

**TOWN OF KEYSTONE
ORDINANCE NO. 2025-O-13**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF KEYSTONE,
COLORADO, REGARDING THE REGULATION OF PET ANIMALS WITHIN THE
TOWN OF KEYSTONE**

WHEREAS, the Town of Keystone, Colorado (“Town”) is a home rule municipality, duly organized and existing under the laws of the state of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Keystone Town Charter article 2.9 grants the Keystone Town Council the right to exercise all legislative powers and functions of municipal government; and

WHEREAS, the existence of uncontrolled pet animals within the Town of Keystone will have a detrimental effect on the citizens and visitors in the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the Town and its citizens to adopt an ordinance to regulate and control excessive pet animals within the Town of Keystone.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Keystone, Colorado, as follows:

Section 1. The Town Council adopts the items in attached Exhibit A as the Town’s nuisance ordinance – regarding the regulation of pet animals within the Town of Keystone.

Section 2. Should any one or more sections or provisions of this Ordinance or of the Code provisions enacted hereby be judicially determined invalid or unenforceable, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remaining provisions of this Ordinance or of such Code provision, the intention being that the various sections and provisions are severable.

Section 3. Any and all Ordinances or Codes or parts thereof in conflict or inconsistent herewith are, to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency, hereby repealed; provided, however, that the repeal of any such Ordinance or Code or part thereof shall not revive any other section or part of any Ordinance or Code provision heretofore repealed or superseded.

Section 4. Codification. This ordinance may be codified and numbered for purposes of codification without the need for further approval by the Town Council.

Section 5. Effective Date. After adoption by the Town Council, this ordinance shall take effect on August 28, 2025.

INTRODUCED, READ AND PASSED AS AN ORDINANCE, ON FIRST READING, AND SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON JULY 22, 2025, AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF KEYSTONE, COLORADO, THIS

8th DAY OF JULY 2025.

Signed by:

Kenneth D. Riley

FFCC105F18734F9...
Kenneth D. Riley, Mayor

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Madeline Sieb

04E4BE3F50A1424
Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Signed by:

Jennifer Madsen

89751994A1B74EC
Town Attorney

READ AND PUBLIC HEARING CONTINUED TO AUGUST 12, 2025, 2025, AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF KEYSTONE, COLORADO, THIS

22ND DAY OF JULY 2025.

Signed by:

Kenneth D. Riley

FFCC105F18734F9...
Kenneth D. Riley, Mayor

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Madeline Sieb

04E4BE3F50A1424
Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Signed by:

Jennifer Madsen

89751994A1B74EC
Town Attorney

READ, PASSED AND ADOPTED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE OF 7 IN FAVOR AND 0
OPPOSED ON SECOND READING, AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN
COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF KEYSTONE, COLORADO, THIS 12TH DAY OF AUGUST
2025.

Signed by:
Kenneth D. Riley _____
FFCC105F18734F9...
Kenneth D. Riley, Mayor

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Madeline Siebo _____
04E4BE3F50A1424...
Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Signed by:
Jennifer Madsen _____
89751994A1B74EC...
Town Attorney

Exhibit A-
Ordinance 2025-O-13

Section 1. - Title.

This ordinance shall be known as the *ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE*.

Section 2. - Purpose.

The purpose of this Ordinance is to regulate animals in the Town of Keystone in order to protect the property, health, welfare, peace or safety of its citizens, inhabitants and visitors.

Section 3. – Definitions:

Pet Animal - a domesticated animal kept by humans for companionship, enjoyment, or as a household companion, rather than for work or commercial purposes

Section 4. - Animals at Large

A. It is prohibited to allow a pet animal to run at large under circumstances where the animal is not either restrained by means of a leash, rope, chain or other physical restraint, no longer than eight (8) feet in length, of sufficient strength to control the animal, confined by adequate fencing, secured by a dog run, under an electronic control device, or which is under the effective and immediate control of the owner or other responsible person present with the animal and immediately obedient to that person's commands.

Exceptions: The following shall constitute exceptions to running at large:

1. A pet animal is not considered to be running at large, either on or off the premises of its owner, if the animal is being physically held by the owner or other responsible person or is in the immediate presence of the owner or other responsible person and is immediately obedient to that person's command.

2. A pet animal is not considered to be running at large if it is confined within a motor vehicle or secured within the confines of the bed of a pickup truck in such manner that it cannot exit the vehicle or pose a risk to any person outside the confines of the vehicle by its own volition.

B. Notwithstanding paragraph A, all pet animals on paved public pathways, public boardwalks, or in plazas and other public areas while such areas are being used for Town-permitted public gatherings, or such areas as designated by the Town Manager, shall be restrained by means of a leash, rope, chain or other physical restraint, no longer than eight (8) feet in length, of sufficient strength to control the animal.

C. It is prohibited for any owner to fail to prevent his or her pet animal from disturbing the peace of any other person by habitual or persistent barking, howling, yelping, whining or any other unprovoked noise, whether the animal is on or off the owner's property.

D. It is prohibited for any owner to permit the excess accumulation of a pet animal's feces on the property on which the animal is kept such that it is detectable visually or odoriferously by others.

E. It is prohibited for any owner to fail to confine pet animal feces within the perimeters of the property on which the animal is kept, regardless of whether such failure to confine is the result of natural causes, such as surface water flow, or other causes.

F. Dog owners and handlers must immediately clean up and properly dispose of their dog's waste in all public areas. Waste must be placed in a sealed bag or container and disposed of in designated trash receptacles or dog waste bins.

Section 5. Dangerous Dog.

A. Definitions

For purposes of this section, the following terms shall apply:

B. Bodily injury means any physical injury resulting in severe bruising, muscle tears, or skin lacerations requiring professional medical treatment, or any physical injury requiring corrective or cosmetic surgery.

1. Dangerous dog means any dog that:

- a) Inflicts bodily injury, serious bodily injury, or causes the death of a pet animal;
- b) Demonstrates tendencies that would cause a reasonable person to believe that the dog may inflict bodily or serious bodily injury upon or cause the death of a person or pet animal; or
- c) Engages in or is trained for animal fighting.

2. Dog means any domesticated canine species, including hybrids related to foxes, wolves, coyotes, or jackals.

3. Pet animal has the same meaning as defined above in Section 3 of this Ordinance.

4. Serious bodily injury has the same meaning as in Section 18-1-901(3)(p), Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.).

C. Dangerous Dog Prohibited

It is unlawful for any person to own, possess, harbor, keep, or have custody or control over a dangerous dog within the Town of Keystone. Any person convicted of a violation of this section is guilty of a criminal offense.

D. Enforcement and Control Measures.

1. Dangerous dogs shall be subject to immediate impoundment by animal control officers if found in violation of this section.
2. Upon conviction or court determination, the court may order:
 - a) Permanent removal of the dog from the Town;
 - b) Humane euthanasia of the dog if it poses a continued threat;
 - c) Mandatory registration, secure containment, and liability insurance for conditional release;
 - d) Other relief that it deems appropriate.

Section 6. Licensing

All dogs are required to wear a current animal license tag. Cat licenses are voluntary.

Section 7. Rabies Control

- A. Vaccinations. Every person owning or harboring a dog or cat three (3) months of age or older, for forty-eight (48) hours or more, shall cause such dog or cat to have a current vaccination against rabies with a vaccine approved by the State Department of Health, by a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine. If other species of animals are vaccinated, such vaccination shall be with a vaccine approved by the State Department of Health. In any proceeding or prosecution under this Ordinance, the burden of proving that a dog or cat has been vaccinated for the calendar year in question under the ordinances or regulations of another state, city, town or county shall be upon the person charged with a violation of this Ordinance.
- B. Certificate of Vaccination. Upon vaccination, the veterinarian administering the vaccine shall execute and furnish to the owner of the animal as evidence thereof a certificate of vaccination, such issuer to retain a duplicate copy and deliver one (1) copy thereof to be retained by the owner. Such certificate shall contain the following information:

1. The name, address and telephone number of the owner or harborer of the inoculated animal;
2. The date of inoculation;
3. The type of vaccine used and the period of time for which it is effective;
4. The year and series number of the rabies tag; and
5. The breed, age, color and sex of the inoculated animal.

C. Rabies Tags. Concurrent with the issuance and delivery of the certificate of vaccination referred to in Section 4(B) above, the owner of the animal shall attach to the collar or harness of the vaccinated animal a metal tag, to be acquired from the veterinarian who administered the vaccine referenced in Section 4(B) above, serially numbered and bearing the year of issuance and the name of the jurisdiction and state, or produce evidence on demand that such a tag has been issued.

D. Duplicate Tags. In the event of loss or destruction of the original tag provided in Section 4(B) above, the owner of the animal shall obtain a duplicate tag from the veterinarian who administered the vaccine referenced in Section 4(B) above upon presentation of the above-described certificate or of other evidence satisfactory to the veterinarian that an original tag was issued and has been lost or destroyed. The owner of the animal shall also, within five (5) days of loss or destruction of the original tag, report, in writing, such events to the agency responsible for the issuance of the original tag.

E. Proof. It is unlawful for any owner or harborer of any dog, cat or other animal to fail to cause an animal owned or harbored by him or her to be vaccinated as required by this Ordinance or to fail or refuse to exhibit his or her copy of the certificate of vaccination upon demand to any police officer, animal control officer or other person charged with the enforcement of this Ordinance.

Section 8. – Reporting of Bites

- A. Duty to Report. Any person having knowledge of an animal bite or attack or of any other infliction of injury by an animal upon a human being or other animal shall promptly, but in any event within twenty-four (24) hours, report the incident to the animal control officer, any police officer, the public health veterinary section of the State Department of Health or the County Health Officer.
- B. Quarantine. Any animal which has bitten, or is suspected of biting, a human being or other animal shall be placed under observation for a period of ten (10) days from the date of the bite. The procedure and place of observation shall be designated by the animal control officer or other investigating officer, with the preference being given to confinement at the owner's premises if, in the sole judgment of such officer, the owner can and will adequately assure confinement. If the animal is not confined on the owner's premises, confinement shall be in the Town or County animal shelter or at any veterinary hospital of the owner's choice. Such confinement shall be at the expense of the owner. Stray animals whose owners cannot be located shall be confined in the Town or County animal shelter. The owner of any animal that has been reported as having inflicted a bite on any human being or other animal shall, on written demand of an animal control officer, produce the animal for quarantine as prescribed in this Section. It shall be unlawful for any owner to fail to comply with any such demand to produce an animal for quarantine, and each day of such refusal shall constitute a separate and individual violation.
- C. Removal from Quarantine. It is unlawful for any person to remove from any place of isolation or quarantine any animal which has been isolated or quarantined as authorized, without the consent of the impounding agency or

animal control officer.

- D. Observation during Quarantine. The purpose of quarantine under this Ordinance shall be to determine whether such animal is afflicted with rabies or other disease which may be communicable to human beings or other animals and to prevent, during such period, further contact between such animal and human beings or other animals. Accordingly, any animal control officer, police officer, representative of the public health veterinary section of the State Department of Health or any veterinary designated by any such officer or representative or by the Town shall have the right to examine such animal at any reasonable time; and any owner or other person in custody or control or harboring such animal during such quarantine period shall permit such examination and make the quarantined animal available therefor.

Section 9. – Impoundment

- A. Animal Shelter. Until further resolution or ordinance by the Town Council, the animal shelter owned and operated by the County is hereby designated as the animal shelter for the Town.
- B. Removal of Animals. It is unlawful for any person to remove any impounded animal from the animal shelter without consent of the animal control officer.
- C. Removal of Animals from Quarantine. Animals impounded because of bites, or suspicion thereof, shall not be removed from the pound until after expiration of a ten-day observation period and until a release has been obtained from the County Health Officer.
- D. Disposition of Licensed and Vaccinated Animals. As soon as practicable after impoundment, notice of impoundment shall be posted in a conspicuous place at the Town Hall for not less than ten (10) business days. If the owner or

reputed owner of the impounded animal is known to the animal control officer, he or she shall make a reasonable effort to give prompt written, telephonic or verbal notice to such owner or reputed owner. Notice in writing shall be deemed sufficiently given as of the date of posting in the United States mail, if mailed by regular mail, postage prepaid, addressed to any owner or reputed owner known to the animal control officer at his or her last known address as shown in the animal licensing records of the Town. In no event shall the Town or any animal control officer be liable for failure or inability to notify an owner of such animal. Any impounded animal which is licensed and vaccinated for rabies pursuant to the terms of this Ordinance may be redeemed by the owner upon payment of the impound fee and care and feeding charges fixed by this Division, or by any subsequent resolution or ordinance adopted by the Town Council, any veterinary charges incurred for such animal, and such other reasonable and necessary costs as have been incurred in the keeping of such animal and are set by the animal control officer. If such animal is not removed from impoundment within ten (10) business days after the posting of notice of impoundment, it shall be deemed abandoned and the animal control officer may humanely euthanize the animal under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, or take such other steps, such as placing the animal for adoption, as is in the best interests of the community.

- E. Disposition of Unlicensed or Unvaccinated Animals. As soon as practicable after impoundment, notice of impoundment shall be posted in a conspicuous place at the Town Hall for not less than ten (10) business days. If the owner or reputed owner of the impounded animal is known to the animal control officer, he shall make a reasonable effort to give prompt written, telephonic or verbal notice to such owner or reputed owner. Notice in writing shall be deemed sufficiently given as of the date of posting in the United States mail, if mailed by regular mail, postage prepaid, addressed to any owner or reputed owner known to the animal control officer at his or her last known address as shown in the animal licensing records of the Town. In no event shall the Town

or any animal control officer be liable for failure or inability to notify an owner of such animal. Any impounded animal which is not licensed or vaccinated for rabies pursuant to the terms of this Ordinance may be redeemed by the owner upon payment of the impound fee and care and feeding charges fixed by this Section, or by any subsequent resolution or ordinance adopted by the Town Council, any veterinary charges incurred for such animal, and such other reasonable and necessary costs as have been incurred in the keeping of such animal and are set by the animal control officer, and in the case of a dog required to be licensed under this Ordinance and/or a dog or cat required to be vaccinated under this Ordinance, upon purchase of such license and/or completion of such vaccination, or proof that such vaccination has occurred, as the case may be. If such animal is not removed from impoundment within ten (10) business days after the posting of notice of impoundment, it shall be deemed abandoned and the animal control officer may humanely euthanize the animal under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, or take such other steps as placing the animal for adoption, as is in the best interests of the community.

F. Pound Fees and Charges.

1. The owner or keeper of any animal impounded under this Ordinance shall pay the impoundment, feeding, keeping and other charges as established by the County, and no person may reclaim any animal until such fees are paid. If the owner or keeper fails or refuses to pay when due any charge imposed under this Section, the Town may, without limitation, certify the charge to the County Treasurer for collection by the County in the same manner as delinquent general taxes upon property are collected. Fees may include:
 - a. Any veterinary charges incurred for such animal.
 - b. Any such other reasonable and necessary costs as have been incurred in the keeping of such animal and are verified by the animal control officer.

- c. Any and all costs of euthanasia of such animal or of placing the said animal for adoption.
- 2. Any amounts payable by the owner of an animal pursuant to this Section shall be nonrefundable.