

MARIN HUMANE ANIMAL ESTABLISHMENT ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS

8.04.240 - Commercial animal establishment.

It is unlawful for any person to operate or maintain any commercial animal establishment without first obtaining a permit therefore. An annual permit fee may be established by separate ordinance of the board of supervisors. Such permit shall expire on the last day of the twelfth month from the date of issue. In the event that application for renewal is not made on or before the date of expiration, a delinquency charge, as may be established by separate ordinance of the board of supervisors, may be assessed. For every calendar month of delinquency, an additional fee may be assessed if such a fee is established by separate ordinance of the board of supervisors.

The animal services agency shall, in connection with the issuance of any such permit, establish such conditions as may be necessary to provide for the humane care and treatment of animals. The animal services agency may deny or revoke such permit when necessary to insure public safety and the humane care or treatment of animals.

(Ord. 3476 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 3377 § 1 (part), 2003)

8.04.020 - Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases are defined and shall be construed as hereinafter set forth unless it is stated a different meaning is intended.

(d) "Commercial animal establishment" means any location where the business of grooming, buying, selling, bartering, training, renting or boarding of dogs, cats, wild animals, domestic animals or fowl is conducted. This definition shall not apply to:

- (1) The use of goats, sheep, or other animals in herding operations for the purposes of clearing brush and ground cover for fire control purposes;
- (2) Buying or selling livestock for agricultural purposes;
- (3) Livestock establishments;
- (4) Buying and selling of dogs by dog hobbyists;
- (5) Buying and selling of dogs by ranch dog permittees;
- (6) Business activities of a duly licensed veterinary hospital;
- (7) Training facilities where owners are trained to handle their own pets;
- (8) County designated animal services provider.

(e) "Dog" means any animal that is a member of species canis familiaris four months old or older.

(f) "Dog hobbyist" means any person who keeps, within or adjoining a private residence, four or more dogs for personal, recreational and noncommercial purposes who has secured a permit for such activity in accordance with the provisions of [Section 8.04.245](#) of this chapter.

(g) "Dog license" means the license required to be annually issued for each individual dog.

(h) "Owner/guardian" means any person who has the legal responsibility and rights of an own-er/guardian after keeping or harboring an animal for fifteen or more days, except a veterinarian or an operator of a kennel engaged in the regular practice of this business. The use of the word "guardian" for all legal intent and purposes has the same meaning and effect as the term "owner/guardian" with respect to all federal, state and county law, current and/or as modified.

(i) "Licensed dog" means any dog for which the license for the current year has been issued and to which the tag is properly displayed.

(j) "Ranch dog permittee" means any person who owns or keeps within or adjoining a residence, building, lot or area which is zoned for agricultural uses under [Title 22](#) of this code, four or more dogs for personal, recreational or noncommercial purposes.

(Ord. 3476 § 1 (part), 2007: Ord. 3377 § 1 (part), 2003)