



OCEANA COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL  
2185 W BASELINE RD  
SHELBY MI 49455  
231-861-5395

### KENNEL LICENSE GUIDELINES

1. A kennel means any establishment wherein or whereon 3 or more dogs are confined and kept for sale, breeding, sporting or training purposes. (MCLA 287.261 (d) and MCLA 287.270)
2. Current rabies vaccine records which indicate that the dogs in the kennel have been vaccinated and that the vaccine was administered by a licensed veterinarian must be maintained and kept at the kennel. The animal control officer shall have the right to review these records before authorizing a kennel license. (MCLA 287.266)
3. A kennel facility shall be so constructed as to prevent the public or stray dogs from obtaining entrance thereto and gaining contact with dogs lodged in the kennel. (MCLA 287.270)
4. Any dog kennel which is to be covered by a license shall be of such construction as will adequately and comfortably house any dogs kept therein at any season of the year. The buildings, including walls and floors, shall be of such construction as to be readily cleaned, and kennels and yards connected therewith used to confine kennel dogs shall be kept cleaned and free from accumulation of filth, mud, and debris. (per Regulation 129)
5. Kennel inspection fees must be applied for and paid at the time of application or before June 1st of each year.
6. Kennel license fees must be paid at the time of inspection or within 2 weeks of the inspection. The kennel license will not be issued until payment is received. Failure to pay inspection fees will void the inspection and you will have to reapply for a kennel license.
7. Dogs kept or maintained must be provided: (MCLA 750.50)
  - a) "Adequate care" means the provision of sufficient food, water, shelter, sanitary conditions, exercise, and veterinary medical attention in order to maintain an animal in a state of good health.
  - b) "Sanitary conditions" means space free from health hazards including excessive animal waste, overcrowding of animals, or other conditions that endanger the animal's health. This definition does not include any condition resulting from a customary and reasonable practice pursuant to animal husbandry.
  - c) "Shelter" means adequate protection from the elements and weather conditions suitable for the age, species, and physical condition of the animal so as to maintain the animal in a state of good health.

Shelter, for a dog, includes 1 or more of the following:

- a. The residence and/or portion of the residence that is designated for kennel dogs
  - b. A doghouse that is an enclosed structure with a roof and of appropriate dimensions for the breed and size of the dog. The doghouse shall have dry bedding when the outdoor temperature is or is predicted to drop below freezing.
  - c. A structure, including a garage, barn, or shed, that is sufficiently insulated and ventilated to protect the dog from exposure to extreme temperatures or, if not sufficiently insulated and ventilated, contains a doghouse as provided under subparagraph (b) that is accessible to the dog.
  - d) "State of good health" means freedom from disease and illness and in a condition of proper body weight and temperature for the age and species of the animal, unless the animal is undergoing appropriate treatment.
  - e) "Tethering" means the restraint and confinement of a dog by use of a chain, rope, or similar device. The tether must be at least 3 times the length of the dog as measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail and is attached to a harness or non-choke collar designed for tethering.
  - f) "Water" means potable water that is suitable for the age and species of animal that is made regularly available unless otherwise directed by a licensed veterinarian.
8. The kennel must meet and comply with local (township/city/village) ordinances. Compliance with a local (township/city/village) ordinance does not automatically qualify one for an Oceana County Kennel License.
  9. Michigan State Dog Law of 1919 states in section 287.270b. Any city, township or village having in its employment a full-time animal control officer may adopt an ordinance providing for the issuance of kennel licenses by the animal control officer on the same terms, conditions and fees as is provided in section 10. Upon the adoption of the ordinance the city, township or village shall be excepted from the provisions of sections 10 and 11 of this act.

### OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Dogs kept as pets/house pets, i.e., for none of the reasons set forth above will then be covered under the individual dog licenses issued by Oceana County Animal Control or the Oceana County Treasurer's office at the fees established for the individual dog licenses.
- Failure to meet the Kennel License guidelines shall be grounds for refusal of the inspection certificate or revocation of the existing kennel license.

- An additional inspection fee will be required if any or all parts of the inspection fail. The inspection fee must be paid prior to the next inspection.
- Failure to allow inspection by the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture or his agent, or the Oceana County Animal Control Officer or his/her Deputy, shall be grounds for refusal of the kennel license, inspection certificate or revocation of the existing kennel license.
- You have the right to appeal the decision of the Animal Control Department. You may send a letter to the Oceana County Administrator at 100 State Street, P.O. Box 31, Hart, Michigan and identify the reason or reasons for reversing the decision.

**STATE LAW:** All other state laws and standards applicable to dog licensing shall remain in effect.

Questions concerning these guidelines should be referred to this department at 2185 W. Baseline Rd, Shelby MI 49455. Hours are Monday through Friday 9:00am -12:00pm (Noon) and Saturdays 9am until 2pm. 231-861-5395.

Sincerely,

Terri Troupe-Fisk  
Oceana County Animal Control Officer

Revised April 26, 2010

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ANIMAL INDUSTRY DIVISION

REGULATION NO. 129. DOG KENNELS

(By authority of section 10 of Act No. 339 of the Public Acts of 1939, as amended, being S287.270 of the Michigan Compiled Laws)

R 285.129.1 Dog kennels.

Rule 1. (1) The following rule is hereby established to be effective on and after April 22, 1946:

(a) Any dog kennel which under Michigan state law is to be covered by a license shall be of such construction as will adequately and comfortably house any dogs kept therein at any season of the year. The buildings, including walls and floors, shall be of such construction as to be readily cleaned, and kennels and yards connected therewith used to confine kennel dogs shall be kept cleaned and free from accumulation of filth, mud, and debris.

(b) All dogs kept or maintained in connection with such kennels shall be furnished with a clean, fresh water supply and adequate and proper food to maintain such animals in a normal condition of health.

(c) The necessary inspections to be made under this rule to determine whether the same has been complied with shall be made by the dog warden, if there be one, otherwise by such person as may be appointed by the board of supervisors or the legislative body of the government unit involved. If no such appointment is made and in effect in any county, city, or village, then such inspection shall be made on behalf of the commissioner of agriculture by the sheriff or chief of police.

(d) In all cases, upon such inspection being satisfactory, a certificate of inspection shall be signed by such inspector on behalf of the commissioner of agriculture as required by the act.

(2) The provisions of this rule shall not be effective in the counties of this state that are operating under the provisions of section 16 of Act No. 79 of the Public Acts of 1933, being S287.276 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, wherein the board of supervisors have appointed a county dog warden with certain powers and duties, unless such counties by a resolution duly adopted by the board of supervisors accept the provisions of Act No. 245 of the Public Acts of 1945, being S287.261 et seq. of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: 1979 AC.