

Attachment E

Information on FCRHA Pet Policy

Policy Statement

The FCRHA's policy on pet ownership in public housing permits a resident to own one pet while a resident in a public housing unit. The resident must maintain the pet in the public housing development subject to the FCRHA's requirements.

Policy Requirements

1. **Fees (Not applicable to assistance animals)**
 - The resident must pay a one-time non-refundable registration of \$12 for the pet; and
 - The resident must deposit \$100 with HCD. Once the resident vacates the unit, they will be reimbursed the \$100 less any costs resulting from pet related damages to the dwelling unit and/or de-flea or sanitizing the unit or de-flea the yard.
2. **Limitation on the Number and Size of an Animal**
 - The resident may own one dog or one cat, to be housed indoors; and,
 - The dog, when mature, can not exceed 25 pounds (not applicable to assistance animals).
3. **Prohibitions Against Dangerous Breeds/Animals and other Animals Based on Certain Factors**
 - There will be no pit bulls allowed in the developments; and,
 - There will be no exotic or endangered species, including poisonous reptiles or animals otherwise prohibited by local, State or Federal law allowed and kept as pets in dwelling units.
4. **Restrictions and Prohibitions are also Permitted Based on Size and Type of Building or Project or other Relevant Conditions**
 - Pet ownership will be restricted to those properties wholly owned by the FCRHA; and,
 - Properties under home-ownership association (including condo unit owners associations) governance are excluded, except assistance animals will be permitted.

5. The Head-of-Household (Leaseholder) Must File Appropriate Documents with HCD before Pets will be Allowed in the Dwelling Unit:

- Before a current resident brings a pet into a public housing dwelling unit or a new family moves in a dwelling unit with a pet, the family must register the pet with HCD;
- The family must sign a statement declaring which adult member of the household will be responsible for controlling and maintaining the pet;
- The family must sign a statement that they understand and will abide by the Fairfax County leash law and laws governing proper disposal of animal waste and litter;
- The family must provide documentation showing the name, address, and telephone number of the veterinarian holding the pet's health records;
- The family must obtain a valid, current Fairfax County license for a dog, which must be worn by the animal at all times;
- The family must provide documentation that the dog or cat has been inoculated against rabies;
- The family must provide documentation that the dog or cat has been neutered; and,
- The family must ensure that the dog or cat wears an identification tag with the owner's name, address and telephone number and rabies tag attached to the collar. For dogs, the license must be attached.

6. Property Related Requirements

- HCD requirements do not allow pets to be left tied-up on the premises by the tenants; and,
- HCD requirements do not permit doghouses on the premises.

7. Other HCD Requirements that Residents Owning Pets Must Follow

- Evidence of any acts of neglect, inhumane, cruel treatment or violation of anti-cruelty laws regarding pets, whether owned by the tenant or not, will be considered a material violation of the lease and will cause immediate termination of the pet agreement and be grounds for termination of the lease;
- The head-of-the-household (leaseholder) will be fully responsible for costs incurred to de-flea or sanitize their housing unit, and de-flea the lawn, if required and necessary to meet public health standards;

- Per lease provisions, no alteration to the unit's physical features, including doors, is permitted without prior HCD approval;
- The head-of-the-household (leaseholder) will be responsible for restraining and controlling pets at all times. The FCRHA will not be responsible for lost pets should HCD staff need to enter the housing unit to perform inspections, maintenance work or other related activities. If HCD staff cannot perform required service calls or inspections due to an unrestrained pet, the tenant will be charged for the service call at the established rate for minimum time and labor costs; and,
- The FCRHA assumes no responsibility for any pet found roaming free and picked up by Fairfax County Animal Control.

Policy Compliance

All of the above requirements will become a lease addendum and fully enforceable under the lease. Failure to abide by the requirements will be considered a material violation of the lease.