

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND REGULATIONS TO THE  
TOWN OF HUNTERSVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES,  
TITLE IX, GENERAL REGULATIONS  
CHAPTER 94: ANIMALS, §94.41**

*Section 1. Be it ordained by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Huntersville that the Code of Ordinance is hereby amended, by amending the following:*

§94.41 AT LARGE

~~It shall be unlawful for dogs and cats to be off the property of their owner or keeper and not under restraint, as defined in §94.03, of a competent person.~~

(1) Restraint of Animals. It shall be unlawful for any person owning or having possession, charge, custody or control of any animal, excluding cats, to keep such animal upon his or her own premises, or off the premises, unless such animal is under sufficient physical restraint such as a leash, cage, bridle, or similar effective device that restrains and controls the animal, or within a vehicle, or adequately contained by a fence on the premises, or other secure enclosure. If the physical restraint used is a leash, bridle, or device requiring a person to control the animal, the person using such restraint must be of sufficient age and physical size or ability to reasonably restrain the animal. If the secure enclosure is an invisible fence system then all components of the system must be in working order, and in proper place.

(2) Tethering. Domestic animals may not be tethered to a stationary object unless it is attended by a responsible adult and all of the conditions of the subparagraphs below (a. through k.) are followed:

- a. A tether must be equipped with a swivel on both ends;
- b. A tether must be a minimum of ten feet (10') in length, and be made of either metal chain or coated steel cable;
- c. Tethers must be attached to a buckle type collar or harness worn by the domestic animal and under no circumstances shall the tether be placed directly around the domestic animal's neck. Tethers are never to be used in conjunction with training collars such as a choke or pinch-style collars;
- d. The weight of the tether must not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total body weight of the domestic animal, but shall be of sufficient strength to prevent breakage;
- e. The tether by design and placement must allow the domestic animal a reasonable and unobstructed range of motion without the possibility of entanglement;
- f. The domestic animal must be four (4) months of age or older to be tethered;
- g. Only one (1) domestic animal may be attached to a single tether;
- h. Pulley systems, running lines, and trolley systems may be used in conjunction with a tether;

- i. Pulley systems, running lines or trolley systems shall be at least ten feet (10') in length, and no more than seven feet (7') above the ground;
- j. The line of the pulley system, running line, or trolley system to which the tether is attached shall be made of coated steel cable; and
- k. No tether shall be affixed to a stationary object which allows a domestic animal to come within five feet (5') of any property line.

(3) Within the corporate limits of the Town, Animal Control Officers shall have the authority provided in NCGS §160A-186, to seize any animal in violation of this section. In carrying out and performing their lawful duties this shall include the authority to enter upon private property, not including entry into a dwelling unit or other similar building, when the Animal Control Officer has observed an animal running-at-large in violation of this section. Such entry upon private property shall not be deemed a trespass.

*Section 2. That this Ordinance shall become effective upon approval.*

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Robert B. Blythe, Town Attorney