

**CITY OF GRANITE FALLS  
Granite Falls, Washington**

**ORDINANCE 1014-2021**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANITE FALLS, WASHINGTON, AMENDING THE GRANITE FALLS MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 8 ANIMALS BY AMENDING SECTION 8.04.020 “DEFINITIONS” ADDING A NEW DEFINITION FOR “PROPER ENCLOSURE TO CONFIN A DANGEROUS DOG”; ESTABLISHING SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Granite Falls has rules and procedures relating to animal control contained in Chapter 8.04; and

**WHEREAS**, in reviewing the definition pertaining to dangerous dogs it was determined that the current rules should be amended to include a definition for proper enclosure to confine a dangerous dog; and

**WHEREAS**, this new definition would provide law enforcement an additional tool to direct the owner and providing safe enclosures for a dangerous dog; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has determined by adding this definition it would be in the best interest of the City to amend Chapter 8.04 to ensure safety for the community;

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRANITE FALLS DO HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** GFMC 8.04.020 entitled “Definitions” is hereby amended to read as follows:

**8.04.020 Definitions**

As used in this chapter, the terms defined in this section shall have the defined meanings unless the context requires otherwise; words in the present tense include the future; the singular includes the plural; plural usage includes the singular; “shall” means mandatory, not directory, and the masculine gender includes the feminine.

“Adult dog or cat” means any dog or cat over the age of six months or older.

“Animal” means any live vertebrate creature, reptile, amphibian, or bird, except man.

“Animal at large” means any animal off the property of its owner, unless restrained by leash, tether or other physical control device not to exceed eight feet in length and under the physical control of a responsible person, whether or not the owner of such animal, or which enters upon the property of another person without authorization of that person.

“Biting dog” means any dog known to have bitten or scratched any person or persons or other animal or animals.

“Chasing and intimidating dog” means any dog which is known or in the exercise of reasonable care should be known to chase, run after or jump at vehicles or bikes using public streets, alleys and sidewalks, or which habitually snaps, growls, jumps at or upon or otherwise threatens persons lawfully using public streets, alleys or sidewalks.

“City” means the city of Granite Falls.

Dangerous Dog. RCW 16.08.070 is adopted by reference (see also GFMC 8.04.400 adopting RCW16.08.070 definitions).

“Euthanasia” means the putting to death of an animal in a humane manner.

“Exotic, wild or dangerous animal” means any member of the animal kingdom which is not commonly domesticated or which is not common to North America, or which, irrespective of geographic origin, is of a wild or predatory nature, or any domesticated animal which, because of its size, vicious nature or other similar characteristics would constitute a danger to human life or property if not kept, maintained or confined in a safe and secure manner. Incorporated by reference here are the State Game Department regulations, principally the following: WAC 232-12-015, 232-12-030, 232-12-040, 232-12-050 and 232-12-060.

“Livestock” includes horses, cattle, sheep, donkeys, emus, ostriches, buffaloes, llamas, goats, and swine.

“Neutered” or “spayed” means medically determined to be incapable of reproduction or when a licensed veterinarian certifies the physical condition of an animal to be such that a medical procedure has rendered it unproductive.

“Nuisance dog or cat” means any dog or cat that is allowed to unreasonably disturb persons by habitually barking, howling, yelping, whining, or making other oral noises, or is allowed to damage or destroy property of another person, including destruction of wildlife, or continues to trespass onto public or private property.

“Owner” means any person or legal entity having a possessor property right in an animal or who harbors, cares for, exercises control over, or knowingly permits any animal to remain on premises occupied by them.

Potentially Dangerous Dog. RCW 16.08.070 is adopted by reference (see also GFMC 8.04.400 adopting RCW16.08.070 definitions).

“Proper enclosure to confine a dangerous dog” means, a combination of a securely enclosed and locked pen or structure, suitable to prevent the entry of young children and designed to prevent the animal from escaping and which pen or structure is then surrounded by a perimeter fence with its own locked gate. Such pen or structure shall have a locking door with a padlock, secure sides, a concrete floor, and a secure top, and shall also provide protection from the elements for the dog and comply with all applicable provisions of the City of Granite Falls building and zoning code. The fence shall comply with all applicable provisions of the City of Granite Falls building and zoning code. The premises where the dangerous dog is located must be posted with a clearly visible warning sign/symbol that informs children as well as adults of the presence of a dangerous dog. Such signage shall be posted by the primary entry to the property and on the perimeter fence to the pen or structure.

“Stray animal” means any animal declared to be found running at large, is not licensed, has no identification tag, and has no apparent home where it is cared for on a regular basis.

“Trespassing dogs and cats” means to trespass on private or public property without the permission or consent of the property owner.

**Section 2. Severability.** If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance should be held to be unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance.


**Section 3. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after passage and publication of an approved summary consisting of the title.

**ADOPTED** by the City Council and **APPROVED** by the Mayor this 20th day of October, 2021.

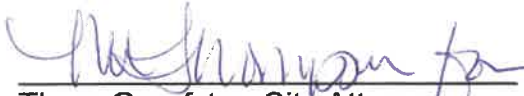
CITY OF GRANITE FALLS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew Hartman, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darla Reese, MMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
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Thom Graafstra, City Attorney  
Emily Guildner, City Attorney

Passed by City Council: October 20, 2021  
Date of Publication: October 23, 2021  
Effective Date: October 28, 2021