

DOG LAW
CHAPTER 50
TOWN OF GORHAM

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[History: Adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Gorham, Local Law #1 of 1982; amended by Local Law #3 of 2005, effective 8/17/05]

50.001 Title

This Local Law shall be known and may be cited as the Dog Law of the Town of Gorham.

50.002 Purpose

The purpose of this Local Law is to secure the comfort, health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Gorham by regulating and controlling the safe and sanitary conditions under which dogs are kept.

50.003 Definitions

The words used in this Local Law shall have the meaning commonly attributed to them unless otherwise herein defined. The word “dog” includes both male and female dogs 6 months of age or older.

50.004 Prohibitions

1. It shall be unlawful within any zoning district in the Town of Gorham designated R-1- LFO, HR and HC for any person or a group of persons constituting a household to keep, harbor or maintain more than three (3) dogs at any one time within said household, or on the premises on which said household is located.

2. No dogs shall be penned, chained or otherwise confined within fifteen (15) feet of any property line.

3. No person or persons shall keep any dog in any pen, shed or yard without providing for the prompt removal and disposal of all feces, filth, rubbish and foul

material that accumulates therein and becomes noxious and/or injurious to the public health.

4. Any pen, shed, or yard in which any dog is kept shall at all times be kept in reasonably clean condition.

5. In every zoning district in the Town of Gorham, prolonged and continuous barking may be a public nuisance, and no person who owns or harbors a dog shall permit the dog to engage in prolonged and continuous barking. Any person found guilty of harboring a dog that disturbs the peace of the neighborhood in any zoning district by continuous or nearly continuous barking for a period of one hour or more, within one year after a signed written complaint had been filed with the Zoning Officer that the same dog or another dog harbored by the same person had disturbed the peace of the neighborhood by continuous or nearly continuous barking for a period of one hour or more, shall be guilty of an offense punishable as hereinafter prescribed.

6. Dangerous dogs, as defined in Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law of the State of New York, shall be dealt with as therein provided.

50.005 Application

Application of this Local Law shall apply throughout the Town of Gorham, exclusive of that portion of the Town lying within the boundaries of the Village of Rushville.

50.006 Validity

If any portion of this Local Law shall be declared by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such determination shall not effect the validity of the remaining portions of this Local Law.

50.007 Penalties

A violation of any provision of this Local Law shall be an offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250 or by imprisonment for a term not to exceed 15 days, or both such fine and imprisonment.

50.008 Previous Ordinance Repealed

The Dog Ordinance of the Town of Gorham adopted in December 1966 is hereby repealed.

50.009 Effective Date

This local Law shall take effect upon its being filed as provided by Municipal Home Rule Law. (Date filed 8/17/05 – LL#3-05)