



# Responsible Pet Ownership

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## Sioux Falls Animal Control Program is for Responsible Pet Ownership

### LITTLE KNOWN FACTS:

- The United States dog population is estimated at 60 million.
- The United States cat population is estimated at 75 million.
- Reproductive potential: A female dog or cat bearing four offspring each year for seven years produces a potential total progeny of 4,372!

### ANIMAL BITES

- A tragic and costly problem; there are 2 million bites reported annually. Every year, 30,000 people receive post-exposure rabies treatment. Of these animal bite victims, 53% are children under the age of ten. Animal bites cost the American public over \$200 million a year

### VACCINATIONS

There 40 known diseases in dogs and cats that are transmissible to humans. The U.S. spends over \$400 million a year on animal control programs.

- Every dog or cat over the age of six months must receive a rabies shot from a licensed veterinarian yearly. It is required by law that your pets are up to date on rabies vaccinations.

### LICENSING

- All dogs and cats must have a Sioux Falls pet license after they are six month old.
- 1 year licenses and 3 year licenses are available for you to choose from.
- Licenses are available from your local vet, the Sioux Falls Area Humane Society, or at Sioux Falls Police Records.

### PROHIBITED CONDUCT

- Sioux Falls has a leash law and enforces it! Do not allow your pet to run at large or stray. It is unlawful for a person to harbor or keep stray animals. Private citizens rarely find the rightful owner.
- You cannot allow your pet to use someone else's property as a bathroom. If it does you must clean up your pet's mess immediately.
- Laws in the city of Sioux Falls apply to cats **AND** dogs.

### REMEMBER YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR PET!

Stray, unrestrained dogs and cats constitute a major threat to the safety, health, and general well-being of this community's residents, children, postal workers, meter readers, joggers, bicyclists, etc.