

Chapter 6.04. DOG LICENSES

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6.04.010. Definitions.

As used in DCC Title 6, the words and phrases are defined as set forth in DCC 6.04.010.

"Dog" means any mammal of the canine family.

"Dog kept primarily in a kennel" means a dog, such as a show dog or dog kept for breeding, that is housed primarily in a kennel and not in the residence of its owner or keeper and that is not allowed to run at large.

"Kennel" means a premises for the housing of dogs.

"Kennel, commercial" means any premises where four or more dogs, at least four months of age, are kept commercially for board, breeding, training or sale.

(Ord. 95-031 §1, 1995; Ord. 92-013 §4, 1992; Ord. 90-036 §1, 1990; Ord. 90-019 §1, 1990)

6.04.020. Dog Licenses Required.

Every person owning or keeping any dog that has a set of permanent canine teeth or that is six months old, whichever comes first, shall within 30 days after he becomes the owner or keeper of the dog, and yearly thereafter, procure from the County a license for the dog either under DCC 6.04.030 or DCC 6.04.070.

(Ord. 95-031 §1, 1995; Ord. 90-036 §2, 1990; Ord. 90-019 §1, 1990)

6.04.030. Dog Licenses.

- A. Persons with dogs not qualifying under DCC 6.04.070 shall license their dogs with individual dog licenses as set forth herein.
- B. Every dog licensed under DCC 6.04.030 shall display its license tag in all instances when it is deemed to be at large under DCC 6.08.010.

(Ord. 95-031 §1, 1995; Ord. 90-036 §3, 1990)

6.04.040. Expiration.

- A. Dog licenses shall be valid for a period of one year from the date of purchase or to the rabies expiration date, whichever comes first.
- B. A dog license is not transferable to another dog. The dog license is assigned to the dog and shall remain with the dog upon transfer to another owner for the life of the license. Upon transfer, the dog's new owner shall notify the County of the transfer within 30 days of the transfer.
- C. A dog displaying a current license from jurisdictions outside Deschutes County, but within the State of Oregon, shall not require licensing under DCC 6.04 until expiration of the current license, provided that the dog remains in the possession of the owner to whom the license was duly issued.

(Ord. 90-019 §1, 1990)

6.04.050. Fees.

- A. The Board of County Commissioners shall determine the dog license fee amounts.
- B. The license fee for dogs that qualify for the kennel fee shall be \$5.00 per dog for up to 10 dogs and \$1.00 per dog for each additional dog over 10 dogs.
(Ord. 2003-024 §1, 2003, Ord. 98-007 §1, 1998; 93-048 §1, 1993; Ord. 90-019 §1, 1990)

6.04.060. Exemptions from License Fees.

No dog license fee shall be required to be paid for any dog owned by a blind or deaf person who uses the dog as a guide. A license shall be issued for such a dog upon filing with the County a signed statement by the blind or deaf person stating facts showing that the person is entitled to this exemption. Such licenses shall be renewed every year.
(Ord. 90-019 §1, 1990)

6.04.070. Dogs Kept Primarily in Kennels.

- A. Owners of dogs kept primarily in a kennel and not allowed to run at large are entitled, upon making the showing required in DCC 6.04.070, to be licensed at the kennel fee rate. A person requesting licensing at the kennel rate shall establish by affidavit or signed statement (1) if the kennel is a commercial kennel, that the kennel complies with applicable land use laws and ordinances; (2) that the person houses his or her dogs primarily in a kennel, as defined herein; (3) that the person has four dogs or more; (4) that the person has not been convicted of animal abuse under County or state law for failure to maintain minimum care standards; and (5) that the person has not been convicted under County or state law for allowing his or her dogs to be at large during any period for which he or she has had a kennel license.
- B. Any owner or keeper convicted of animal abuse under state or County law by virtue of the conditions under which dogs are kept in the owner or keeper's kennel shall not be entitled to be licensed at the kennel rate.
- C. Any owner or keeper convicted of a dog at large violation while having dogs licensed at the kennel rate shall thereafter not be entitled to license his or her dogs at the kennel rate. The kennel license of the owner or keeper so convicted shall remain valid for the remainder of its term.
- D. The dog owner applying for a kennel license shall grant authority to visit the premises to such County representatives as are necessary to verify that the qualifications set forth in the application are met.
(Ord. 92-013 §1, 1992; Ord. 90-036 §4, 1990; Ord. 90-019 §1, 1990)

6.04.080. Kennel licenses.

- A. Kennel licenses shall be valid for a one-year period from the date of purchase.
- B. Dogs kept primarily in kennels and entitled to be licensed under a kennel license shall be covered by one kennel license issued by the office of the Deschutes County Treasurer, which license shall be posted in a conspicuous place on the kennel.
(Ord. 95-031 1, 1995; Ord. 92-013 §2, 1992; Ord. 90-036 §5, 1990)

6.04.090. Violation.

Violation of any provision of DCC 6.04 is a Class B violation.
(Ord. 2003-021 §12, 2003; Ord. 90-019 §1, 1990)