



# Taylor County

## Board of County Commissioners'

### Policy Manual

Policy #:	Title:	Effective Date:
<b>2010-03</b>	<b>Public Nuisance Policy relating to Animals</b>	<b>03/01/10</b>

### PURPOSE

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To establish a policy for public nuisance complaints

### REFERENCE

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Section 14-5 Taylor County Code  
Section 4-2 City of Perry Code

### POLICY

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1. Animals found to be a public nuisance (as defined in Taylor County Code Section 14-5 County or 14-2 City Code) will be handled in accordance with this section.
2. A citizen calling to report a nuisance animal should identify the location, owner, and type of animal causing the nuisance. Citizen should try and document the specific type of nuisance, i.e. dog running loose, continuous barking, etc.
3. Public nuisance complaints as defined under Taylor County Code Sections 14-5 and the City of Perry Code 14-2 will be handled in the following manner:
  - (a) The animal owner shall be notified of the complaint in writing and may be given up to seven calendar days to abate the situation.
  - (b) Subsequent violations, after warning, shall be based on the ACO's or law enforcement's personal knowledge of the nuisance.
  - (c) The subsequent violation may be based on at least two (2) affidavits of complaint from different parties residing in close proximity to the alleged nuisance. Close proximity shall mean residing within a radius of 200 feet from the resident or location of the offending animal.
  - (d) Testimony or evidence from persons living out side the 200 foot radius may be considered.
  - (e) One affidavit of complaint may be sufficient to warrant an investigation where there is only one party in close proximity to the alleged nuisance.
4. Animal owners found in violation of the public nuisance section of the ordinance may be issued a citation for each violation. Citations result in a civil penalty along with an escalating fine structure for subsequent violations.

5. If a public nuisance complaint is reported after regular work hours, the caller should contact the Taylor County Sheriff's Office. These complaints will be handled by the TCSO or the City of Perry Police Dept. in accordance with their policy and procedures.

**RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT**

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Environmental Services Department – Animal Control

**SUNSET DATE**

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**Sunset Date: None**