

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WEST BLOOMFIELD
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN
AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES
SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

NOTICE:

Ordinance No. C- 231-C was adopted by the Board of the Charter Township of West Bloomfield, after second reading, at the Regular Board Meeting on Monday, July 10, 2006. A summary of said Ordinance is as follows:

DOG ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

The Board amended Chapter 7, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances, entitled "Dogs," by amending Sections 7-16 and 7-20 and by adding Sections 7-22 and 7-23. These amendments and additions pertain to the issue of dangerous dogs. The phrase "Dangerous dog" shall mean a dog that is afflicted with rabies or a dog that bites or attacks a person, or a dog that bites or attacks a dog or domesticated animal, causing serious injury. Upon such an occurrence, a sworn complaint may be filed in the 48th District Court requesting that a magistrate or judge issue a summons to the owner of a Dangerous dog ordering him or her to appear to show cause why the Dangerous dog should not be destroyed and/or subjected to specific sanctions such as the imposition of escape proof fencing, microchip identification, sterilization, muzzling or other appropriate action to protect the public. Upon the entry of an Order to Show Cause, based upon a magistrate or judge's review of the facts contained in the sworn complaint, the owner of a Dangerous dog shall immediately turn the dog over within 24 hours to a proper animal control authority, an incorporated humane society, a licensed veterinarian, or a boarding kennel, at the owner's option and cost, pending a hearing and decision by the court. In addition to the sanctions against a Dangerous dog, a violation of the provisions of Chapter 7, Article II of the Code of Ordinances, are now designated as a municipal civil infraction against the owner of a Dangerous dog, with the penalties being prescribed in Chapter 1, Section 1-10(b)-(d) of the Code, unless a Dangerous dog bites or attacks a person, in which case a violation of the provisions shall constitute a criminal misdemeanor against the owner of a Dangerous dog, with the penalties being prescribed in Chapter 1, Section 1-10(a), (c) and (d) of the Code. In either case, the court may order the owner of a Dangerous dog to pay full restitution to the victim or owner of the victim dog or domesticated animal for actual costs and expenses incurred.

Printed copies of the full text of Ordinance C-231-C are available for inspection by, and distribution to, the public at the Office of the Township Clerk between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on regular business days. The full text includes any and all amendments, deletions and additions to the Code of Ordinances for the Charter Township of West Bloomfield.

Sharon A. Law, Township Clerk.