

TOWN OF HIGHLANDS

HIGHLANDS, NORTH CAROLINA

~ Adopted March 2, 2011

Code of Highlands – Chapter 3: Animals

Sec. 3-1 **Nuisance dogs.**

Definition. The keeping or maintenance of any dog which by prolonged and habitual barking, howling, or whining causes serious annoyance to neighboring residents and interferes with the reasonable use and enjoyment of the premises occupied by such residents, or with the reasonable use and enjoyment of the public streets, sidewalks, or other public areas, is hereby declared to be a public nuisance, and shall be abated as provided in this section. Nuisance dogs, as defined herein, are declared to be nuisances under Chapter 8 of this Ordinance (“Nuisances”).

Sec. 3-2 **Immediate destruction.**

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent the immediate destruction by a police officer of any vicious dog or other animal when less drastic methods, such as tranquilizing, are not available or effective and when neither a member of the police department nor the animal's owner is able to restrain or control the animal so that it might be impounded.

Sec. 3-3 **Responsibility to control dogs.**

(a) The owner or keeper of any dog shall be responsible, if said animal shall defecate upon the public streets, sidewalks, or other public area, for collecting and properly disposing of said fecal matter. Any person, being the owner or keeper of any such dog, and who does not immediately so collect and properly dispose of said fecal matter, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable in accordance with the provisions of section 1-5.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully allow a dog to enter upon or remain within the Highlands Ball Park, on Hickory Street, at any time, for any purpose, whether leashed or unleashed. “Highlands Ball Park”, as used in this section, shall mean the area enclosed with fencing and owned by the Town at 444 Hickory Street in Highlands. Violation of this section shall be a misdemeanor, punishable in accordance with the provisions of Highlands Code Section 1-5. Allowing a dog to run loose such that it habitually enters upon the Highlands Ball Park shall be included within the list of “nuisance” activities under other provisions of this Chapter.