



TOWN OF St. JOHN
PO BOX 298 St. JOHN, WA 99171-0298
(509) 648-3905

ORDINANCE NO. 453X

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE KEEPING OF ANIMALS OTHER THAN DOGS AND CATS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF ST. JOHN, DEFINING VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF ANIMALS, AMENDING SECTION 1 TO EXCLUDE ROOSTERS, PROVIDING CIVIL PENALTIES, REPEALING ALL OTHER ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 376X, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section I. Definitions:

- A. Large animal means a member of any species of animal such that the adults normally weigh 100 pounds or more. These include but are not limited to cattle, pigs, horses, and sheep.
- B. Small animal means a member of any species of animal such that the adults normally weigh less than 100 pounds and are reasonably expected to spend the majority of their time outside of a human dwelling. These include but are not limited to potbellied pigs and small goats.
- C. Poultry and rabbits mean any animal with feathers and all species of rabbits and hares. Roosters are NOT permitted within the corporate limits of the Town of St. John.
- D. House pet means a member of any species that spend the majority of its time **caged** within a human dwelling, excluding dogs or cats. These include but are not limited to caged rodents, and all animals confined in terrariums or aquariums.

Section II. Animal density:

- A. A property owner requires a minimum of one acre to keep a large animal. Additional large animals may be added for each 20,000 sq. feet over one acre.
- B. Small animals are limited to one animal per every 10,000 sq. feet of property.
- C. If both large and small animals are kept on the same property, the limits are not independent. Thus, one large animal and two small animals would require one acre plus 20,000 sq. feet.

Section III. Sanitation:

Owners of all animals within the corporate limits of St. John, Washington are expected to maintain sanitation standards that are healthy for the animal and that do not become an odor nuisance. This includes poultry and rabbits as well as both large and small animals.

Section IV. Free-ranging animals.

All animals within the corporate limits of St. John, Washington must be kept within adequate, humane enclosures. Free-ranging animals of any type are prohibited.

Section V. House pets.

Animals that are kept within the confines of their owner's dwelling are not regulated by this ordinance with the exception of cats or dogs.

Section VI. Civil penalties.

Violations of any part of Sections I through IV will be warned for the first offense. If the violation is not corrected within ten (10) days or is repeated, the animal owner is subject to a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00). A third offense will subject the animal owner to a fine of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00), a fourth offense \$250.00, a fifth offense \$500.00. Animal owners who have more than five offenses within a twelve (12) month period will immediately remove their animal(s) from the corporate limits of the Town of St. John, Washington.

Section VII: Effective date.

This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force on September 27, 2022, after its passage, approval, and publication in summary form.

Passed at a regular meeting of the Town of St. John, Washington, and signed by the Mayor and attested by the Town Clerk in authentication thereof this 26, day of September 2022.

APPROVED:


Michael G Webb, Mayor

ATTEST:


F. Shani Hergert, Clerk-Treasurer