

STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF CHATTOOGA

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF TRION'S CODE OF ORDINANCES  
CHAPTER 10 REGARDING ANIMAL CONTROL - TETHERING

WHEREAS, the Town of Trion has determined that there is a need to establish the duties and prohibitions relating to the control of animals in the Town of Trion;

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this Ordinance to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Town of Trion;

WHEREAS, the provisions of this Ordinance are to be enforceable by the Town of Trion Police Department and Animal Control Officers;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Town of Trion, Georgia, and it is hereby ordained and established by said authority, that Chapter 10 of the Code of Ordinances shall be amended as follows:

**Sec. 10-1 – Definitions**

*Tethering* is the act by any owner of a domestic animal to chain, tie, fasten or otherwise tether the animal to dog houses, trees, fences, vehicles or other stationary objects as a means of confinement except that the animal may be temporarily confined by a tether while attended by its owner.

**Sec. 10-19 - Keeping Domestic Animals Under Control**

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any owner of a domestic animal not to control the animal at all times through one of the following means:
- (1) On a leash when off the property of the owner;
  - (2) Within the passenger area of a vehicle driven or parked on the streets;
  - (3) Within the property limits of its owner and attended by its owner; or
  - (4) Confined within the property limits of its owner or of another with the permission of the person in control of the property.

Confined means in a building, pen or fenced area or other structure built to prevent intrusion or escape by any dog.

- (b) It shall be unlawful for any owner of a domestic animal to chain, tie, fasten or otherwise tether the animal to dog houses, trees, fences, vehicles or other stationary objects as a means of confinement except that the animal may be temporarily confined by a tether while attended by its owner. Any person found guilty of said offense of tethering shall be punishable as under Section 10-8 Cruelty to Animals.
- (c) Exemptions. Feral cat colony caretakers are exempt from the requirements of this section. Feral cat colony caretakes that are exempt must be approved by the mayor and renewed.

**Sec. 10-20 - Specific requirements for confinement it shall be an offense for any owner of a domestic animal not to satisfy the following requirements:**

- (a) Any tether used to temporarily confine an animal while attended by its owner must be attached to a collar or harness and shall not be wrapped directly around the animal's neck. Such tethers shall not be excessively heavy or weighted so as to inhibit the animal's movement.
- (b) All domestic animals shall be provided with sanitary shelter from the elements. Said shelter shall be designed, constructed and maintained to protect the animal from rain, snow, ice, excessive cold, excessive heat and excessive direct sunlight, and of a size to allow the animal sufficient space to stand, turn around, and lie down, and make all other normal body movements in a normal and comfortable position appropriate to the age, size, and health of the animal. Examples of inadequate shelter include, but are not limited to, lean-tos, metal or plastic drums, boxes, vehicles, or the area on or beneath exposed porches or decks. Nothing in this Subsection shall be construed to prevent the transportation and temporary confinement of a domestic animal within the passenger area of a vehicle provided that the animal is provided adequate ventilation and temperature control in order to protect the animal from excessive heat or cold.
- (c) All domestic animals shall be provided with clean, potable water at all times.
- (d) An owner must promptly remove and dispose of animal excrement and food waste and debris so as to minimize vermin infestation, contamination, odors, and disease hazards.
- (e) All domestic animals shall be provided with a safe and sanitary confinement area constructed to confine the animal, to protect the animal from injury, and of a sufficient space to allow for adequate exercise suitable to the age, size, species, and breed of animal. The area shall have a means to rapidly eliminate excess water and minimize mud.
- (f) Exemptions. Feral cat colony caretakes are exempt from the requirements of this section.

**Sec. 10-21 - Prohibitions for domestic animal**

It shall be unlawful for any person to permit a domestic animal under his or her ownership or possession to do the following:

- (a) Go upon the property of any person other than its owner or keeper without the express consent of such other owner or occupant.
- (b) Attach or act so as to menace pedestrians or other persons using public ways or on the property of another.

Pending an adjudication for any citation for a violation of this subparagraph (b), the person cited shall be required to maintain the dog in a proper enclosure, as defined in this chapter. Any person convicted of violating this subsection, in addition to penalties, shall be required to maintain the dog in a proper enclosure, as defined in this chapter.

- (c) Disturb the peace of any other person by loud, persistent, habitual barking, howling, growling, yelping or whining. No person shall be charged with violating this subsection unless written warning has previously been issued within 90 days of the charged violation.
- (d) Be in heat and not be confined in an enclosure to the property of its owner or keeper.
- (e) Exemptions. Feral cat colony caretakers are exempt from the requirements of this section.

**Sec. 10-22 - Duty to Provide Safe Access for Meter Readers**

Animal owners have a duty to provide a safe passageway for meter readers of the Town of Trion. The owner has the responsibility to restrain aggressive pets so as not to hinder the meter readers in their job duties. If pets impede the ability to read the meter, the meter will be estimated and billed accordingly. Further, if continued access is impeded due to aggressive pets, the service will be disconnected until suitable access is provided.

This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Trion.

SO ORDAINED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.

BY:   
MAYOR LARRY STANSELL  
TOWN OF TRION

Attest:

  
Town Clerk

