a stray?** If a stray animal is on your property you can call the Jones Creek City Hall, 979-233-2700, or the Marshal's office, 979-233-3091, to have the animal picked up.
- 23. What does the City of Brazoria do with unclaimed animals?** Although the City of Brazoria is not a no-kill facility we do make every attempt to find pets owners and adoptable homes if at all possible. After an animal has been kept for a set amount of time the animal will become available for adoption to interested and qualified people. No animal will be adopted to anyone that has been convicted of abuse to animals. Every pet deserves a chance to be happy just like its owners or people. For information on how to adopt an animal please contact Brazoria City Hall at 979-798-2489.
- 24. Does my animal have to be licensed with the Village of Jones Creek?** Your animal must be registered and licensed with the Village yearly. This will help insure that animals are vaccinated and not being abused. It will also help the animal control officer to locate the owners of animals that may be picked up.
- 25. Does my animal have to have a City Tag?** Yes, your animal does have to have a City tag. It will be issued to you upon registration.
- 26. Where do I get the tag and how much is it?** You may register your animal with the Village at City Hall. The tag is \$5.00 yearly for altered animals and \$10.00 yearly for unaltered animals.
- 27. Does my animal have to have rabies shots?** Your animal must be vaccinated for rabies yearly.
- 28. At what age does my animal have to be licensed by the city?** You should register your animal after 6 months of age and after it has received a rabies shot.
- 29. How often do I have to register my animal?** You need to update your registration with the Village yearly.
- 30. Does the tag have to be attached to my animal at all times?** Registration tags should be attached to the animal at all times. This helps to identify the owner of the animal in the event the animal gets out.
- 31. What happens if I don't register my animal with the city?** If you do not register your animal with the Village you may be assessed a fine of up to \$2,000.00.
- 32. Is the Village of Jones Creek sponsoring an animal responsibility day?** Yes, it will be May 19th from 10am-2pm at Jones Creek City Hall. Please feel free to bring your dog, but we stress that you must be able to control your animal and it MUST be on a leash. If your dog has ever shown any signs of aggression we ask that you please leave them at home, but encourage you to join us and learn how to be the best pet parent you can be!