

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CODE
OF THE SUMMIT COUNTY
COMBINED GENERAL HEALTH
DISTRICT
CHAPTER 601**

- 601.01 Vaccination of dogs, cats, and ferrets.
- 601.02 Vaccination Record.
- 601.03 Vaccination Tag.
- 601.04 Management of Animals that bite humans.
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- 601.06 Information of Biting Animals to be Submitted.
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CROSS REFERENCES

- Rabies quarantine - see ORC 955.26 & 955.261
- Reimbursement for rabies bites - see ORC 955.42
- Report of bite of dog or other animal - see OAC 3701-3-28
- Biting animal to be confined; veterinarian to report - see OAC 3701-3-29
- Report of suspected rabid animal - see OAC 3701-3-30
- Compendium of Animal Rabies Vaccines, National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians
- General provisions - see EHC Ch. 100
- R.C. 3709.21
- R.C. 3709.211

EHC Environmental Health Code **ORC** Ohio Revised Code **OAC** Ohio Administrative Code

601.01 VACCINATION OF DOGS, CATS, AND FERRETS.

- (a) No person who owns a dog, cat, or ferret in the Health District shall fail to vaccinate the dog, cat, or ferret against rabies within 30 days after the dog, cat, or ferret has reached the age of 3 months.
- (b) Every dog, cat, or ferret initially vaccinated must be revaccinated one year later and thereafter at not more than 36-month intervals or other appropriate intervals based on the type of vaccine being used, the nature of the rabies in the community, or the current Compendium of Animal Rabies Vaccines prepared by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians.
- (c) Unvaccinated dogs, cats, or ferrets acquired or moved into the Health District must be vaccinated within 30 days after purchase or arrival unless under 3 months of age.
- (d) All dogs, cats, or ferrets entering the Health District for shows, field trials, hunting or any other purpose shall be properly vaccinated and shall be accompanied by their vaccination certificates.
- (e) All vaccines must be administered by a licensed veterinarian or under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

601.02 VACCINATION RECORD.

- (a) Each veterinarian who vaccinates or revaccinates a dog, cat, or ferret against rabies shall complete a certificate of rabies vaccination. The certificate shall include the following:
- 1) Description of dog, cat, or ferret.
 - 2) Place where dog, cat, or ferret is kept or harbored.
 - 3) Name and address of owner, keeper, or harborer.
 - 4) Date of vaccination or revaccination.
 - 5) Type of rabies vaccine administered.
 - 6) Rabies vaccination tag number.
 - 7) Any other information that may be pertinent or required by the Health Commissioner.
 - 8) Veterinarian's name and address.
- (b) The veterinarian shall, without delay, distribute a copy of the certificate to the owner and to the Summit County Dog Warden's office. A copy shall be retained by the veterinarian during the interval between vaccinations.

601.03 VACCINATION TAG.

Whoever vaccinates or revaccinates a dog, cat, or ferret shall issue a durable rabies vaccination tag. The rabies vaccination tag should conform in shape and color to the recommendation of the Compendium of Animal Rabies Vaccines issued by the National Association of Public Health Veterinarians. The rabies vaccination tag shall be securely fastened to the collar or harness of the dog, cat, or ferret.

601.04 MANAGEMENT OF ANIMALS THAT BITE HUMANS.

- (a) Whoever owns keeps or harbors a dog, cat, or ferret within the Health District that has bitten, scratched or otherwise exposed a person to rabies virus shall confine that animal to the premises of such owner, keeper or harborer, or in a suitable pound or kennel for a period of 10 days from date of injury. During the 10-day confinement, the dog, cat, or ferret may be permitted to leave the premises of its owner, keeper, or harborer if it is on a leash and under the control of a responsible person.
- (b) If the dog, cat, or ferret exhibits any illness suggestive of rabies during the 10-day confinement, it is to be evaluated by a veterinarian and reported to the Summit County Health Department.
- (c) Any stray or unwanted dog, cat, or ferret that has bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed a person to rabies virus shall be confined for 10 days from date of injury or euthanized immediately and the head removed by a veterinarian or the Summit County Dog Warden and submitted to the Ohio Department of Health Laboratory for examination.
- (d) Other carnivorous mammals, bats, exotic animals, and domestic animals that have bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed a person to rabies virus should be euthanized and the head or brain submitted to the Ohio Department of Health Laboratory for rabies examination. If the owner of such an animal refuses to do this, the Health Department may opt to quarantine the animal for a period to be determined by the Health Commissioner. If the animal should die during the quarantine period, the head must be submitted for rabies examination.

601.05 POST-EXPOSURE MANAGEMENT OF ANIMALS.

- (a) Dogs, cats, ferrets and other mammals which are bitten by a rabid animal and are not currently vaccinated against the rabies virus or when vaccination cannot be verified shall be humanely killed: or if sufficient justification for preserving the animal exists, the exposed dog, cat, or ferret shall be quarantined in strict isolation. Isolation in this context refers to confinement in an enclosure that precludes direct contact with people and other animals. The quarantine period shall be for the time specified in OAC-3701-3-29 or for a length of time determined by the Board. The dog, cat, or ferret shall be vaccinated against rabies by a licensed doctor of veterinary medicine upon entry into quarantine or up to 28 days before the end of the quarantine period.
- (b) Vaccinated dogs, cats, ferrets, and other animals which are bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed to the rabies virus by a rabid animal should be revaccinated immediately and placed in quarantine per OAC-3701-3-29 or for a length of time determined by the Board.

601.06 INFORMATION OF BITING ANIMALS TO BE SUBMITTED.

No owner, keeper, or harbinger of a dog, cat, ferret, or other animal within the General Health District that has bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed a person to rabies virus shall fail, upon notification by the Board, either in writing or verbally, to submit all information required by the Board.

601.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Environmental Health Code shall be in violation of ORC 3707.48, 3709.21, and 3709.22, and subject to penalties provided in ORC 3707.99, 3709.99, and 3709.211.