



## Facts About Keeping Animals in Oak Park

- All dogs over four months old must be licensed.
- All cats over four months old that run at large must be licensed.
- Licenses must be purchased within 10 days of moving to Oak Park or acquiring a new animal.
- All licensed animals must wear license tags when off their owner's premises.
- All dogs and cats must be inoculated against rabies.
- All cats must be neutered or spayed.
- Indoor cats are not required to have a license.
- **Animal licenses must be renewed each May.** Applications may be filed in person or by mail with the Oak Park Department of Public Health, 123 Madison St., Oak Park, IL 60302.
- Each license application must be accompanied by a current rabies inoculation certification.
- Village ordinance limits the number of animals on private premises.
- Animals are prohibited from public buildings, including food establishments and stores, with exceptions specified by law, such as dogs accompanying sight-impaired persons.

### License Fees

- \$10 if neutered/spayed (application must be accompanied by a certificate of spaying or neutering).
- \$13 for intact dog.
- Up-to-date rabies vaccination record must accompany all license applications.

### Impoundment

All unlicensed dogs and cats over four months old, all licensed dogs running at large, all animals found illegally in public places, all abandoned animals and all improperly maintained animals may be impounded by Oak Park Animal Control.

#### **Impounded animals may be redeemed for the following fees:**

First offense, animals wearing license tags:	\$10 within 7 days
Second and subsequent offenses:	\$25 within 7 days
Animals not wearing license tags:	\$25 within 3 days
Daily board:	\$6

Fines and costs for citations issued for violations such as animal at large, failure to have animal licensed or proof of rabies inoculation are in addition to impoundment fees.

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### Limits on animals on private premises

Village ordinance limits the number of animals on private premises as follows:

- **Single-family residences, townhomes, buildings or lots:** Three dogs and/or two cats that run at-large, or four cats that are kept indoors. No more than 10 of a combination of all types of permitted animals.
- **Single units of two- or three-flat residential dwellings:** Two dogs and/or cats that run at-large, or two cats that are kept indoors. No more than five of a combination of all types of permitted animals.
- **Multi-family residential building containing four or more dwelling units:** One dog and/or cat that run at-large, or two cats that are kept indoors. No more than five of a combination of all types of permitted animals.
- **Prohibited animals:** Generally, pigs, swine, sheep, cattle, horses, goats or similar animals; naturally wild animals except fish and birds; no more than one pigeon or two rabbits, two guinea pigs, two gerbils or two fowl.

### Animal Care

Owning an animal is an important part of family living for many Oak Parkers. In the interest of all citizens, law and courtesy require that:

- Animals be maintained in a humane manner and in consideration of neighbors.
- All animals be inoculated and licensed as required by the Village of Oak Park.
- Any case of animal bite be reported immediately to the police. Call 386.3800.

### Leash/Control Requirements (per Village Ordinance)

- It is unlawful for any cat or dog, except a dog on a leash controlled by the owner or other responsible person authorized by the owner, to be upon any public area in the Village. Leashes may **NOT** exceed eight feet.
- It is unlawful for any animal, even when on a leash, to be in any public building, food establishment or store, except for a store for the sale of animals, anywhere within the Village during times that any of these places are open to the public, with those exceptions specified by law (dogs accompanying blind persons not included).
- It is unlawful for any animal even when on a leash to go upon any school premises or Village playground or upon a path or sidewalk extending through any school premises or playground maintained by the Village, with those exceptions specified by law (dogs accompanying blind persons not included).

- It shall constitute a nuisance for any animal to make excessive or annoying noise, to create noxious odors, to damage property other than its owner's, to attack or molest passersby or other animals, or to violate repeatedly Village ordinances.
- The owner of an animal shall be responsible for the removal and sanitary disposition of any excreta deposited by the animal anywhere in the Village. When accompanying an animal outside the owner's premises, the owner shall have suitable means for the removal of excreta.
- Female dogs and cats in heat shall be confined.
- No dangerous animal shall be allowed outside without required restraints.
- No diseased animal shall be allowed at large or in any public place where the health of other animals, or of humans, may be affected.

The Village of Oak Park's Animal Ordinance is available at the Department of Public Health and on the official Village web site at [www.oak-park.us](http://www.oak-park.us).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Department of Public Health  
123 Madison Street  
Oak Park, IL 60302  
Tel: 708.358.5680  
Fax: 708.358.1548  
e-mail: [health@oak-park.us](mailto:health@oak-park.us)