

Section 940 - Animals

940.01. Definitions. Subdivision 1. Non-Domesticated Animal. A non-domesticated animal is defined as any wild animal, reptile or fowl, which is not naturally tame or gentle but is of a wild nature or disposition and which, because of its size, vicious nature or other characteristics would constitute a danger to human life or property.

Subd. 2. Farm Animal. A farm animal is defined as an animal which is normally found on a farm, ranch or stable. Such animals include, but are not limited to, horses, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, and chickens.

940.02. Prohibited Animals. No person shall keep, maintain or harbor within the City of Hopkins any of the following animals:

Subd. 1. Any animal or species prohibited by Minnesota or Federal law.

Subd. 2. Any non-domesticated animal or species, including but not limited to the following:

- a) Any skunk, whether captured in the wild, domestically raised, descended or not descended, vaccinated against rabies or not vaccinated against rabies.
- b) Any large cat of the family Felidae such as lions, tigers, jaguars, leopards, cougars and ocelots, except commonly accepted domesticated house cats.
- c) Any member of the family Canidae, such as, wolves, foxes, coyotes, dingos and jackals, except domesticated dogs.
- d) Any crossbreed such as the crossbreeds between dogs and coyotes or dogs and wolves but does not include crossbred domesticated animals.
- e) Any poisonous pit viper such as a rattlesnake, coral snake, water moccasin or cobra.
- f) Any raccoon.
- g.) Any other animal which is not listed explicitly above, but which can be reasonably defined by the terms in Section 940.01 of this ordinance, including bears and badgers. (Amended Ord 2005-945)

Subd. 3. Any farm animal.

940.03. Selling Prohibited. No person shall offer for sale, within the city limits, any animal prohibited in Section 940.02 of this ordinance.

940.04. Exceptions. Subdivision 1. Temporary Conditional Use Permit. Any persons desiring to keep animals prohibited under Section 940.02 shall obtain a temporary conditional use permit from the City Council. Such a permit shall be issued for a period not to exceed thirty days and shall specify further conditions under which such animals shall be kept. Provided, however, that no such permit shall be issued unless such prohibited animal is brought into the city for entertainment, exhibition, show or promotional purposes only. Before issuance of any temporary conditional use permit, the applicant shall provide the City with proof of insurance including public liability insurance.

Subd. 2. Nonpoisonous snakes, birds kept indoors, hamsters, mice, rabbits, gerbils, white rats, guinea pigs, chinchillas, or lizards, and similar small animals capable of being maintained continuously in cages are also exempt and do not require a permit.

Subd. 3. Persons keeping animals for a public zoo as volunteers, teachers or otherwise, any bona fide research institution or veterinary hospital are exempt from the permit requirement; provided protective devices adequate to prevent such animals from escaping or injuring the public are provided.

Subd. 4. Handicapped persons keeping monkeys trained as household helpers are exempt.

940.05. Impounding of non-domesticated animals. Any non-domestic animal kept in violation of this ordinance may be impounded by the city. Unless such impounded animal is reclaimed and removed from the City, or is issued a permit to allow it to remain in the City, or unless the owner petitions the District Court for a determination that the animal is exempt from the provisions of this ordinance, the animal may be destroyed or sold five (5) days following notice to the owner of such animal of its impoundment and the provisions of this ordinance.

Any person reclaiming any such impounded animal shall pay the costs of impounding and keeping the same at the time of its release.

940.06. Existing non-domesticated animals. Anyone keeping or maintaining any non-domesticated animal as of July 3, 1991 has ninety days in which to comply with the provisions of this ordinance. Extensions beyond ninety days may be granted for just cause by the City Council, but in no case shall such extension permanently exempt a person from the requirements of this ordinance.

940.07. Penalty. Violation of any provision of this Subdivision shall be a misdemeanor.

(Added, Ord. No. 91-679)