

CONGRATULATIONS! You are now responsible for a canine companion. The Town of Warrensburg has enacted certain regulations that all dog owners should be aware of. We hope this booklet is of some assistance to you.

LICENSING: All dogs residing in New York State **must** be licensed. Licenses are issued at the Town Clerk's Office and are renewed annually. On October 1, 1992, Warren County was declared a **rabies county**. Therefore, all dogs must be vaccinated against the rabies disease before the Town Clerk can issue a dog license.

PROCEDURE: When your dog reaches the age of 4 months old or it has been found to be running-at-large, (running-at-large means a dog off the premises of the owner and in a public place or on private lands without the knowledge, consent and approval of the owner of such lands). **It's time to license your dog.** Please bring a current rabies vaccination certificate and proof of spaying or neutering of your dog to the Town Clerk's Office. License fees can be found below.

If you are renewing your license, please bring the two (2) part renewal form sent to you by the Warrensburg Town Clerk, check to be sure your rabies information is current on the renewal form and if not please provide an updated rabies certificate. Renewal fees are as follows:

Spayed/Neutered: \$ 4.00 license fee + \$1.00 state surcharge = \$ 5.00
Unspayed/Unneutered: \$12.00 license fee + \$3.00 state surcharge = \$ 15.00
New Dog Tag: \$ 5.00

If a dog is found as unlicensed during a dog enumeration, a \$5.00 fee will be added onto your license.

FIRST TIME LICENSING: Upon licensing your dog, you will be issued an Identification Tag for your dog to wear. This number on the tag will be the same as the license you are issued. Chapter 77 article 3 of the Code of the Town of Warrensburg **requires** that your dog wear the tag for identification purposes. Failure to do so may result in issuance of a ticket, seizure of your dog and/or fines.

LOST TAGS: If your tag becomes lost you will need to purchase a New Dog Tag from the Warrensburg Town Clerk's Office. The fees are as listed above.

LEASH LAW: The purpose of our local **Leash Law** is to protect the health, safety and well-being of persons and property within the Town of Warrensburg and are outlined in Chapter 77 of the Town of Warrensburg Code governing dogs. A full copy of the text of the code is available at the Town Clerk's Office for your review.

Highlights of the leash law are:

- 1) All dogs must be on a leash of sufficient strength to restrain the dog.
- 2) The premises, structures or enclosures of a dog owner shall be maintained in a clean, sanitary manner.
- 3) No dog shall:
 - a.) Engage in habitual barking, howling, crying or whining to cause an annoyance.
 - b.) Cause damage to property
 - c.) Attack, chase, and/or harass any person or domestic animals
- 4) All Dog Feces must be immediately removed from streets, highways and sidewalks by the owner of the dog.

IF YOUR DOG GETS AWAY FROM YOU: The Barks Recreation Veterinary, LLC at 270 Queensbury Avenue, Queensbury, NY 12804 provides the Town of Warrensburg with shelter services. You may contact them at **(518) 793-8055** to see if your dog has been picked up by the Dog Control Officer. The law states that it is the **dog owner's responsibility** to claim his/her dog in a **timely manner** from the shelter. Failure to claim your animal may result in misdemeanor charges of abandonment of the animal punishable by imprisonment up to one year and/or fines. After any fines or fees, license, etc. are paid to the Town Clerk, the dog will then be released to his/her owner. The shelter hours are:

Monday thru Friday	7:00 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday	7:00 am – 12:00 pm & 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Sunday	7:00 am – 12:00 pm & 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

IMPOUNDMENT FEES: If your dog is picked up by the Dog Control Officer, the impoundment fees are as follows:

1st offense: \$45.00 pickup fee by the Town

2nd offense: \$60.00 pickup fee by the Town

3rd offense: \$90.00 pickup fee by the Town

PLUS: All daily impound fee's imposed by the Boarding/Veterinary's yearly updated contract fee schedule

MISSING DOG: You may contact the shelter to see if your dog has been brought to Barks Recreation Veterinary (518)-793-8055.

DOG BITES: If you are bitten by a dog or if your dog bites any person, you are **required** to report the incident to the Dog Control Officer (518) 920-8320 and the Warren County Public Health (518-761-6580). The biting dog must be quarantined for observation for ten (10) days. The Dog Control Officer will give you the quarantine instructions and will visit periodically to be sure the dog is not showing signs of ill health. Warren County Public Health Department will contact the bite victim to be sure the proper medical treatment has been administered.

DANGEROUS DOGS: Effective September 1, 1998, the Law defines a dangerous dog as any dog which: a) without justification attacks a person and causes physical injury or death; or b) poses a serious and unjustified imminent threat of harm to one or more persons. Should you encounter such a dog, you must contact the Dog Control Officer. The law provides that any person may make a complaint to the DCO of a dog attack upon a person, or of a dog attacking, chasing or worrying a domestic animal. Upon receiving such a complaint, the Law requires that the DCO immediately inform the complainant of his or her right to commence a dangerous dog proceeding. If there is reason to believe the dog is a dangerous dog, the DCO is required to commence such a proceeding himself or herself. Dangerous dog proceedings are heard in Town Justice Court.

ATTENTION CAT OWNERS: New York State Law requires that all cats be vaccinated against rabies disease.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR ALL RESIDENTS:

Warrensburg Town Clerk's Office	(518) 623-4561
SPCA of Upstate New York	(518) 798-3500
Dog Control Officer – Florance Converse	(518) 260-4995
Warren County Public Health	(518) 761-6580
Warren County Sheriff	(518) 743-2501

We hope this pamphlet will be of some assistance to you and your canine companion. REMEMBER: If you love your canine, you should license him or her.

This pamphlet has been prepared for you by the Warrensburg Town Clerk's Office.

Pamela Lloyd, Town Clerk
Judi Hull, Deputy Clerk

Town of Warrensburg Guide to Dog Owner Responsibilities

