

# PIT BULL OWNERS



## FYI

***NEW CITY ORDINANCE***  
**(EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2006)**

**NORTH CHICAGO  
RESIDENTS**

**NORTH CHICAGO  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
ANIMAL CONTROL  
DIVISION**

**SECTION 1: Definitions** “Pitt Bull” shall be defined as:

1. The bull terrier breed of dog.
2. Staffordshire bull terrier breed of dog.
3. The American Pit Bull Terrier breed of dog.
4. The American Staffordshire Terrier breed of dog.
5. Dogs of mixed breed or of other breeds than above which breed is known as pit bulls, pit bulldogs or pit bull terrier.
6. Any dog which has the appearance and characteristics of being predominantly of the breeds of bull terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier; any other breed commonly known of any of these breeds.

**SECTION 2: Licensing of Pit Bulls**

No person shall own, keep or harbor any Pit Bull over six months of age in any household, residence, or any property whatsoever within the City of North Chicago without first obtaining a Pit Bull Kennel License from the City of North Chicago.

Applications for a Pit Bull Kennel License shall contain the following info:

1. Name of applicant/Owner of pit bull if different than applicant.
2. Address where Pit Bull will be kept.
3. Number of Pit Bulls to be kept on premises.
4. Method to be used to secure or restrain the animals.
5. Name of person or persons responsible for care and confinement.
6. Any other information requested by the City.

All applications shall be accompanied by a non-refundable \$50.00 Application Fee.

Pit Bull Kennel Licenses shall be issued by the City/Animal Control Officer only after the appropriate fees have been paid and if the applicant has complied with all applicable codes, statutes, and regulations.

Pit Bull Kennel License fees are as follows:

One Pit Bull—\$500.00 per year

Two Pit Bulls—\$1,000.00 per year

No person shall own or harbor at any one time within the City of North Chicago more than two pit bulls without written permission of the Animal Warden.

**SECTION 3: Revocation of License**

If the applicant, owner or other person responsible for any pit bull kept within the City of North Chicago violates any provision of this ordinance, then any license issued shall be automatically revoked and the license fee shall be retained by the City. The City of North Chicago reserves the right to refuse to issue or reissue a Pit Bull Kennel License to any person who has violated any provision of this ordinance.

**SECTION 4: Insurance**

Any person who owns, keeps, or harbors a Pit Bull must produce either renter's insurance or homeowner's insurance to the City of North Chicago showing that there is coverage to the owner for any damages caused by the Pit Bull in the minimum amount of \$100,000.00 per person.

**SECTION 5: Selling or Giving Away Pit Bulls**

No person shall sell, or give away a pit bull without notifying the animal warden of the recipient's name and address.

**SECTION 6: Confinement of Pit Bulls**

All pit bulls must be confined in a secured building or enclosure.

Pit bulls may not be kept, housed or harbored in an exterior yard without first obtaining approval from the City of North Chicago/Animal Control Officer. In no case are pit bulls permitted to be kept, housed or harbored in an exterior yard unless the area is securely fenced with a fence approved by the City/Animal Control Officer. The fence must be at least eight feet high and shall also require approval by the City/Animal Control Officer.

No person shall permit a pit bull to go outside its kennel or pen unless such dog is securely leashed with a leash no longer than four feet in length. No person shall permit a pit bull dog to be kept on a chain, rope or other type of leash, out side its kennel or pen unless a person of suitable age and discretion is in physical control of the leash. Such dogs may not be leashed to any in animate objects such as trees, posts, buildings, or structures. In addition, all pit bulls on a leash outside the animal's kennel must be muzzled by a muzzling device sufficient to prevent such dog from biting persons or other animals.

**SECTION 7: Destruction of Pit Bulls**

Any pit bull which bites or attacks a person for any reason must be destroyed at the owner's expense or permanently removed from the City of North Chicago. If the animal is not removed from the City of North Chicago or destroyed, it shall be subject to seizure and/or destruction by the City or its duly authorized agent.

**SECTION 8: Signs**

All entrances to and exits from a property where a pit bull is confined must post a warning sign the size and type of which must be approved by the City or its duly authorized agent.

**SECTION 9: Penalties**

Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall be subject to penalties set forth in 1-4-1 of the City Code. in addition, any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall be subject to the following:

1. Revocation of the Pit Bull Kennel License and retention of the License by the City.
2. Prohibition from obtaining another Pit Bull Kennel License for up to five years.

**SECTION 10: Conflict**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby expressly repealed to the extent and only to the extent they are in conflict herewith.

**SECTION 11: Severability**

If any provision of this Ordinance is held invalid, such provision shall be deemed to be excised from this ordinance and the invalidity thereof shall not affect any of the other provisions of this ordinance. If the application of any provision of this Act to any person or circumstance is held invalid it shall not affect the application of such provision of such person or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid.

**SECTION 12: This ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage, approval, and publications, as provided by law.**