



Animal Noise

When is Animal Noise a Violation of the County's Ordinance?

- ◆ Sect. 108.1-4-1 of the Fairfax County Code (Noise Ordinance) establishes limitations on any owner or person in control of any animal that allows or otherwise permits any such animal to bark, howl, bay, meow, squawk, quack, crow or make such sound.
- ◆ Noise from animals is prohibited that is plainly audible and discernable:
 - ◇ Between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. that is plainly audible in any other person's residential dwelling with doors and windows closed.
 - ◇ Between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. when the sound is plainly audible across real property boundaries or through partitions common to residential dwellings AND can be heard for more than 5 consecutive or nonconsecutive minutes in any 10 minute period.
- ◆ The provisions of this Ordinance shall not apply to any animal that, at the time of sound or sound generation, was responding to pain or injury or was protecting itself, its kennel, its offspring or a person from an actual threat. Additionally, it does not apply to police dogs that are engaged in the performance of its duties at the time of making the sound.
- ◆ Animals located in a dog park are not regulated between dusk and 7 a.m. Sunday through Thursday OR between dusk and 8 a.m. Friday, Saturday, and the day before a Federal Holiday.
- ◆ There may be additional Zoning regulations on the keeping of certain kinds of animals.

To report a possible violation OR for more information contact:



Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance
12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035
Phone: 703-324-1300, TTY 711
Web: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code

For after hours noise concerns, please call the Non-Emergency Police 703-691-2131



To request this information in an alternate format, call the Department of Code Compliance.

This Fairfax County, Va. publication (July 2019) summarizes a few regulations. See relevant codes for specific requirements.

