

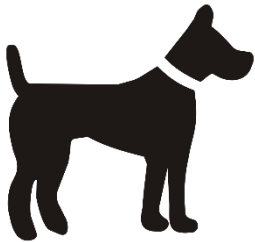


Owning a Pet in Sandy Oaks

*Published by Friends of Sandy Oaks

What You Need to Know

Sandy Oaks welcomes you and your pet(s). We hope the information below helps you!



Most responsible pet owners are already aware of the multiple do's and don'ts of pet care.

This sheet is a short summary of the Ordinances for the City of Sandy Oaks as a helpful handout.

Further details of the various requirements in the City Ordinances are located at the website at [Sandy Oaks Animal Control](#) -- just click on the box 'Animal Control Ordinance'. You can also call the City at 210-607-0834 for more detailed information.

LEASH LAW: Like most residential cities in Texas, Sandy Oaks enforces leash laws. Your dog must be on a leash and with you at all times if it is off your property. Do not allow your pet to roam or wander on any public property or street if unattended!

VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS: Dogs and Cats must be vaccinated! Rabies vaccination is required for dogs and cats over the age of four (4) months and must have a collar with tag.

MICROCHIPPING: Dogs over the age of four (4) months must have a microchip implanted and registered. The Sandy Oaks Animal Control Advisory Committee makes available Microchipping Clinics on a frequent basis. The cost for microchipping, including the registration, if done by the City is \$10 per animal.

NUMBER OF ANIMALS: You may not have more than seven (7), in any combination of dogs, cats and ferrets above the age of four months in any residential area within the City.

- The only exception is the maintaining of a colony of feral cats. The colony must be registered with the San Antonio Feral Cat Coalition or other organization that operates within the 'Trap-Neuter Return/Release' program.
- You may not keep more than ten (10), in any combination, of fowl (other than a rooster) and small-caged animals above the age of four (4) months in any residential area in the City limits. Roosters are prohibited in the City limits.

UNREASONABLE NOISE: A person commits an offense if he knowingly possesses an animal that causes unreasonable noise, such as continuous and long barking, howling, whining, meowing, etc., with such a duration or intensity that it annoys, disturbs or distresses neighbors. That person will surely deserve a visit from the Animal Control Officer or peace officer, and, if they fail to remedy the situation may receive a fine.

UNATTENDED STRAY ANIMALS: If you see an unattended animal roaming, call the city at 210-607-0834. If you see a dangerous and threatening animal after hours you can either call the non-emergency Bexar County line at 210 335-6000 or call the city during the next business day.

STANDARDS OF PET CARE: Remember that each area has different issues to be aware of. Below is just a handful of information important to care for your animal in Sandy Oaks.

SUMMERS: We all know that summers in this area get HOT for us, please remember this is also very true for pets!

- Be sure your pet has **cool** water available at all times. Be aware that a bowl of water can quickly raise to over 100 degrees if left out in the sun!
- Be sure your pet has a place to stay **out of the sun** and severe heat. Remember that a perfectly shaded area early in the morning could be in the hot sun at 3pm.
- Despite having a fur coat, some pets can suffer from a form of sunburn. In addition, a pet suffering from heat stroke can start stumbling, collapse and have labored breathing.
- Be aware that concrete and asphalt can quickly reach 122-135 degrees, much too hot for your pets paws.
- As with children, pets should **never** be left inside a car for any period of time. Their core temperature can rise quickly, resulting in severe illness and death.

VACCINATION: The best way to prevent illness in your pet is by keeping up with their vaccinations, keeping animals bathed, brushed, well-fed and watered.

- Parvovirus has been found in pets in Sandy Oaks! Symptoms include vomiting, lethargy, diarrhea and fever. Parvo is very contagious and can be fatal to puppies. Older dogs may show few symptoms however can spread the disease through their feces to other pets. It is treatable if caught early and preventable by having your animal vaccinated.
- Heartworm is an illness that is present in the hot and humid areas. Heartworm disease is serious and can be fatal. Heartworm is easily preventable with an inexpensive, chewable pill or topical medication available as a vet's prescription. The pills or topical are usually administered monthly and can be given to dogs under 6 months of age without a blood test. Older animals must be screened for the disease prior to starting medication.
- Fleas: Fleas on your pet can cause dermatitis, anemia, and can spread tapeworms. Fleas are also one of the easiest pet challenges to treat. Flea collars, flea oils, medications from your veterinarian, etc., are all available. A flea control program is the best way to keep your dog healthy. As a rule of thumb, it is best to treat your home and yard first, then your dog. This will minimize the chances of your pet being re-infested. Ticks can cause many serious diseases to animals that can then spread to humans. It's important to talk to your veterinarian to determine the best approach to flea and tick control.

DANGEROUS DOGS OR OTHER ANIMALS: The keeping of any dog or other animal kept or maintained within the City limits which displays fierce, dangerous or vicious behavior, or which has bitten, scratched or otherwise attacked a person or other animal is unlawful.

If a dog causes serious bodily injury or death to a person by attacking, biting, or mauling the person, a court may order the dog seized pending a hearing. Following the hearing, in certain cases, the court may order the destruction of the animal.

CONTACT

If you should have any animal control concerns or comments, please contact Sandy Oaks Animal Control via email at animalcontrol@cityofsandyoaks.com or call (210) 870-7894