

Animal Control

Pets are an enjoyable addition to many families, and we all believe our pets are friendly.

HOWEVER:

No matter how friendly, when you are walking with your dog(s) on a leash and an unleashed dog runs toward and/or jumps on you or your dog(s), there is a perception of being under attack and the leashed dog(s) will react accordingly. It can also be frightening when you are walking or riding a bike and an unleashed dog runs towards you because there is no way to know the mental state of the unleashed dog.

Restricting the free roam of dogs within our community is an absolute necessity to maintain the safety of our neighborhood.

In addition to the safety of residents who run, walk, and bike on our streets, common courtesy includes cleaning up after pets when walking them in neighbors' yards, streets, or common areas. While this information primarily addresses dogs, residents are urged to also be considerate regarding cats that can be a nuisance if allowed to roam free.

Leash Law – Pursuant to St. Tammany Parish ordinance (see below) and the Lake Ramsey Covenants, household pets shall be kept on the homeowner's property or on a leash.

St. Tammany Animal Control procedures:

St. Tammany Parish Animal Control (985-809-0183) will come and take custody of an unleashed dog if they can document that it is not located on the owner's property.

- Take a picture of the dog so that both the dog and location can be identified.
- When you call to report a loose dog, you will need to provide your name, address, gate code, description of dog, address where seen, and if you know it - the dog owner's name, address, and phone number.
- If you can detain the dog on your own property it will ensure that the dog won't be gone by the time Animal Control arrives. If the dog is gone when they come out, you can provide the picture of the dog, location, and the owner information. Animal Control will contact the owner to confirm ownership.
- If ownership is confirmed, the owner will be issued a one-time "RTO" (returned to owner) and a warning notice.
- After this one-time courtesy return, if the dog can be taken into custody the owner will be required to pay kennel fees, etc. to get the dog back.
- A picture of the dog for each occurrence you document is sufficient to have the owner issued a violation.
- Animal Control will keep a record of the number of times an owner is contacted and may take legal action.

St. Tammany Parish animal control provisions can be found in the Parish Code of Ordinances, Part I, Chapter 10, Article IV.

https://library.municode.com/la/st._tammany_parish/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTICOOOR_CH10ANFORE_ARTIVANCOWE

Parish regulations include (but are not limited to) the following provisions:

Sec. 10-646. - Public nuisance.

Every owner or keeper of animals shall exercise proper care and control of such animals so as to prevent them from creating or becoming a public nuisance.

Sec. 10-647. - Animals at large; leash law.

It shall be unlawful for any person to suffer or permit any animal in his possession, or kept by him about his premises, to run loose, free or at-large on any street, sidewalk, alleyway, highway, common or public square, or upon any unenclosed land, or trespass upon any enclosed or unenclosed lands of another. The term "running loose, free or at large" means not under the immediate control of a competent person and restrained by a substantial chain or leash.