

# Article I. – in General

## CHAPTER 06 – ANIMALS

### **Sec. 6-1. – Adoption of state comprehensive animal laws.**

The provisions of Code of Virginia, § 3.2-6500 et seq., are adopted and made a part of this chapter as fully as though set forth in this section.

*(Ord. of 12-8-2009)*

### **Sec. 6-2. – Lawful fence.**

(a) The boundary line of each lot or tract of land or any stream in the county shall be a lawful fence as to any horses, mules, cattle, hogs, sheep or goats.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person who is the owner or manager of any horse, mule, cattle, hog, sheep or goat, to permit any such animal to run at large within the boundaries of the county; and such animal shall be deemed to be running at large while roaming or running off the property, whether owned or rented, of its owner or custodian, and not under their owner's or manager's immediate control.

(c) Any such owner or manager who, after having been notified by an officer of the law that such animal is running at large, permits such animal to continue to run at large, shall be deemed to have committed a class 4 misdemeanor and shall be subject to the maximum fine allowed pursuant to Va. Code §18.2-11. Each animal deemed running at large shall be considered a separate violation of this section.

*(Ord. of 12-8-2009; [Ord. of 10-09-2018](#))*

### **Sec. 6-3. – Ordinance effective within corporate limits of**

**towns.**

(a) The ordinance providing for the joint exercise of powers by the county, the Town of Orange, and the Town of Gordonsville relative to the regulation of dogs adopted by the agreement between the county, the Town of Orange, and the Town of Gordonsville dated January 10, 1978, on the same subject, shall remain in full force and effect and shall be enforced within the corporate limits of the Town of Orange and the Town of Gordonsville pursuant to the provisions of such ordinance and agreement.

(b) The county enters into an agreement with the Towns of Orange and Gordonsville as allowed by Code of Virginia, § 15.2-1300, to provide for the joint exercise of powers by the three political subdivisions relative to the application of the county laws within the boundaries of the incorporated towns and to authorize the county animal control officer to enforce the county and state laws within the boundaries of the incorporated towns and to authorize the treasurer of the county to collect dog license fees within the boundaries of the incorporated towns.

(c) The chair and the clerk of the board of supervisors are authorized and directed to execute and deliver on behalf of the county and to affix the county seal to the joint agreement carrying out the provisions of this section.

*(Ord. of 12-8-2009)*

**Sec. 6-4. – Penalties for violation.**

Any person violating this chapter shall be punished in accordance with the terms of this chapter and if not otherwise provided, in accordance with the provisions of Code of Virginia, §§ 3.2-6587, 18.2-403.1, 18.2-403.2, 18.2-403.3 and 18.2-403.4, which sections are adopted by reference and made a part of this

chapter as if fully set forth in this section.

*(Ord. of 12-8-2009)*

*State law reference– Code of Virginia, §§ 3.2-6587 (Unlawful acts; penalties), 18.2-403.1 (Offenses involving animals, class 1 misdemeanors), 18.2-403.2 (Offenses involving animals – class 3 misdemeanors), 18.2-403.3 (Offenses involving animals – class 4 misdemeanors) and 18.2-403.4 (Unauthorized release of animals; penalty).*

**Secs. 6-5–6-35. – Reserved.**