

Examples of Exception Language Utilized by Other Municipalities

1) Hallandale Beach, Florida:

Each owner shall keep and maintain his dog under restraint; provided, however, that this section shall not apply to any dog being used for rescue or law enforcement work or any dog used in connection with a oaru0mutuel facility licensed under F.S. ch. 550. It shall be unlawful for any owner to allow his dog to cross outside of the property line of its owner to any extent, including reaching over or under a fence, or to keep or allow his dog to be outdoors on an unfenced portion of the owner's property, unless the dog is restrained by a substantial chain or leash not exceeding six feet in length and under the control of its owner or another responsible person. No provisions of this section shall be construed to permit the tying, chaining, or otherwise tethering of any animal outdoors as a means of confinement for a time period exceeding 15 minutes unless the owner or keeper is present.

2) Ponce Inlet, Florida:

(a) No person shall tether an animal to a stationary object while outdoors or in a public park located in the Town of Ponce Inlet.

(b) An exception to the tethering prohibition is permitted if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The animal must be in visible range of the owner or responsible party, which person must also be outside with the animal at all times. There is an authorized narrow exception to this sub-condition: The animal owner, or responsible person, may leave an animal tethered outdoors on the property for a reasonable period not to exceed 30 minutes while such owner or responsible person performs a temporary task indoors or on another section of the property. In no event may the owner or responsible person leave the property while an animal is left tethered and unattended outdoors...

3) Springfield, Missouri:

(a) Any dog permitted to be kept within the city shall not be chained, tied, fastened or otherwise tethered to any stationary or inanimate object as a means of confinement and restraint to property.

(b) Exceptions.

(1) Tethering shall be allowed on rare occasions when it is necessary for the dog owner or custodian to complete a temporary task that requires the dog to be physically restrained but shall not be for more than a reasonable time.

(2) Tethering shall be allowed for short periods of time, not to exceed 30 minutes, for the purpose of the dog to relieve itself...

4) Omaha, Nebraska:

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog within the city to fail to keep his dog securely restrained or otherwise confined in or upon his premises in an enclosure sufficient to contain the dog.

Each animal shall be separately tethered. That no animal shall be tethered outdoors in excess of 15 minutes at any one time unless an owner, custodian or person responsible for the animal, 19 years of age or older, is present in the same yard in which the animal is tethered...

5) Nassau Bay, Texas:

This ordinance bans the chaining of dogs. However, temporary chaining is permitted as long as the "owner" is present with said dog. When the owner is absent, the dog cannot be left chained to a stationary object such as a doghouse. Dogs confined within a fenced yard must have an adequate space of at least 100 square feet per dog for exercise. The enclosure must be of sufficient height to prevent the dog from escaping, and the enclosure must be constructed of chain link or similar type materials, with all four sides enclosed....

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit owners or others from walking dogs with a handheld leash or temporarily tethering their dog so long as the owner is immediately present and the animal is not left unattended for no more than five (5) minutes while tethered.

6) Kanawha County, West Virginia:

a) Tethering: it shall be unlawful for any person to tether, fasten, chain, tie, restrain or cause a dog to be fastened, chained, tied, or restrained to houses, trees, fences, garages or other stationary or highly immobile objects by means of a rope, chain, strap or other physical restraint for the purpose of confinement, except in circumstances where all of the following requirements are met...

2) The dog is visible to the responsible party at all times and the responsible party is outside with the dog; provided that for a period not exceeding fifteen consecutive minutes in any period, for a total of no more than four such periods in a twenty-four hour period, the dog may remain out of the sight of the responsible party, while that party conducts a temporary task...