

Oberbeck Farm Animal Ordinance

Leash Laws (Charlotte City Ordinance Section 3-69)

The City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County have strict leash laws that apply to all animals except cats (see the nuisance animal section for laws pertaining to cats). Animals must be on a leash, contained within a fence or an operable and marked invisible fence. An animal may be loose in its own yard if there is an adult (18 years or older) immediately next to the animal and the animal responds to direct verbal commands of the person.

All regulations aim to protect the health and safety of our citizens. Please be a responsible pet owner and abide by the law. Violations will be investigated and stiff fines may be applied. Fines range from a \$50.00 citation for the first violation and up to a \$500.00 citation and permanent seizure of the animal for a fifth violation.

Nuisance Animals

Ordinance reads that it is unlawful for any person to own or maintain an animal in such a manner to cause a public nuisance. Examples of situations which would constitute a nuisance are:

- Having an animal which disturbs the rights of or threatens the safety of a member of the general public, or interferes with the ordinary use and enjoyment of their property.
- Allowing an animal to damage the property of anyone other than its owner.
- Maintaining animals in an environment of unsanitary conditions which results in offensive odors.
- Allowing or permitting an animal to bark, whine, howl, crow or cackle in an excessive, continuous or untimely fashion so as to interfere with the reasonable use and enjoyment of neighboring premises.
- Failing to confine a female dog in heat.
- **Failing to remove feces deposited by a dog on any public street, sidewalk, gutter, park or other publicly owned or private property.**

If you have any questions about a possible nuisance situation, please call 311.

For the exact language of the animal control ordinance(s) summarized above, please consult Chapter 3 of the Charlotte City Code.