

ORDINANCE NO. 325

AN ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE CONTAINING A
PENALTY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF MADISONVILLE, TEXAS:

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it to be in the interest of health and safety to control animals within the city limits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MADISONVILLE:

SECTION 1: Stray Animals. A person who owns, harbors, or maintains an animal commits an offense if he fails to restrain the animal in a fenced yard, enclosed structure, or by a leash and the animal strays and a written complaint is made by an individual to the City Office and/or City Police Department identifying the animal in violation of this Ordinance.

SECTION 2: Vaccinations. No person shall own, keep, possess, or have control over any dog and/or cat within the city unless such dog and/or cat is annually vaccinated for rabies and tagged, provided that a vaccination shall not be required for:

- a. Dogs and/or cats under the age of four (4) months which are confined in a place owned or under the possession of the person having ownership, possession or control of the dog within an enclosure, which is sufficient to prevent escape there from;

- b. Dogs and/or cats owned by, or in the possession or control of persons who are nonresidents of the city, traveling through the city, or temporarily adjourning therein for a period not exceeding sixty (60) days;
- c. Dogs and/or cats originally acquired by the person owning, keeping or having possession thereof within the preceding sixty (60) days; or
- d. Dogs and/or cats owned by or in custody or under control of persons who have been residents of the city for sixty (60) days or less.

A person not exempt under the exemptions above shall maintain in his/her possession any and all certificates of vaccination issued by a licensed veterinarian evidencing rabies vaccination for one year from the date of the vaccination by the issuing veterinarian.

SECTION 3: Vaccination Tag. Upon vaccination of the animal, the owner shall receive a durable vaccination tag including an identifying number, year of issuance, veterinarian's name and/or office address. Rabies tag(s) must be attached to the collar of the dog and/or cat. Rabies tags must be worn at all times and are not transferable.

SECTION 4: Limitation of Number of Animals. No person shall own, keep, possess or have control of more than four (4) animals, consisting of any combination of dogs and/or cats, at one residence within the City Limits. This provision shall not apply to State licensed veterinarians.

SECTION 5: Penalty for violations. A person violating this ordinance shall be fined, not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200.00), for each violation, upon conviction.

SECTION 6: Habitual violators. Upon the second conviction of any person for violation of any provision of this ordinance, the fine shall be not less than ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) nor more than THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300.00); upon the third or subsequent conviction of any person for violation of any provision of this ordinance, the fine shall be not less than nor more than FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00).

SECTION 7: Savings Clause. If any section, subsection, or sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

SECTION 8: Publication. A descriptive caption, or a copy of this ordinance shall be published two times in the Madisonville Meteor, the official newspaper in the City of Madisonville, immediately after the date of passage thereof and said ordinance shall become effective December 12, 1994

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 12th day of December, A.D., 1994.

LeRoy Stanton – Signature
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Joyce Shiflet - Signature
CITY SECRETARY