

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CODE  
OF THE  
LAKE COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT

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PART TWENTY-TEN - RABIES CODE

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CHAPTER 2010 RABIES CONTROL  
(last revised 09/20/1999)

2010.01 DEFINITIONS

- a) "Animal" means any mammal that is susceptible to rabies, other than a human being.
- b) "Cat" means a carnivorous mammal scientifically known as Felis catus
- c) "Compendium" means the Compendium of Animal Rabies Control published by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, Incorporated.
- d) "Currently vaccinated against rabies" means that the period of time that has elapsed since the most recent administration of a rabies vaccination does not exceed the recommended interval for administration of a booster vaccination set forth in the current edition of the Compendium.
- c) "Dog" means a carnivorous mammal scientifically known as Canis familiaris.
- d) "Ferret" means a carnivorous mammal scientifically known as Mustela putorius furo.
- e) "Health Commissioner" means the same as in section 210.02 (d) of the Regulations of the Board of Health of the Lake County General Health District.
- f) "Owner, keeper or harbinger" means a person who claims a right of property in an animal, or permits an animal to remain on or about a premises owned or occupied by the person.
- g) "Rabies" means an acute viral disease of central nervous tissue that usually is transmitted to humans through the injection of virus-laden saliva from an animal bite.
- h) "Veterinarian" means an individual duly licensed to practice veterinary medicine under Chapter 4741 of the Ohio Revised Code or under the laws of another State.

## 2010.02 REQUIREMENTS

- a) Except as otherwise provided in section 2010.02 (b), no owner, keeper or harbinger of a dog, cat, or ferret that is four (4) months of age or older shall fail to have such animal currently vaccinated against rabies by or under the supervision of a veterinarian. The failure of a dog, cat, or ferret to wear a rabies vaccination tag of a type in accordance with the Compendium, indicating that said animal is currently vaccinated against rabies, establishes a rebuttable presumption that the dog, cat, or ferret is not so vaccinated.
- b) The rabies vaccinations administered, dosage, and method of administration of vaccinations, vaccination certificates, and vaccination tags issued for the purposes of this chapter shall comply with the recommendations in the edition of the Compendium that is current at the time of the administration of the rabies vaccination and issuance of the vaccination certificate and tag.
- c) Section 2010.02 (a) does not apply to any of the following:
  - 1) Dogs, cats or ferrets for which vaccination against rabies presently is contraindicated for medical reasons and for which the owner, keeper or harbinger of the animal possesses written documentation from a veterinarian stating the reasons why vaccination is contraindicated and the length of time during which vaccination is contraindicated.
  - 2) Dogs, cats, or ferrets confined to the premises of governmental entities or nonprofit corporations incorporated under the laws of this or another State, devoted to the care of, or providing hospital treatment to, lost or homeless animals;
  - 3) Animals confined for purposes of research by a facility that is registered under section 6 of the "Animal Welfare Act", 80 Stat. 351, 7 U.S.C.A. 2136 (1966), as amended.
  - 4) Dogs, cats or ferrets owned, kept or harbored by a person temporarily remaining within Lake County for less than thirty (30) days; however, the dog, cat or ferret shall not be allowed out of the owner, keeper or harbinger's control at any time, unless properly vaccinated.

## 2010.03 GENERAL

The Health Commissioner is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Lake County Dog Warden and/or the Lake County Commissioners for assistance in enforcing any requirements of this Chapter.

2010.99        PENALTIES

Whoever violates or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall be in violation of Ohio Revised Code 3709.21 and 3709.22 and subject to the penalties in Ohio Revised Code 3709.99.