

The Barbour County Animal Shelter has adopted the following policy for control and disposition of animals at the shelter.

All livestock seized and or impounded: Will have a impound fee of \$50.00 each plus \$15.00 each per day boarding.

All Birds or poultry seized and or impounded: Will have a impound fee of \$25.00 each plus \$5.00 each per day boarding.

All dogs seized and or impounded: Will have a impound fee of \$25.00 each plus \$10.00 each per day boarding.

WV Code. 19-20-6 Stray dogs: If the Animal Control Officer (ACO) picks up a dog (six months or older) and it is a stray, that dog must be kept a minimum of five days which after that time the dog will be put up for adoption, sent to a rescue, or humanely euthanized as listed in WV Code. 19-20-8.

Claiming of stray dogs: Before owner can take possession of a dog(s), owner must provide enough proof to ACO that they are the rightful owner, owner must show proof of purchase of dog tax registration from Assessor and proof of rabies vaccination. If owner cannot show proof of vaccination, owner can be allowed to make an appointment for vaccination and bring in appointment card from vet showing date and time for vaccination to be done and must call and give tag # within 24 hours of dog receiving vaccination.

Injured dogs picked up by ACO: Any dog wearing a valid tax registration tag with a severe injury or illness (life threatening) shall be taken to the vet for minimal treatment to stabilize health till owner can be notified. Owner will be responsible for all cost of vet bill along with impound and boarding fees. Any dog not wearing a valid tax registration tag with a severe injury or illness will either be taken to the animal shelter till the owner can be found or taken to the vet to be humanely euthanized to end pain and suffering with vets recommendation.

Emergency pickups: Aggressive, causing property damage, danger to public safety, severe injury, or to remove from dangers of cruelty or rabies concerns.

Nonemergency pickups: All nonemergency pickups will be handled within a reasonable time, usually within the next business day.

Adoption Policy: There will be a \$25.00 fee assessed for the adoption of any dog. Dogs that are adopted and under six months of age, the owner will be required to show proof of dog tax registration and rabies vaccination within 30 days of the dog turning six months old. Dogs over six months old are required to have tax registration before taking the dog from shelter, and within five days show proof of rabies vaccination, also owner will have 30 days to have any adopted dog spayed or neutered and return proof of spay / neuter form filled out by veterinarian if not already done before time of adoption.

Dogs that are suspected of rabies will be kept separate from other animals and the Barbour County Health Department will be contacted immediately.

Rabies Code

WV Code 19-20A-2. VACCINATION OF DOGS AND CATS. A person who owns, obtains or possesses a dog or cat within the State of West Virginia shall have a dog or cat properly vaccinated against rabies with a vaccine capable of producing immunity for three years, boosted one year after initial vaccination and every third year thereafter. Dogs and cats need not be vaccinated before the age of three months, but must be vaccinated by the age of six months. Such tag shall be securely fastened to the collar worn by the dog

WV Code 19-20A-6, OFFENSES AND PENALTIES. Whoever owns, keeps, or harbors a dog or cat and fails to have such dog or cat vaccinated or re-vaccinated against rabies, and whoever vaccinates a dog or cat against rabies and fails or refuses to keep and report the required record of such vaccination, or fails, or refuses to provide the required tag, or whoever obstructs or interferes in any way with the enforcement of any section of this article shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than ten dollars nor more than fifty dollars, or be confined in the county jail not less than ten days nor more than sixty days, or both.

TAX Code

WV Code. 19-20-5 Every registered dog shall at all times wear a valid registration tag issued as provided. The failure to have displayed or worn on any dog, at any time, of such valid tag shall be prima facie evidence that such dog is not registered and such dog shall be subject to be, impounded, sold, or destroyed as hereinbefore or hereinafter provided.

WV Code. 19-20-6 (a) The county dog warden and his deputies shall patrol the county in which they are appointed and shall seize on sight and impound any dog more than six months of age found not wearing a valid registration tag, except dogs kept constantly confined in a registered dog kennel, when any dog shall have been seized and impounded, the county dog warden shall forthwith give notice to the owner of such dog, if such owner be known to the warden, that such dog has been impounded and that it will be sold or destroyed if not redeemed within (5) five days.

WV Code 19-20-9 Failure to register dog. Any person who owns, keeps, or harbors a dog, or who owns or operates a kennel, subject to registration under the provisions of this article, and who fails, refuses, or neglects to register such dog or kennel, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars.