



YADKIN COUNTY
PROGRESS THROUGH PAST EXPERIENCE

Administrative Offices

FILED
 YADKIN COUNTY, NC
 NUMBER _____
 2000 JUL 21 A 10:53

INHERENTLY DANGEROUS EXOTIC ANIMALS ORDINANCE

MARY J. MADISON
 REGISTER OF DEEDS

DEFINITIONS

1. For the purpose of the Article an *exotic animal* is any animal which:

- (a) is not native or indigenous to North Carolina; or
- (b) does not have an established wild population in North Carolina; or
- (c) is not regulated by the North Carolina State Wildlife Commission.

2. *Inherently dangerous exotic mammal* is any member of the *canidae*, *felidae*, or *ursidae* families, including hybrids thereof, which due to their inherent nature, may be considered dangerous to humans.

- (a) *Canidae* include any member of the dog (*canid*) family not customarily domesticated by man, or any hybrids of such *canidae*, thereof, including wolf hybrids which are a cross between a wolf and a domestic dog, but not including domestic dogs (*Canis familiaris*).
- (b) *Felidae* include any member of the cat family weighing over fifteen (15) pounds not customarily domesticated by man, or any hybrids of such *felidae*, but not including domestic cats (*Felis catus*).
- (c) *Ursidae* include any member of the bear family, or hybrids of such *ursidae*.

3. *Inherently dangerous reptile* is any member of the class *reptilia* which:

- (a) *is venomous*. A venomous reptile shall include all members of the families *Helodermodae* (gila monsters and Mexican beaded lizards), *Viperidae* (vipers), *Crotalidae* (pit vipers), *Atractaspidae* (burrowing asps), *Hydrophilidae* (sea snakes), and *Elapidae* (cobras, coral snakes, and their allies), as well as any "rear fanged" snakes of the family *Colubridae* that are known to be dangerous to humans (including, but not limited to *Dispholidus typus* (boomslang), *Thebtonis kirtlandii* (twig snake), *Rhabdophis* spp (keelbacks).
- (b) is a member of the order *Crocodylia* (crocodiles, alligators, and caiman).

4. *Harborer of an inherently dangerous exotic mammal or inherently dangerous reptile* is any person or persons, regardless of ownership, who allows an inherently dangerous exotic mammal or inherently dangerous exotic mammal or inherently dangerous reptile to remain, lodge, or be fed or to be given shelter or refuge within the person's home, store, yard, enclosure, outbuilding, abandoned vehicle or building, place of business, or any other premises in which the person resides or over which the person has control.

Possession of inherently dangerous exotic animals is illegal in Yadkin County.

At no time may any person or persons harbor an inherently dangerous exotic mammal or

inherently dangerous reptile.

Exceptions

This article does not apply to:

1. Veterinary clinics in possession of such mammals or reptiles for treatment or rehabilitation purposes.
2. Any institutions or organization, which exists primarily to educate the public in the areas of science and nature; which receives or has received financial support from federal, state and or/local governments; which has a paid membership open to and composed of members of the general public; which is directed by a Board of Directors or similar body elected by the membership; and which has been declared a 501 (c)(3) exempt organization by the Internal Revenue Service.
3. Non-resident circuses for no longer than one (1) seven (7) day period, per each separate location where such carnival is held within the County, per calendar year.
4. Non-resident carnivals for no longer than one (1) seven(7) day period per each separate location where such carnival is held within the County per calendar year.
5. Persons temporarily transporting such mammals or reptiles through the County, provided that such transit time shall not be more than 24 hours.

Impoundment: Disposition of impounded animals

(A) Any inherently dangerous exotic mammal or inherently dangerous reptile which is kept by any person in contravention of this ordinance may be taken up and impounded by the Animal Control Officer for the protection and health of the animal and/or for the protection of the public. Whenever possible, the Animal Control Officer shall take up and impound the animal in the presence of its owner or harbinger; however if such is not practicable, then the Animal Control Officer may impound such animal consistent with the provisions of this ordinance.

(B) If an animal is impounded pursuant to this ordinance the owner or harbinger of the animal shall be notified by the Animal Control Officer in person or certified mail.

(C) Any animal impounded pursuant to this ordinance will be held three (3) days for the owner to claim pursuant to subsection D of this ordinance, but if the animal cannot be taken up safely by the Animal Control Officer or if proper and safe housing cannot be found for the animal, the Animal Control Officer can immediately destroy the animal.

(D) The owner or harbinger of the animal can reclaim the animal if the person can satisfy the Chief Animal Control Officer that a safe transfer of the animal to an appropriate location outside of the County has been arranged.

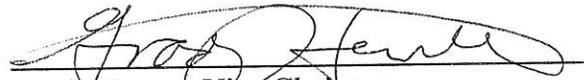
(E) If no owner or harbinger can be located or will claim the animal within three (3) days after impoundment, the Animal Control Officer may sell, adopt, or euthanize the animal at the discretion of the Animal Control Officer.

(F) All costs of impoundment and care of the animal will be charged to its owner or harbinger regardless of whether the animal is claimed by or returned to said owner or harbinger; and in the event the animal is reclaimed such costs shall be paid in full prior to the owner or harbinger reclaiming the animal pursuant to subsection D of this ordinance.

Violation is a misdemeanor

Any person who is found guilty of a violation of this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. For every day that the animal(s) remain housed or harbored as defined in this ordinance shall constitute a new offense.

Effective upon adoption, this the 3rd day of July, 2000.


Grady Hunter, Vice-Chairman
Yadkin County Commissioners

~~NORTH CAROLINA, YADKIN COUNTY
The foregoing certificate of _____ is certified to be correct.
Mary J. Madison By _____
Register of Deeds Deputy/Ass't Register of Deeds~~