



**Delaware General
Health District**

Dedicated to your health.

ANIMAL CONTROL REGULATIONS 2007

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201 **DEFINITIONS**

- A. “Animal bite,” “bite,” or “bites” shall mean a “rabies exposure” as defined in Section 201 (R) of these Regulations.
- B. “Contact animal” shall mean any susceptible animal that has come in contact with a rabid or suspected rabid animal in a manner which could transmit the rabies virus.
- C. “Domesticated animal” shall mean an animal that has been bred in captivity to live a life intimately associated with man in a tame or tamable condition.
- D. “Dog” shall mean any domestic canine animal (*Canis familiaris*)
- E. “Cat” shall mean any domestic feline animal (*Felis domesticus*)
- F. “Exotic Animal” shall mean a warm blooded (mammal) non-domestic animal not indigenous to the State of Ohio and capable of transmitting rabies .
- G. “Feral Animal” shall mean any susceptible domestic animal living in the wild state.
- H. “Health Commissioner” shall mean the Health Commissioner of the Delaware General Health District Board of Health or his/her authorized representative.
- I. “Human Exposure” shall mean all persons having been bitten by or having contact with a susceptible animal.
- J. “Immunization” shall mean the administration of a biological product, recommended in the current National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, Inc., Compendium of Animal Rabies Control and licensed for the species by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and deemed adequate to provide protection to the animal so vaccinated against rabies. Such vaccination must be performed by a veterinarian duly licensed to practice veterinary medicine or under the direct supervision thereof.
- K. “Isolation” shall mean the placing of a rabid animal or suspected rabid animal or a contact animal separate and apart from all other susceptible animals or persons so that the transmission of rabies is impossible.
- L. “Owner” shall mean any person owning, keeping, possessing, harboring, maintaining or

having the care, custody or control of an animal.

- M. "Officer" shall mean any law enforcement officer, agent of a county humane society, dog warden, assistant dog warden, or other person appointed to act as an animal control officer for a county, municipal corporation, or township in accordance with state law, an ordinance, or a resolution.
- N. "Person" shall mean person, firm, corporation or association.
- O. "Pocket Pets" shall mean but is not limited to small pets such as domesticated hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, domestic rabbits, white rats, and mice.
- P. "Quarantine" shall mean the strict confinement of an animal in a manner which isolates the animal and precludes direct contact by the animal with other animals not concurrently in quarantine or persons other than the owner, keeper, or harbinger. The quarantine shall be conducted under an order issued by the Health Commissioner or other official designated by the Health Commissioner.
- Q. "Rabid Animal" shall mean any animal showing abnormal behavior or which has been confirmed as having rabies by a laboratory acceptable to the Health Commissioner.
- R. "Rabies Exposure" shall mean any possible contact with or penetration of skin by the teeth of a suspected rabid or susceptible animal or possible contamination of, but not limited to, scratches, abrasions, open wounds, or mucous membranes with the saliva or potentially infectious material (such as brain tissue) of a suspected rabid animal.
- S. "Stray Animal" shall mean any susceptible animal found to be at large whose owner cannot be located, determined, contacted, or one that cannot be apprehended and isolated for observation.
- T. "Susceptible Animal" shall mean any animal to which rabies can be transmitted. Only for the purpose of section 202 (Immunization) of this rule, "Susceptible Animal" shall mean a dog, cat, or *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret).
- U. "Suspected Rabid Animal" shall mean a susceptible animal showing, even to a limited degree, observable clinical signs of rabies or a susceptible animal that has bitten a person or has come in contact with a person in such a manner that rabies could be transmitted to that person.

V. "Veterinarian" shall mean a veterinarian duly licensed to practice veterinary medicine under the laws of the State of Ohio and/or any other state of the United States of America.

W. "Wild Animal" shall mean any of the following:

- 1) Any animal, whether an exotic animal or an animal indigenous to the State of Ohio, that is not a domesticated animal and which is capable of transmitting rabies,
- 2) Any offspring born to a wild animal, as otherwise defined in this Section, bred with a domesticated animal,
- 3) Any offspring born to a domestic animal bred with a wild animal, as otherwise defined in this Section,
- 4) Any animal for which no rabies vaccine exists and/or for which the efficacy of any such vaccination has not been demonstrated and/or for which a quarantine period for such an animal suspected of being rabid has not been scientifically researched and defined.
- 5) *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) unless all of the following conditions are met:
 - a) The *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) has and currently remains under the regular care of a licensed veterinarian, and
 - b) The *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) is currently immunized for rabies by a licensed veterinarian, and
 - c) The *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) meets the requirements of Section 201(C) of these Regulations.

202 IMMUNIZATION

A) Any person who keeps or harbors domesticated and susceptible animals within the jurisdiction of the Delaware General Health District Board of Health shall have such animals immunized or re-immunized, if the immunization has expired, against rabies by a method listed in the current National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, Inc., Compendium of Animal Rabies Control. Such immunization shall be administered by a veterinarian.

- 1) Domesticated and susceptible animals need not be immunized before reaching the age of 3 months of age. Immunization should be administered to such animals no later than such animal reaching 3 months of age and a booster shall be administered to such animals upon the animal reaching 1 year of age.
 - 2) Domesticated and susceptible animals temporarily entering the jurisdiction the Delaware General Health District Board of Health for animal shows, exhibition, field trials, hunting, breeding, and/or any other purposes shall be properly immunized consistent with Section 202 (1)(A) of these Regulations and such immunization shall be current. All Such animals shall be accompanied by a tag, an immunization certificate, or certified acknowledgement from a veterinarian showing that such animal(s) have been properly immunized and that such immunization is current.
 - 3) The owner, keeper or harbinger of a Mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) shall have such animal vaccinated by a veterinarian against rabies by a method and vaccine approved by the United States Department of Agriculture.
- B) All veterinarians administering an immunization or re-immunization against rabies to a domesticated and susceptible animal shall keep a permanent written record of such immunization or re-immunization. Each and every such written record shall be permanently assigned a unique number identifying the individual record for each individual animal receiving a rabies immunization or re-immunization.
- C) Each and every time that a domesticated and susceptible animal is administered an immunization or re-immunization against rabies the veterinarian administering such immunization and/or re-immunization shall, without delay, provide to the owner, keeper, or harbinger of the animal a certificate of immunization or re-immunization which shall include the following information:
- 1) The number identifying the individual record as required to be assigned by Section 202(B) of these Regulations,
 - 2) A complete description of the animal receiving the immunization or re-immunization,
 - 3) The address of the location where the animal is regularly kept or harbored,

- 4) The name(s) and address(es) of the owner(s), keeper(s), or harborer(s) of the animal receiving the immunization or re-immunization,
 - 5) The date of administration of the immunization or re-immunization to the animal,
 - 6) The type of immunization or re-immunization administered to the animal,
 - 7) If the animal is a *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret), a statement certifying that the *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) meets all the requirements of Section 201(W)(5)(a)-(c),
 - 8) Any other pertinent information,
 - 9) The signature and address of the veterinarian.
- D) The certificate required by and described in Section 202 (C) of these Regulations shall be made on forms approved by the Health Commissioner.
- E) Each and every time that a domesticated and susceptible animal is administered an immunization or re-immunization against rabies the veterinarian administering such immunization or re-immunization shall, upon request of the Delaware General Health District, forward the information required on the certificate required by and described in Section 202 (C) of these Regulations to the Delaware General Health District and/or any other agency designated by the Health Commissioner to receive such certificate.
- F) Each and every time that a domesticated and susceptible animal is administered an immunization or re-immunization against rabies the veterinarian administering such immunization and/or re-immunization shall, without delay, provide a tag to the owner, harbinger, or keeper of such animal indicating that the animal has been immunized against rabies. Such tag shall be made of a durable material approved by the Health Commissioner. Such tag shall, at a minimum, have thereon permanently affixed the following information:
- 1) Effective January 2008, the name, address, and telephone of the veterinarian and/or veterinary clinic administering the immunization or re-immunization against rabies,

- 2) The year that the immunization or re-immunization against rabies was administered to the animal,
 - 3) The unique number required to be assigned to the individual written record of such immunization or re-immunization pursuant to Section 202(B) of these Regulations,
 - 4) Any other pertinent information.
- G) The owner, harborer, or keeper of a dog or cat receiving an immunization or re-immunization against rabies shall affix the tag described in Section 202(F) to a collar which collar shall be worn by such animal.
- H) Each and every time a *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) is initially immunized against rabies, the veterinarian administering such immunization shall identify the *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) as having been immunized against rabies by tattoo or through other permanent identifying mark or means acceptable to the Health Commissioner. Such tattoo or other permanent mark shall be humanely administered to the animal and include the unique number required to be assigned to the individual written record of such immunization or re-immunization pursuant to Section 202(B) of these Regulations.
- I) Nothing contained in these Regulations means or shall be interpreted to mean that domesticated and susceptible animals immunized or re-immunized against rabies shall be allowed to run at large in violation of any rabies quarantine, law, ordinance, or regulation.

203 REPORT OF SUSPECTED RABID ANIMAL

- A) Veterinarians, owners, keepers, harborers, or other persons caring for a suspected rabid animal shall immediately confine and isolate said suspected rabid animal. Within 24 hours after determining that the animal is suspected of being rabid such fact shall be reported to the Delaware General Health District by the veterinarian, owner, keeper, harborer, or other person caring for such animal. Such report to the Delaware General Health District shall include, but is not limited to, the following:
- 1) A description of the suspected rabid animal, including but not limited to

the following:

- a) type of animal,
 - b) breed,
 - c) approximate size,
 - d) color, and
 - e) any other distinguishing characteristics.
- 2) The name(s) and address(es) of any and all persons having been in contact with and/or bitten by the suspected rabid animal,
 - 3) Description of any and/or all animals having contact with and/or bitten by the suspected rabid animal. Such description shall include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a) type of animal,
 - b) breed,
 - c) approximate size,
 - d) color, and
 - e) any other distinguishing characteristics.
 - 4) The name(s) and address(es) of any owner, keeper, harborer, and/or other person caring for any and/or all animals having contact with and/or bitten by the suspected rabid animal.
 - 5) Any other information requested by the Health Commissioner.
- B) Within 24 hours of receiving a report pursuant to the requirements of this Section, the Health Commissioner shall provide written order to the owner, harborer, or person caring for the animal. Such order shall state, but is not limited to stating, the following:
- 1) That the animal shall be held in quarantine,
 - 2) The length of the quarantine,
 - 3) That at least one observation of the animal shall be made by a representative of the Delaware General Health District or a veterinarian, and

- 4) That although the specified defined quarantine period may expire, the quarantine shall remain in effect until a final observation of the animal is made by a representative of the Delaware General Health District or a veterinarian and additional written notice is received from the Health Commissioner acknowledging that such observation has occurred and indicating that the quarantine period has expired.

204 REPORT OF A BITE OF A SUSCEPTIBLE ANIMAL

- A) Whenever a person is bitten by a susceptible animal, such fact, pursuant to OAC § 3701-3-28, shall be reported to the Health Commissioner within 24 hours of the time that the bite occurred.
- B) If a person seeks treatment for a bite of a susceptible animal, the report required by Section 204(A) shall be made by the attending physician of the individual bitten or, if such person seeks treatment at a hospital or other health care facility, such report shall be made by the hospital or other health care facility.
- C) If the person inflicted with the bite of a susceptible animal does not consult or seek treatment from a physician or was not taken to a hospital or other health care facility, the report required by Section 204(A) of these Regulations shall be made by the person bitten, the parent, guardian or other responsible person in charge of the person bitten, or any other person who has knowledge of the occurrence of the bite.
- D) The report required by Section 204(A) of these Regulations shall include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - 1) The name, age, address and telephone number of the person bitten,
 - 2) The part of the body where the bite was inflicted,
 - 3) If known, the name, telephone number and address of the owner, keeper, harborer, or other person caring for the animal inflicting the bite,
 - 4) The address of the location of where the bite occurred,

- 5) The date the bite occurred,
 - 6) A description of the animal inflicting the bite, including but not limited to, the following:
 - a) type of animal,
 - b) breed,
 - c) approximate size,
 - d) color, and
 - e) any other distinguishing characteristics.
 - 7) Any treatment given to the bite or person bitten,
 - 8) The number on the rabies tag of the animal,
 - 9) The expiration date of the rabies immunization received by that animal as listed on the animal's rabies tag.
 - 10) If the bite occurred off premises of the owner, harborer, keeper, or other person caring for the animal, whether the bite was provoked.
- C) Within 24 hours of receiving a report pursuant to the requirements of this Section, the Health Commissioner shall provide written order to the owner, harborer, keeper, or other person caring for the animal inflicting the bite. Such order shall state, but is not limited to stating, the following:
- 1) That the animal inflicting the bite shall be held in quarantine,
 - 2) The length of the quarantine,
 - 3) That at least one observation of the animal inflicting the bite shall be made by a representative of the Delaware General Health District or a veterinarian, and
 - 4) That although the specified defined quarantine period may expire, the quarantine shall remain in effect until a final observation of the animal inflicting the bite is made by a representative of the Delaware General Health District or a veterinarian and

additional written notice is received from the Health Commissioner acknowledging that such observation has occurred and indicating that the quarantine period has expired.

205 EXAMINATIONS

At the owner's expense, the Health Commissioner may require a veterinarian to examine and/or observe a suspected rabid animal for symptoms of rabies. Based on such examination and/or observations, the veterinarian shall, within 24 hours of conducting such examination and/or observation, submit a written report to the Health Commissioner of his or her examination and/or observation of the suspected rabid animal.

206 QUARANTINE

- A) Whenever any dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) is reported to the Health Commissioner as suspected of being a rabid animal, but which animal is not known to have bitten a person, such dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), shall be quarantined under an order issued by the Health Commissioner. Such order shall be consistent with Section 203(B) of these Regulations. The dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) shall be quarantined by its owner, keeper, or harbinger consistent with and under the conditions described in Section 207 of these Regulations or shall be quarantined in a pound or kennel. In all cases, said quarantine shall be under the supervision of the Health Commissioner and shall be at the expense of the owner, keeper, or harbinger. Quarantine shall continue until the Health Commissioner determines and is satisfied that the dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) is not afflicted with rabies. The quarantine period hereby required shall not be less than ten days from the date of the report to the Health Commissioner. If at any time during the quarantine, the Health Commissioner requires the dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) to be examined for symptoms of rabies, then an examination of such animal shall be conducted consistent with Section 205 of these Regulations.
- B) Pursuant to OAC § 3701-3-29, whenever it is reported to the Health Commissioner that any dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) has bitten a person, that dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) shall be quarantined under an order issued by the Health Commissioner. Such order shall be consistent with Section 204(C) of these

Regulations. The dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) shall be quarantined by its owner, keeper, or harborer, consistent with and under the conditions described in Section 207 of these Regulations or shall be quarantined in a pound or kennel. In all cases, said quarantine shall be under the supervision of the Health Commissioner and shall be at the expense of the owner, keeper, or harborer. Quarantine shall continue until the Health Commissioner determines and is satisfied that the dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) is not afflicted with rabies. The quarantine period hereby required shall not be less than ten days from the date on which the person was bitten. If at any time during the quarantine, the Health Commissioner requires the dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) to be examined for symptoms of rabies, then an examination of such animal shall be conducted consistent with Section 205 of these Regulations.

C) Special Quarantine Considerations and Requirements Applicable to Mustela Putorius Furo (Domestic Ferret):

- 1) Following a person being bitten by a mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), the biting mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), at the expense of the owner, harborer or keeper of the mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), shall, unless otherwise required or specified by the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, these Regulations, or other applicable law, ordinance, rule or regulation, be examined by a veterinarian for rabies, at a minimum, as follows:
 - a) Once, within 24 hours of a bite, and
 - b) Again, within in 30-90 days following the bite.
- 2) Based on such examinations as required by Section 206(C)(1)(a) and (b), the veterinarian shall make a determination of whether the biting mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) is afflicted with rabies. Within 24 hours following each examination of the biting mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), the veterinarian shall submit a written report of his or her examination to the Health Commissioner.
- 3) Based on the written reports received from the veterinarian pursuant to Section 206(C)(2) of these Regulations, the Health Commissioner, within his or her sole discretion, may take any of the following actions:
 - a) Assuming that the mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) has been quarantined for at least 10 days, release the mustela putorius furo (domestic

ferret) from quarantine.

- b) Order quarantine or a continued quarantine of the *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) pursuant to Section 206(A) or (B) of these Regulations.
 - c) If the criteria in Section 206(C)(4)(a)-(d) are not all met or unless required otherwise by the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, these Regulations, or other applicable law, ordinance, rule or regulation, the Health Commissioner may order an extended quarantine period of 30-90 days for the *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret).
 - d) Unless otherwise required or specified by the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, these Regulations, or other applicable law, ordinance, rule or regulation, the Health Commissioner, in his or her sole discretion, may order the *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) humanely sacrificed and tested for rabies.
 - e) The Health Commissioner may also order post exposure treatment be given to the victim.
- 4) The Health Commissioner shall not order an extended quarantine for a *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) as provided by 206(C)(3)(c) if all of the following criteria are met:
- a) The *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) meets all conditions as specified in Section 201(W)(5)(a)-(c) of these Regulations.
 - b) The *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) originated from a rabies-free area and for the past 6 months has not been exposed to any potentially rabid animals.
 - c) The *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) has been vaccinated with an approved rabies vaccine at least 30 days prior to the time the bite occurred and such vaccination is current.
 - d) The victim, the owner, harbinger or keeper of the *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret), the treating physician of the victim, and the treating

veterinarian of the mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) understand and set forth such understanding in a signed written statement that if a mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) meets the criteria of Section 201(W)(5)(a)-(c) of these Regulations, it is at a minimal, but not zero risk of being rabid. Such statement shall be both submitted to and satisfactory to the Health Commissioner. Such statement shall be included as part of the record of a mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) bite investigation.

- D) Whenever it is reported to the Health Commissioner that any stray, wild, exotic, or feral animal or any other mammal that is known to transmit rabies has bitten a person, the Health Commissioner, at his or her discretion, may direct the immediate killing of said animal or mammal by a suitable humane method. The head of said animal or mammal shall then be removed from the animal or mammal's body and immediately delivered to the Delaware General Health District to be submitted to the Ohio Department of Health laboratories for examination.
- E) Any dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal bitten by a known rabid mammal, or that had reasonable probability to have been bitten by a wild carnivorous mammal, wild animal, or bat that is not available for rabies testing shall be regarded as having been exposed to rabies virus.
- 1) Not currently vaccinated dogs, cats, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animals shall be humanely killed; or if sufficient justification for preserving the dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal exists, the exposed dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal shall be quarantined by the Health Commissioner. The quarantine period shall be for not less than six months. The dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal shall be vaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian one month before the end of the quarantine period required by this paragraph.
 - 2) Currently rabies vaccinated mammals shall be given a booster rabies vaccination immediately and quarantined under an order issued by the Health Commissioner. The quarantine period shall be for not less than forty-five days.
- F) The Health Commissioner, in his or her sole discretion, shall determine if suspected rabid or contact animals should be destroyed. In making such determination, the Health

Commissioner may, pursuant to Section 205 of these Regulations, require suspected rabid or contact animals to be examined by a veterinarian. Such examination by a veterinarian shall be at the expense of the owner, keeper, or harbinger of the suspected rabid or contact animal. The veterinarian shall report in writing to the Health Commissioner the results of the examination and conclusions reached within 24 hours after examining such animal.

- G) All suspected rabid and contact animals, showing, even to a limited degree, observable clinical signs of rabies, shall be destroyed through an accepted humane method by a veterinarian.
- H) Unless otherwise permitted by written order of the Health Commissioner, no person shall kill any dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal that has bitten any person within the jurisdiction of the Delaware General Health District until the quarantine period as provided for and specified in this Section has been fully completed.
- I) If any quarantined dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal dies before the quarantine period expires or is destroyed pursuant to these Regulations, then the head of such dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal shall be removed from such animal's body by an agency or individual approved by the Health Commissioner and immediately submitted to the Delaware General Health District to be sent to the Ohio Department of Health Laboratories for rabies examination. The veterinarian, owner, keeper, or harbinger of the animal shall immediately notify the Health Commissioner in writing of the death of the animal, the arrangements to remove the animal's head from its body, and to deliver the animal's head to the Delaware General Health District. Upon receiving the head, the Delaware General Health District shall immediately submit the head of the animal to the Ohio Department of Health Laboratories.
- J) If the owner or harbinger of the dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal, with the exception of a stray, wild, exotic, or feral animal, is unknown, the Health Commissioner may direct that the dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal be humanely killed in which case the head of the dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal shall be submitted to the Ohio Department of Health laboratories for rabies examination.

- K) No dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal shall be released from the required quarantine unless and until it has been properly vaccinated against rabies by a licensed doctor of veterinary medicine.

207 CONDITIONS OF QUARANTINE

- A) All animals ordered held under quarantine shall be boarded and cared for at the expense of the owner, keeper, or harbinger of the animal.
- B) If the Health Commissioner determines it suitable, the place of quarantine may be any of the following locations:
- 1) The premises of the owner, keeper, or harbinger of the animal,
 - 2) A veterinary hospital
 - 3) An animal shelter approved by the Health Commissioner
 - 4) Any other location or place deemed suitable by the Health Commissioner.
- C) An animal quarantined indoors shall be confined to a house, building or other enclosure in such a way as to be isolated from all other susceptible animals and that human contact, other than with the owner, keeper, harbinger, and/or other responsible person, cannot occur.
- D) An animal quarantined outdoors shall be confined in such a way as to be isolated from all other susceptible animals and that human contact, other than with the owner, keeper, harbinger, and/or other responsible person, cannot occur. Such confinement shall be in a fully enclosed kennel with at least a 6 foot fence with an enclosed top and a secure bottom, or other enclosure suitable to the Health Commissioner.
- E) At all times when outside of the confinements described in Sections 205(C) and (D), a quarantined animal, shall be on a tether or leash of no more than 6 feet. While on such tether or leash, such animal shall at all times be under direct supervision of an adult and/or other responsible person and shall continue to be isolated from all other susceptible animals and contact with humans, other than with the owner, keeper, harbinger, and/or other responsible person.
- F) If while under quarantine an animal is captured and/or confined by an officer for being a stray, running-at-large, and/or not being confined or being kept under the control of the

owner, keeper, harborer, and/or other responsible person, such animal will be confined by the jurisdiction capturing such animal and/or other agency or person designated by the jurisdiction capturing such animal. Such animal shall not be released until the quarantine period has fully expired. Additionally, the owner, keeper, harborer, and/or person responsible for the care of such animal will be responsible to the jurisdiction capturing the animal for all daily costs and expenses associated with such confinement and such animal shall not be released to the owner, keeper, harborer, and/or person responsible for the care of such animal until all such costs are paid.

- G) No person without written permission from the Board of Health of the Delaware General Health District shall remove an animal that has bitten any person within the jurisdiction of the Delaware General Health District from the jurisdiction of the Delaware General Health District until the designated quarantine period has been fully completed.
- H) No animal shall be immunized against rabies while under quarantine.
- I) Upon the expiration of the quarantine, the place of keeping of the quarantined animal and the premises wherever a quarantined animal has been quartered shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected to the satisfaction of the Health Commissioner.

208 GENERAL QUARANTINE OF DOGS IN EVENT OF PREVALENCE OF RABIES (ORC § 955.26)

- A) Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 955.26, whenever, in the judgment of the director of health, any city or general health district board of health, or persons performing the duties of a board of health, rabies is prevalent, the director of health, the board, or those persons shall declare a quarantine of all dogs in the health district or in a part of it. During the quarantine, the owner, keeper, or harborer of any dog shall keep it confined on the premises of the owner, keeper, or harborer, or in a suitable pound or kennel, at the expense of the owner, keeper, or harborer, except that a dog may be permitted to leave the premises of its owner, keeper, or harborer if it is under leash or under the control of a responsible person. The quarantine order shall be considered an emergency and need not be published.

When the quarantine has been declared, the director of health, the board, or those persons may require vaccination for rabies of all dogs within the health district or part of it. Proof

of rabies vaccination within a satisfactory period shall be demonstrated to the county auditor before any registration is issued under section 955.01 of the Revised Code for any dog that is required to be vaccinated.

The public health council shall determine appropriate methods of rabies vaccination and satisfactory periods for purposes of quarantines under this section.

When a quarantine of dogs has been declared in any health district or part of a health district, the county dog warden and all other persons having the authority of police officers shall assist the health authorities in enforcing the quarantine order. When rabies vaccination has been declared compulsory in any health district or part of a health district, the dog warden shall assist the health authorities in enforcing the vaccination order.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a city or general health district board of health may make orders pursuant to sections 3709.20 and 3709.21 of the Revised Code requiring the vaccination of dogs.

- B) No person shall violate a rabies quarantine order issued by the Board of Health of the Delaware General Health District pursuant to Section 955.26 of the Ohio Revised Code, or any other applicable municipal code, regulation, or ordinance.

209 WILD ANIMALS, EXOTIC ANIMALS, AND FERAL ANIMALS

A) No Person Shall Be Permitted:

- 1) To harbor, feed or market, in any form wholesale or retail a wild animal native to the State of Ohio including but not limited to foxes, skunks, raccoons, opossums, squirrels, and weasels (*Mustela*).
- 2) To import any wild animal into the jurisdiction of the Delaware General Health District Board of Health .
- 3) To import, market, harbor or feed, in any form wholesale or retail within the jurisdiction of the Delaware General Health District Board of Health other types of wild animals, exotic animals, feral animals, or dangerous animals, including exotic

animals not native to the State of Ohio.

- 4) To perform surgery or other techniques on a wild animal, exotic animal or feral animal for the purpose of domesticating it such as but not limited to, neutering, spaying or removing scent glands. Except, *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) may be neutered, spayed or de-scented if all conditions of Section 201(W)(5)(a)-(c) of these Regulations are met.
 - 5) To immunize a wild animal, exotic animal, or feral animal against rabies. Except, *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) shall be immunized pursuant to Section 202 of these Regulations.
 - 6) To harbor any wild animal, exotic, or feral animal in violation of these Regulations, the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, or any other any applicable code, regulation, or ordinance.
- B) This Section (Section 209 of these Regulations) does not apply to the following:
- 1) Animals native to the farm and sold at auction or by private sale, such as horses, cattle, swine, and poultry or other livestock; and those animals sold by pet dealers or by private sale, such as domestic cats, domestic dogs, domestic rabbits, guinea pigs, chinchilla, mice, hamsters, gerbils, rats, pocket pets, psittacine birds, and nonpoisonous, non-man-eating fish; or other animals approved by the Board of Health, unless otherwise prohibited by the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, or any other applicable code, regulation, or ordinance.
 - 2) Unless otherwise prohibited by the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, or any other applicable code, regulation, or ordinance, animals held for exhibit or use by research institutions and/or governmental agencies having legal authority to possess wild animals, including, but not limited to, publicly supported zoos, the Humane Society of Delaware County and other rehabilitation services, approved by the Delaware General Health District Board of Health,.
 - 3) A wild animal or exotic animal, which meets the definition of either the term “wild animal” or “exotic animal” as defined in these Regulations, but that was purchased or adopted prior to the adoption of these Regulations. Such wild animal or exotic animal may continue to be owned, kept, or harbored until the

animal's death by the person(s) who presently owns, keeps, or harbors such wild animal or exotic animal subject to all of the following conditions:

- a) That a bill of sale and/or license issued by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife and/or the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Regulatory Enforcement and Animal Care verifies the date of purchase or adoption of such animal as being prior to the date that these Regulations were adopted.
 - b) A veterinarian certification verifying that the animal is a wild animal or an exotic animal.
 - c) That such wild or exotic animals can be confined in a house, building or other enclosure in such a way that human contact, other than with the owner(s), keeper(s), or harborer(s) cannot occur.
- 3) Offspring of a wild animal or exotic animal as described in Section 209(B)(3) are not exempted from this Section (Section 209 of these Regulations).
- C) In the event of a human exposure with any wild animal, exotic animal, or feral animal, such animal shall be impounded for sacrifice as soon as possible, to permit laboratory examination for rabies.

210 ADMINISTRATION

- A) The Delaware General Health District Board of Health may appoint and authorize any agency for the purpose of administration of Section 202 concerning immunizations of domesticated and susceptible animals against rabies.
- B) The Delaware General Health District Board of Health or the agency authorized by it may furnish and supply forms, records, equipment, and materials used in the administration of Section 202 concerning immunization of domesticated and susceptible animals against rabies.

211 SEVERABILITY

Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of these Animal Control Regulations of the Delaware General Health District Board of Health be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remainder of said regulation shall not be affected thereby.

212 PENALTIES

- A) Violations of Regulations or orders made pursuant to these Regulations are punishable pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 3709.211 and/or Ohio Revised Code Section 3709.99.

- B) Each and every violation of the provisions of these Regulations or orders made pursuant to these Regulations shall constitute a separate offense.

ADOPTION DATE: _____

EFFECTIVE DATE: _____

APPENDIX

3701-3-02 Diseases to be reported.

The diseases listed in this rule and classified as "Class A", "Class B", and "Class C" are declared to be dangerous to the public health and are reportable. The occurrence of cases or suspected cases of a disease classified as "Class A", "Class B", or "Class C" shall be reported to the board of health on forms as prescribed and provided by the director and shall be reported in accordance with this rule and Chapter 3701-3 of the Administrative Code.

(A) The following diseases are classified as "Class A":

- (1) Diseases of major public health concern because of the severity of disease or potential for epidemic spread:
 - (a) Anthrax
 - (b) Botulism, foodborne, other botulism as set forth in paragraph (A)(3) of this rule;
 - (c) Cholera;
 - (d) Diphtheria;
 - (e) Measles;
 - (f) Meningococcal disease;
 - (g) Plague;
 - (h) Rabies, human;
 - (i) Rubella (not congenital);
 - (j) Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
 - (k) Smallpox;
 - (l) Tularemia
 - (m) Viral hemorrhagic fever (VHF);
 - (n) Yellow fever; and
 - (o) Any unexpected pattern of cases, suspected cases, deaths or increased incidence of any other disease of major public health concern, because of the severity of disease or potential for epidemic spread, which may indicate a newly recognized infectious agent,

outbreak, epidemic, related public health hazard or act of bioterrorism.

3701-3-28 Report of bite of dog or other mammal.

Whenever a person is bitten by a dog or other mammal, report of such bite shall be made within twenty-four hours to the health commissioner of the district in which such bite occurred. The report herein required shall be made in the same manner and by the same persons made responsible for reporting diseases listed as class A(2) in rule 3701-3-02 of the Administrative Code, or by the person bitten.

3701-3-29 Biting animal to be confined; veterinarian to report.

(A) Biting dog, cat, or ferret.

- (1) Whenever it is reported to the health commissioner of a health district that any dog, cat, or ferret has bitten a person, that dog, cat, or ferret shall be quarantined under an order issued by the health commissioner of the health district in which the bite was inflicted. The dog, cat, or ferret shall be quarantined by its owner or by a harbinger, or shall be quarantined in a pound or kennel. In all cases, said quarantine shall be under the supervision of the health commissioner and shall be at the expense of the owner or harbinger. Quarantine shall continue until the health commissioner of the health district in which the bite was inflicted determines that the dog, cat, or ferret is not afflicted with rabies. The quarantine period hereby required shall not be less than ten days from the date on which the person was bitten. If at any time during the quarantine, the health commissioner requires the dog, cat, or ferret to be examined for symptoms of rabies, then the examination shall be by a licensed doctor of veterinary medicine. The veterinarian shall report to the health commissioner the conclusions reached as a result of the examinations. The examination by a veterinarian shall be at the expense of the owner or harbinger.

No dog, cat, or ferret shall be released from the required quarantine unless and until it has been properly vaccinated against rabies by a licensed doctor of veterinary medicine.

- (2) If any quarantined dog, cat, or ferret dies before the quarantine period expires, then the head of the dog, cat, or ferret shall be submitted to the Ohio department of health laboratories for rabies examination.
- (3) If the owner or harbinger of the dog, cat, or ferret is unknown, the health commissioner may direct that the dog, cat, or ferret be humanely killed in which case the head of the dog, cat, or ferret shall be submitted to the Ohio department of health laboratories for rabies examination.

(4) Any dog, cat, or ferret bitten by a known rabid mammal, or that had reasonable probability to have been bitten by a wild carnivorous mammal or bat that is not available for rabies testing shall be regarded as having been exposed to rabies virus.

(a) Not currently vaccinated dogs, cats, or ferrets shall be humanely killed; or if sufficient justification for preserving the dog, cat, or ferret exists, the exposed dog, cat, or ferret shall be quarantined by the health commissioner of the health district in which the bite was inflicted. The quarantine period shall be for not less than six months. The dog, cat, or ferret shall be vaccinated against rabies by a licensed doctor of veterinary medicine one month before the end of the quarantine period required by this paragraph.

(b) Currently rabies vaccinated mammals shall be given a booster rabies vaccination immediately and quarantined under an order issued by the health commissioner of the health district in which the bite was inflicted. The quarantine period shall be for not less than forty-five days.

(B) Other biting mammals.

Whenever it is reported to the health commissioner of the health district that any other mammal that is known to transmit rabies has bitten a person, the health commissioner at his or her discretion may direct the immediate killing of said mammal by a suitable humane method. The head of said mammal shall then be submitted to the Ohio department of health laboratories for rabies examination.