

ORDINANCE NO. 398

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF MARIPOSA PROVIDING FOR
LICENSING AND CONTROL OF DOGS AND DEFINING THE DUTIES OF
THE POUNDMASTER AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa do
ordain as follows:

SECTION 1: DEFINITIONS AS USED IN THIS ORDINANCE:

(a) "At large" means a dog off the premises of its owner
and not under restraint by physical means.

(b) "Board" means the Board of Supervisors of the County
of Mariposa.

(c) "Dog" includes any domesticated canine, including
members of wild species such as coyotes or wolves.

(d) "Domestic animals" means dogs, cats and other species
of animals comparable to them in size which are ordinarily
thought of as household pets.

(e) "Health Officer" means the Mariposa County Health
Officer or the Public Health Sanitarian.

(f) "Owner" means the legal or equitable owner of a dog
or any person holding, keeping, or having custody or control of
a dog.

(g) "License" means the tag issued by the County Health
Department upon proof of vaccination against rabies.

(h) "Person" means a natural person, a partnership, an
unincorporated association, or a corporation.

SECTION 2: POUNDMASTER:

There shall be a Poundmaster of Mariposa County. Unless

1 otherwise designated by the Board, the Constables of their
2 respective judicial districts shall be the Poundmasters. His
3 duties shall be as outlined in this Ordinance, as may be set
4 from time to time by Resolution of the Board, and as may be
5 prescribed by the laws of the State of California. The County
6 Health Department is authorized to collect license fees, im-
7 pounding and board fees and other funds payable to the County
8 in accordance with the usual accounting procedures. The
9 Poundmaster shall enforce the provisions of this Ordinance
10 and of applicable sections of the State Law; he is empowered
11 to issue citations for violations of them.

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13 SECTION 3: VIOLATION:

14 Violations of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be
15 infractions. Persons convicted of a violation of a provision
16 of this Ordinance shall be fined not more than Fifty Dollars
17 (\$50.00).

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19 SECTION 4:

20 The County Health Department shall maintain and carry out
21 a system for the procurement, issuance and recording of dog
22 licenses in accordance with this Ordinance. License tags shall
23 be issued, be of durable material and bear the stamped words,
24 "Mariposa County", a number and the year.

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26 SECTION 5: LICENSE FEES:

27 (a) An individual license issued for a single dog. There
28 will be no license fee. License will be given upon proof of
rabies vaccination.

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SECTION 6: LICENSE REQUIREMENTS:

The owner of a dog must procure a license for it. The license shall continue in effect until the time of the next required vaccination for rabies. The owner must attach an individual license to each dog by means of a collar, chain or harness.

SECTION 7: RABIES VACCINATION:

The owner of each dog four months of age or more shall cause it to be vaccinated against rabies, and at intervals of not more than two years or at such other times as may be prescribed by the State Health Department. This vaccination shall be performed by veterinarian licensed in California using approved materials and techniques. Proof of such vaccination is required before issuance of a license tag.

SECTION 8: EXEMPTIONS:

The following are exempt from procuring dog licenses:

- (a) Veterinarians as to dogs being held for treatment or board.
- (b) Owners of dogs used by blind people or being trained for such use.
- (c) Owners of dogs which are licensed for the current year by another city or county.

SECTION 9: LOST LICENSES:

The County Health Department will issue a duplicate license for a fee of fifty cents (\$.50) upon proper identification and proof of loss.

1 SECTION 10: NO OWNER SHALL:

2 (a) Permit his dog to run at large on any property where
3 livestock or domestic fowl are kept without the permission of
4 the property owner.

5 (b) Permit his dog to run at large in a public park, school
6 or school grounds, public street, trailer park, or campground.

7 (c) Permit his dog to run at large while in heat, if an
8 unspayed female.

9 (d) Permit his dog to injure a person or damage or destroy
10 property.

11 (e) Permit his dog to be a public nuisance as defined by
12 Section 370 of the Penal Code of the State of California.

13 (f) Abandon a dog or other animal in the County.
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15 SECTION 11: POUND:

16 The Poundmaster may operate such pounds and with furnish-
17 ings, supplies and equipment as are furnished by the Board. He
18 shall maintain such pounds in a humane and sanitary manner.
19 The Board may contract with adjoining counties within California
20 for the use of their pounds and for impounding and disposing
21 of dogs and domestic animals. The Poundmaster and County Health
22 Department will maintain records of animals received and dis-
23 posed of. These records will be destroyed after two years.
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25 SECTION 12: IMPOUNDING:

26 The Poundmaster shall impound:

27 (a) Any dog or domestic animal running at large in the
28 County.

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(b) Any unlicensed dog which is not exempt.

(c) Any dog or domestic animal which has become a public nuisance or has caused injury to persons or damage to property.

(d) Abandoned dogs or other domestic animals.

SECTION 13:

Impounded dogs or other animals will be kept at the pound and may be disposed of in the following manner :

(a) Unlicensed non-exempt dogs and other domestic animals will be kept three days. Thereafter they may then be given to any person who will comply with this Ordinance or they may be disposed of in a humane manner. Persons taking these animals from the pound will pay an impounding fee of Two Dollars (\$2.00) in addition to any dog license fee.

(b) A dog or other domestic animal, whose owner can be identified, and which is impounded will be kept ten (10) days after mailing notice of impoundment by certified mail to its owner. The owner may reclaim it upon payment of expenses resulting from said impoundment. If the owner does not reclaim the dog in that time, they may dispose of it as described in Sub-section (a) of this Section. The Poundmaster, or those with whom the Board has contracted, may dispose of domestic animals whose owner cannot be identified in the same manner after three days.

(c) If an animal has bitten a person or there is reason to suspect that it is infected with rabies, the Health Officer may impose a quarantine which will be carried out by the Poundmaster. Charges for animals held in quarantine are the expenses resulting

1 from said impoundment. If the animal proves to be infected with
2 rabies, it will be disposed of as directed by the Health Officer.

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4 SECTION 14:

5 The Pound, approved by the County, should the County
6 not operate and maintain such Pound, or such Pound which the County
7 may contract with pursuant to Section 11 will receive dogs and
8 other domestic animals without fee when they are brought by their
9 owners for disposal. The Poundmaster may dispose of them immedi-
10 ately in the manner provided by Section 13.

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12 SECTION 15:

13 When notified that a dog or other domestic animal is injured
14 and at large, the Poundmaster shall attempt to capture the animal.
15 If the owner of the animal can be identified by a dog license
16 or other readily available means, the Poundmaster shall immedi-
17 ately contact the owner and obtain his instructions for disposi-
18 tion of the animal. Any further services or veterinary treatment
19 of the animal shall be a charge to the owner. If the owner
20 cannot be identified or located the Poundmaster may dispose of
21 the animal immediately in a humane manner if he finds it nec-
22 essary, otherwise he will handle the animal in the manner pres-
23 cribed by Section 13 (a) or (b) as appropriate.

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25 SECTION 16:

26 The Poundmaster shall have the powers of examination and
27 entry upon private premises granted by Section 1908 of the
28 Health and Safety Code.

1 Mariposa County Ordinance Nos. 182 and 332 are hereby
2 repealed.

3 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the
4 County of Mariposa this 1st day of April, 1975,
5 by the following vote:

6 AYES: Clark, Hurlbert, Moffitt, Richardson

7 NOES: None


8 ABSENT: Long

9 NOT VOTING: None

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HARRY F. HURLBERT, Chairman
Board of Aupervisors

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ATTEST:

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ELLEN BRONSON, County Clerk
and Ex-Officio Clerk of the
Board

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