



Sheridan Police Department
Policies and Procedures
24.4
Chapter 24 – Animal Control
Section 4 – Animal Bites & Quarantines

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Signature:

The requirements for animal bites that occur within the City of Sheridan are established in City Ordinance Chapter 6 Animals and Fowl.

24.4.1 Animal Bites

- A. Any time an animal bites a person and breaks the skin the animal shall be quarantined (City Ordinance 6-7) or euthanized and submitted for testing. This includes family pets that bite.
- B. Quarantines can be conducted at:
 - 1. The animal control shelter;
 - 2. The owner's home under supervision with an agreement from the Community Service Officer and veterinarian.
- C. If an animal that bites and breaks the skin has current rabies vaccinations and the owner does not want the animal back, the owner will surrender the animal to the shelter.
- D. The incident will be documented in an incident case report.
- E. In every case of an animal bite, the Community Service Officer shall contact the state veterinarian.
- F. If an animal bites another animal, the CSO shall make a determination on whether quarantine is necessary giving consideration to the totality of the circumstances.

24.4.2 Quarantine Requirements

- A. If an animal that has bitten a person does not have a current rabies vaccination, it must be quarantined at the animal shelter or the owner's home, with an agreement from the CSO and veterinarian.
- B. The animal shall be isolated and monitored for ten (10) to fifteen (15) days
- C. If at the end of the ten (10) to fifteen (15) day quarantine the animal shows no symptoms of rabies it shall be released to the owner.
- D. The appropriate public health officials shall be notified of the animal's condition at the end of the quarantine.

24.4.3 Shelter Quarantines

- A. Rabies quarantined animals that become sick or injured in the shelter will be seen by a veterinarian at the shelter. If the veterinarian will not come to the shelter, other arrangements can be made. The owner of the animal is responsible for any costs incurred.
- B. The CSO on duty shall notify the victim of the quarantine results.
- C. A supplemental report shall be completed and turned into records.

24.4.4 Home Quarantine

- A. If an animal that has bitten a person has a current rabies vaccination and proof of vaccination is shown, the animal can be quarantined at its home and at the discretion of an animal control officer.
- B. In the case of puppies or kittens less than three (3) months of age, if the animal's mother has current rabies vaccination the puppy or kitten is protected up to three (3) months. Further information is available from public health or the animal control supervisor.
- C. Home quarantines will only be arranged by animal control employees.