

PRESSRELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Animal Control Laws Will Be Enforced

Michigan City, IN (April 22, 2004) – Alijah Hunter, director of the Michigan City Animal Control Department, and Assistant Director Bruce Wren remind residents and visitors that the laws regarding animals in the community will continue to be enforced.

“As Spring and Summer approach, more and more people are coming outside their homes with their dogs and cats to enjoy the sunshine,” Hunter said. “It’s important for everyone to know our local laws regarding animals so that we can all enjoy the warmer weather as well as enjoy our pets.”

Michigan City ordinances state:

- **A dog may not run at large; it must be kept on a leash unless in a fenced area.**
- No more than three (3) dogs and/or cats are allowed in a single residential unit.
- Pet owners must remove any animal waste deposited by their pet on public or private property.
- **All dogs and cats must wear tags at all times.**
- **Animals are prohibited on school grounds while school is in session and in city parks, beaches, and cemeteries at all times.**
- Owners must keep dogs and cats in a clean and sanitary area where they are adequately sheltered.
- Owners must provide veterinarian care when needed.
- Excessive barking, molesting people passing by, chasing vehicles or attaching domestic animals is considered “creating a nuisance” and will result in a fine and/or impounding of the animal.
- It is unlawful for a person to knowingly or recklessly abandon or neglect an animal.
- It is unlawful for an owner to conceal animals from law enforcement officers.

“If your animals are not current on their rabies shots,” Assistant Director Wren said, “get them into your veterinarian. If your pets have had their rabies shots, please bring proof of rabies shots (paper work, not tags) when you purchase your dog tags at 1801 Kentucky St. between the hours of 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The cost of city tags is just \$3.00 if the animal is neutered or spayed and \$7.00 if not.”

Director Hunter said, “Anyone who has information about possible dog fighting or animal abuse is encouraged to report it anonymously at the Michigan City Police Department Hot Line (873-1438) or by calling the Michigan City Animal Control Department at 873-1500.”

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