

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR

POLICY FOR DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE

PURPOSE: To establish the procedure that the Dog Control Officer will follow when receiving a complaint with regard to a dog running at large.

DEFINITION: A dog running at large is a dog found in any place other than the premises of the dog owner, as deemed by By-law 2006-04 as amended, a by-law for the control of dogs running at large, and not under the control of any person. A dog shall not be considered under the control of any person unless it is connected to that person by a leash or similar apparatus no longer than four metres in length.

FIRST OFFENCE: The Dog Control Officer will return the dog to the owner, if known, with a warning.

SECOND OFFENCE: The Dog Control Officer will hold the dog for a period of up to three calendar days until a payment, as set out in By-law Number 2006-04, Section 6 (a) as amended, is made to the Township of O'Connor. Upon payment the dog owner may retrieve their dog. After three calendar days or where the third day falls on a Sunday or Holiday, which would then be the fourth day, the dog will be brought to the Thunder Bay Animal Services and the procedure will be followed as per the Township By-law for the control of dogs running at large.

THIRD OFFENCE: The Dog Control Officer will take the dog to the Thunder Bay Animal Services and upon payment to the Township of O'Connor, as set out in By-Law Number 2006-04 Section 6 (a) as amended, the dog owner may retrieve their dog.

IF THE OWNER IS UNKNOWN OR CANNOT BE FOUND: The Dog Control Officer will bring the dog to the Thunder Bay Animal Services and procedure will be followed as per the Township By-law for the control of dogs running at large.

AGGRESSIVE DOGS: A dog is considered to be aggressive if it has attacked and/or injured another animal or a person. If the Dog Control Officer receives a complaint of an aggressive dog running at large the Ontario Provincial Police will be contacted and the owner will be held liable under the Dog Owner's Liability Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. D. 16.

POLICY STATEMENT: This policy shall work in conjunction with the approved By-Law respecting the control of dogs running at large within the Township of O'Connor

EFFECTIVE DATE: This policy shall come into effect November 23, 2009

Reference: - Council Resolution #8 – November 23, 2009
- Amended Council meeting March 8, 2010 to reflect position name change to Dog Control Officer.
- Amended by By-Law #2010-28, Dec 6, 2010