



RABIES CONTROL REGULATIONS 2017

Adopted – April 25, 2017

Effective Date – June 1, 2017

“Be it ordered by the Board of Health of the Delaware General Health District, State of Ohio.”

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201 Authority

- A) These regulations are hereby enacted under authority of Ohio Revised Code 3709.21 which states, in part "The board of health of a general health district may make such orders and regulations as are necessary for its own government, for the public health, the prevention or restriction of disease, and the prevention, abatement, or suppression of nuisances..."

202 DEFINITIONS

- A) "Animal bite," "bite," or "bites" shall mean a "rabies exposure" as defined in Section 202 (S) of these Regulations.
- B) "Contact animal" shall mean any susceptible animal that has come in contact with a rabid or suspected rabid animal in a manner which could transmit the rabies virus.
- C) "Domesticated animal" shall mean an animal that has been bred in captivity to live a life intimately associated with man in a tame or tamable condition.
- D) "Dog" shall mean any domestic canine animal (*Canis familiaris*)
- E) "Cat" shall mean any domestic feline animal (*Felia domesticus*)
- F) "Exotic Animal" shall mean a warm blooded (mammal) non-domestic animal not indigenous to the State of Ohio and capable of transmitting rabies.
- G) "Feral Animal" shall mean any susceptible domestic animal living in the wild state.
- H) "Harbor" shall mean to provide shelter, habitat, or refuge, or otherwise hide, protect, or provide for an animal.
- I) "Health Commissioner" shall mean the Health Commissioner of the Delaware General Health District or his/her authorized representative.
- J) "Human Exposure" shall mean all persons having rabies exposure as defined by this section.
- K) "Immunization" shall mean the administration of a biological product, recommended in the current National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, Inc., Compendium of Animal Rabies Control and licensed for the species by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and deemed adequate to provide protection to the animal so vaccinated against rabies. Such vaccination must be performed by a veterinarian duly licensed to practice veterinary medicine or under the direct supervision thereof.
- L) "Isolation" shall mean the placing of a rabid animal or suspected rabid animal or a contact animal separate and apart from all other susceptible animals or persons so that the transmission of rabies is impossible.

- M) "Owner" shall mean any person owning, keeping, possessing, harboring, maintaining or having the care, custody or control of an animal.
- N) "Officer" shall mean any law enforcement officer, agent of a county humane society, dog warden, assistant dog warden, or other person appointed to act as an animal control officer for a county, municipal corporation, or township in accordance with state law, an ordinance, or a resolution.
- O) "Person" shall mean person, firm, corporation or association.
- P) "Pocket Pets" shall mean but is not limited to small pets such as domesticated hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, domestic rabbits, white rats, and mice.
- Q) "Quarantine" shall mean the strict confinement of an animal in a manner which isolates the animal and precludes direct contact by the animal with other animals not concurrently in quarantine or persons other than the owner, keeper, or harborer. The quarantine shall be conducted under an order issued by the Health Commissioner or other official designated by the Health Commissioner.
- R) "Rabid Animal" shall mean any animal showing abnormal behavior or which has been confirmed as having rabies by a laboratory acceptable to the Health Commissioner.
- S) "Rabies Exposure" shall mean any possible contact with or penetration of skin by the teeth of a suspected rabid or susceptible animal or possible contamination of, but not limited to, scratches, abrasions, open wounds, or mucous membranes with the saliva or potentially infectious material (such as brain tissue) of a suspected rabid animal.
- T) "Stray Animal" shall mean any susceptible animal found to be at large whose owner cannot be located, determined, contacted, or one that cannot be apprehended and isolated for observation.
- U) "Susceptible Animal" shall mean any animal to which rabies can be transmitted. Only for the purpose of section 203 (Immunization) of this rule, "Susceptible Animal" shall mean a dog, cat, or *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret).
- V) "Suspected Rabid Animal" shall mean a susceptible animal showing, even to a limited degree, observable clinical signs of rabies or a susceptible animal that has bitten a person or has come in contact with a person in such a manner that rabies could be transmitted to that person.
- W) "Veterinarian" shall mean a veterinarian duly licensed to practice veterinary medicine under the laws of the State of Ohio and/or any other state of the United States of America.
- X) "Wild Animal" shall mean any of the following:
- 1) Any animal, whether an exotic animal or an animal indigenous to the

- State of Ohio, that is not a domesticated animal and which is capable of transmitting rabies,
- 2) Any offspring born to a wild animal, as otherwise defined in this Section, bred with a domesticated animal,
 - 3) Any offspring born to a domestic animal bred with a wild animal, as otherwise defined in this Section,
 - 4) Any animal for which no rabies vaccine exists and/or for which the efficacy of any such vaccination has not been demonstrated and/or for which a quarantine period for such an animal suspected of being rabid has not been scientifically researched and defined.
 - 5) *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) unless all of the following conditions are met:
 - a) The *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) has and currently remains under the regular care of a licensed veterinarian, and
 - b) The *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) is currently immunized for rabies by a licensed veterinarian, and
 - c) The *mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) meets the requirements of Section 202(C) of these Regulations.

203 IMMUNIZATION

- A) Any person who keeps or harbors domesticated and susceptible animals within the jurisdiction of the Delaware General Health District shall have such animals immunized or re-immunized, if the immunization has expired, against rabies by a method listed in the current National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, Inc., Compendium of Animal Rabies Control. Such immunization shall be administered by a veterinarian.
 - 1) Domesticated and susceptible animals need not be immunized before reaching the age of 3 months of age. Immunization should be administered to such animals no later than such animal reaching 3-4 months of age and a booster shall be administered to such animals thereafter according to AMVA Guidelines.
 - 2) Domesticated and susceptible animals temporarily entering the jurisdiction of the Delaware General Health District for animal shows, exhibition, field trials, hunting, breeding, and/or any other purposes shall be properly immunized consistent with Section 203 (A)(1) of these Regulations and such immunization shall be current. All such animals shall be accompanied by a tag, an immunization certificate, or certified acknowledgement from a veterinarian showing that such animal(s) have been properly immunized and that such immunization is current.
 - 3) The owner, keeper or harbinger of a *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) shall have such animal vaccinated by a veterinarian against rabies by a method and vaccine approved by the United States Department of Agriculture.
- B) All veterinarians administering an immunization or re-immunization against rabies to a domesticated and susceptible animal shall keep a permanent written record of such immunization or re-immunization. Each and every such written record shall be permanently assigned a unique number identifying the individual record for each individual animal receiving a rabies immunization or re-immunization.

- C) Each and every time that a domesticated and susceptible animal is administered an immunization or re-immunization against rabies the veterinarian administering such immunization and/or re-immunization shall, without delay, provide to the owner, keeper, or harbinger of the animal a certificate of immunization or re-immunization which shall include the following information:
- 1) The number identifying the individual record as required to be assigned by Section 203(B) of these Regulations,
 - 2) A complete description of the animal receiving the immunization or re-immunization,
 - 3) The address of the location where the animal is regularly kept or harbored,
 - 4) The name(s) and address(es) of the owner(s), keeper(s), or harbinger(s) of the animal receiving the immunization or re-immunization,
 - 5) The date of administration of the immunization or re-immunization to the animal,
 - 6) The type of immunization or re-immunization administered to the animal,
 - 7) If the animal is a *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret), a statement certifying that the *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) meets the all the requirements of Section 202(X)(5),
 - 8) Any other pertinent information,
 - 9) The signature and address of the veterinarian.
- D) The certificate required by and described in Section 203 (C) of these Regulations shall be made on forms approved by the Health Commissioner.
- E) Each and every time that a domesticated and susceptible animal is administered an immunization or re-immunization against rabies the veterinarian administering such immunization or re-immunization shall, upon request of the Delaware General Health District, forward the information required on the certificate required by and described in Section 203 (C) of these Regulations to the Delaware General Health District and/or any other agency designated by the Health Commissioner to receive such certificate.
- F) Each and every time that a domesticated and susceptible animal is administered an immunization or re-immunization against rabies the veterinarian administering such immunization and/or re-immunization shall, without delay, provide a tag to the owner, harbinger, or keeper of such animal indicating that the animal has been immunized against rabies. Such tag shall be made of a durable material approved by the Health Commissioner. Such tag shall, at a minimum, have thereon permanently affixed the following information:
- 1) Effective January 2008, the name, address, and telephone of the veterinarian and/or veterinary clinic administering the immunization or re-immunization against rabies
 - 2) The year that the immunization or re-immunization against rabies was administered to the animal,
 - 3) The unique number required to be assigned to the individual written record of such immunization or re-immunization pursuant to Section 203(B) of these Regulations,
 - 4) Any other pertinent information.

- G) The owner, harbinger, or keeper of a dog or cat receiving an immunization or re-immunization against rabies shall affix the tag described in Section 203(F) to a collar which collar shall be worn by such animal; or the owner, harbinger, or keeper must be able to readily provide such tag at request.
- H) Each and every time a *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) is initially immunized against rabies, the veterinarian administering such immunization shall identify the *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) as having been immunized against rabies by microchip, tattoo, or through other permanent identifying mark or means acceptable to the Health Commissioner. Such tattoo or other permanent mark shall be humanely administered to the animal and include the unique number required to be assigned to the individual written record of such immunization or re-immunization pursuant to Section 203(B) of these Regulations.
- I) Nothing contained in these Regulations means or shall be interpreted to mean that domesticated and susceptible animals immunized or re-immunized against rabies shall be allowed to run at large in violation of any rabies quarantine, law, ordinance, or regulation.

204 REPORT OF SUSPECTED RABID ANIMAL

- A) Veterinarians, owners, keepers, harborers, or other persons caring for a suspected rabid animal shall immediately confine and isolate the suspected rabid animal. Within 24 hours after determining that the animal is suspected of being rabid such fact shall be reported to the Delaware General Health District by the veterinarian, owner, keeper, harbinger, or other person caring for such animal. Such report to the Delaware General Health District shall include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - 1) A description of the suspected rabid animal, including but not limited to the following:
 - a) type of animal,
 - b) breed,
 - c) approximate size,
 - d) color,
 - e) any other distinguishing characteristics, and
 - f) any information reasonably requested by the Health Commissioner.
 - 2) The name(s) and address(es) of any and all persons having been in contact with and/or bitten by the suspected rabid animal,
 - 3) Description of any and/or all animals having contact with and/or bitten by the suspected rabid animal. Such description shall include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a) type of animal,
 - b) breed,
 - c) approximate size,
 - d) color,
 - e) any other distinguishing characteristics, and
 - f) any information reasonably requested by the Health Commissioner.
 - 4) The name(s) and address(es) of any owner, keeper, harbinger, and/or other person caring for any and/or all animals having contact with and/or

- bitten by the suspected rabid animal.
- 5) Any other information requested by the Health Commissioner.

- B) Within 24 hours of receiving a report pursuant to the requirements of this Section, the Health Commissioner shall provide a written order to the owner, harborer, or person caring for the animal. Such order shall state, but is not limited to stating, the following:
 - 1) The animal shall be held in quarantine,
 - 2) The length of the quarantine, and
 - 3) The stipulations for release from quarantine.

205 REPORT OF A BITE OF A SUSCEPTIBLE ANIMAL

- A) Whenever a person is bitten or has a rabies exposure by a susceptible animal, such fact, pursuant to OAC § 3701-3-28, shall be reported to the Health Commissioner within 24 hours of the time that the bite occurred. This section does not apply to a police dog that has bitten a person while the police dog is under the care of a licensed veterinarian or has bitten a person while the police dog is being used for law enforcement, corrections, prison or jail security, or investigative purposes. If, after biting a person, a police dog exhibits any abnormal behavior, the law enforcement agency and the law enforcement officer the police dog assists, within a reasonable time after the person is bitten, shall make the police dog available for the board of health for the district in which the bite occurred to perform tests for rabies.
- B) If a person seeks treatment for a bite or rabies exposure by a susceptible animal, the report required by Section 205(A) shall be made by the attending physician of the individual bitten or, if such person seeks treatment at a hospital or other health care facility, such report shall be made by the hospital or other health care facility.
- C) If the person inflicted with the bite or rabies exposure by a susceptible animal does not consult or seek treatment from a physician or was not taken to a hospital or other health care facility, the report required by Section 205(A) of these Regulations shall be made by the person bitten, the parent, guardian or other responsible person in charge of the person bitten, or any other person who has knowledge of the occurrence of the bite.
- D) The report required by Section 205(A) of these Regulations shall include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - 1) The name, age, address and telephone number of the person bitten,
 - 2) The part of the body where the bite was inflicted,
 - 3) If known, the name, telephone number and address of the owner, keeper, harborer, or other person caring for the animal inflicting the bite, or rabies exposure,
 - 4) The address of the location of where the bite occurred,
 - 5) The date the bite occurred,
 - 6) A description of the animal inflicting the bite, including but not limited to, the following:
 - a) type of animal,
 - b) breed,

- c) approximate size,
 - d) color, and
 - e) any other distinguishing characteristics.
 - 7) The number on the rabies tag of the animal,
 - 8) The expiration date of the rabies immunization received by that animal as listed on the animal's rabies tag.
 - 9) If the bite occurred off premises of the owner, harborer, keeper, or other person caring for the animal, whether the bite was provoked.
- E) Within 24 hours of receiving a report pursuant to the requirements of this Section, the Health Commissioner shall provide a written order to the owner, harborer, keeper, or other person caring for the animal inflicting the bite or rabies exposure. Such order shall state, but is not limited to stating, the following:
- 1) The animal that inflicted the bite or rabies exposure shall be held in quarantine,
 - 2) The length of the quarantine,
 - 3) Proof of current vaccination will be required, and
 - 4) The stipulation for release from quarantine.

206 EXAMINATIONS

- A) At the owner's expense, the Health Commissioner may require a veterinarian to examine and/or observe a suspected rabid animal, or any animal that bites or gives rise to a potential exposure, for symptoms of rabies. Based on such examination and/or observations, the veterinarian shall, within 24 hours of conducting such examination and/or observation, submit a written report to the Health Commissioner of his or her examination and/or observation of the suspected rabid animal.

207 QUARANTINE

- A) Whenever any dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) is reported to the Health Commissioner as suspected of being a rabid animal, but which animal is not known to have bitten a person, such dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), shall be quarantined under an order issued by the Health Commissioner per Section 204(B) of these Regulations. The dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) shall be quarantined by its owner, keeper, or harborer consistent with and under the conditions described in Section 208 of these Regulations or shall be quarantined in a pound or kennel. In all cases, said quarantine shall be under the supervision of the Health Commissioner and shall be at the expense of the owner, keeper, or harborer. Quarantine shall continue until the Health Commissioner determines and is satisfied that the dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) is not afflicted with rabies. The quarantine period hereby required shall not be less than ten days from the date of the report to the Health Commissioner. If at any time during the quarantine, the Health Commissioner requires the dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) to be examined for symptoms of rabies, then an examination of such animal shall be conducted consistent with Section 206 of these Regulations.

- B) Pursuant to OAC § 3701-3-29, whenever it is reported to the Health Commissioner that

any dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) has bitten a person or gives rise to a potential exposure, that dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) shall be quarantined under an order issued by the Health Commissioner. Such order shall be consistent with Section 205(E) of these Regulations. The dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) shall be quarantined by its owner, keeper, or harborer, consistent with and under the conditions described in Section 208 of these Regulations or shall be quarantined in a pound or kennel. In all cases, said quarantine shall be under the supervision of the Health Commissioner and shall be at the expense of the owner, keeper, or harborer. Quarantine shall continue until the Health Commissioner determines and is satisfied that the dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) is not afflicted with rabies. The quarantine period hereby required shall not be less than ten days from the date on which the person was bitten or potentially exposed to rabies. If at any time during the quarantine, the Health Commissioner requires the dog, cat, or mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) to be examined for symptoms of rabies, then an examination of such animal shall be conducted consistent with Section 206 of these Regulations.

C) Special Quarantine Considerations and Requirements Applicable to Mustela Putorius Furo (Domestic Ferret):

- 1) Following a person being bitten by a mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), the biting mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), at the expense of the owner, harborer or keeper of the mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), shall, unless otherwise required or specified by the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, these Regulations, or other applicable law, ordinance, rule or regulation, be examined by a veterinarian for rabies, at a minimum, as follows:
 - a) Once, within 24 hours of a bite, and
 - b) Again, within in 30-90 days following the bite.
- 2) Based on such examinations as required by Section 207(C)(1), the veterinarian shall make a determination of whether the biting mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) is afflicted with rabies. Within 24 hours following each examination of the biting mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), the veterinarian shall submit a written report of his or her examination to the Health Commissioner.
- 3) Based on the written reports received from the veterinarian pursuant to Section 207(C)(2) of these Regulations, the Health Commissioner, within his or her sole discretion, may take any of the following actions:
 - a) Assuming that the mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) has been quarantined for at least 10 days, release the mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) from quarantine.
 - b) Order quarantine or a continued quarantine of the mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) pursuant to Section 207(A) or (B) of these Regulations.
 - c) If the criteria in Section 207(C)(4) are not all met or unless required otherwise by the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, these Regulations, or other applicable law, ordinance, rule or regulation, the Health Commissioner may order an extended quarantine period of 30-90 days for the mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret).
 - d) Unless otherwise required or specified by the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, these Regulations, or other applicable law, ordinance, rule or

- regulation, the Health Commissioner, in his or her sole discretion, may order the mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) humanely euthanized and tested for rabies.
- e) The Health Commissioner may also order post exposure treatment be given to the victim.
- 4) The Health Commissioner shall not order an extended quarantine for a mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) as provided by 207(C)(3)(c) if all of the following criteria are met:
 - a) The mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) meets all conditions as specified in Section 202(X)(5) of these Regulations.
 - b) The mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) originated from a rabies-free area and for the past 6 months has not been exposed to any potentially rabid animals.
 - c) The mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) has been vaccinated with an approved rabies vaccine at least 30 days prior to the time the bite occurred and such vaccination is current.
 - d) The victim, the owner, harborer or keeper of the mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), the treating physician of the victim, and the treating veterinarian of the mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) understand and set forth such understanding in a signed written statement that if a mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) meets the criteria of Section 202(X)(5) of these Regulations, it is at a minimal, but not zero risk of being rabid. Such statement shall be both submitted to and satisfactory to the Health Commissioner. Such statement shall be included as part of the record of a mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret) bite investigation.
- D) Whenever it is reported to the Health Commissioner that an animal has potentially exposed a person to rabies , the Health Commissioner, at his or her discretion, may direct the immediate euthanization of the animal by a suitable humane method. The head of the animal shall then be removed from the animal's body and immediately delivered to the Delaware General Health District to be submitted to an approved laboratory for examination.
 - E) Any dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal bitten by a known rabid mammal, or that had reasonable probability to have been bitten by a wild carnivorous mammal, wild animal, or bat that is not available for rabies testing shall be regarded as having been exposed to rabies virus.
 - 1) Not currently vaccinated dogs, cats, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animals shall be humanely euthanized; or if sufficient justification for preserving the dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal exists, the exposed dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal shall be quarantined by the Health Commissioner. The quarantine period shall be for not less than six months. The dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal shall be vaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian upon entry into the quarantine period required by this paragraph.
 - 2) Currently rabies vaccinated mammals shall be given a booster rabies vaccination immediately and quarantined under an order issued by the Health Commissioner. The quarantine period shall be for not less than forty-five days.

- F) The Health Commissioner, in his or her sole discretion, shall determine if suspected rabid or contact animals should be euthanized. In making such determination, the Health Commissioner may, pursuant to Section 206 of these Regulations, require suspected rabid or contact animals to be examined by a veterinarian. Such examination by a veterinarian shall be at the expense of the owner, keeper, or harbinger of the suspected rabid or contact animal. The veterinarian shall report in writing to the Health Commissioner the results of the examination and conclusions reached within 24 hours after examining such animal.
- G) All suspected rabid and contact animals showing observable clinical signs of rabies, shall be euthanized through a humane method by a veterinarian under direction from the Health Commissioner.
- H) Unless otherwise permitted by written order of the Health Commissioner, no person shall euthanize any dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal that has bitten any person within the jurisdiction of the Delaware General Health District until the quarantine period as provided for and specified in this Section has been fully completed.
- I) If any quarantined dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal dies before the quarantine period expires or is euthanized pursuant to these Regulations, then the head of such dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal shall be removed from such animal's body by an entity or individual approved by the Health Commissioner and immediately submitted to the Delaware General Health District to be sent to the Ohio Department of Health Laboratories for rabies examination. The veterinarian, owner, keeper, or harbinger of the animal shall immediately notify the Health Commissioner in writing of the death of the animal, the arrangements to remove the animal's head from its body, and to deliver the animal's head to the Delaware General Health District. Upon receiving the head, the Delaware General Health District shall immediately submit the head of the animal to the Ohio Department of Health Laboratories.
- J) If the owner or harbinger of the dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal, with the exception of a stray, wild, exotic, or feral animal, is unknown, the Health Commissioner may direct that the dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal be humanely euthanized in which case the head of the dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal shall be submitted to the Ohio Department of Health laboratories for rabies examination.
- K) No dog, cat, mustela putorius furo (domestic ferret), or other susceptible or contact animal shall be released from the required quarantine unless and until it has been properly vaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian.

208 CONDITIONS OF QUARANTINE

- A) All animals ordered held under quarantine shall be boarded and cared for at the expense of the owner, keeper, or harbinger of the animal.

- B) If the Health Commissioner determines it suitable, the place of quarantine may be any of the following locations:
 - 1) The premises of the owner, keeper, or harbinger of the animal,
 - 2) A veterinary hospital
 - 3) An animal shelter approved by the Health Commissioner
 - 4) Any other location or place deemed suitable by the Health Commissioner.

- C) An animal quarantined indoors shall be confined to a house, building or other enclosure in such a way as to be isolated from all other susceptible animals and that human contact, other than with the owner, keeper, harbinger, and/or other responsible person, cannot occur.

- D) An animal quarantined outdoors shall be confined in such a way as to be isolated from all other susceptible animals and that human contact, other than with the owner, keeper, harbinger, and/or other responsible person, cannot occur. Such confinement shall be in a fully enclosed kennel with at least a 6 foot fence with an enclosed top and a secure bottom, or other enclosure suitable to the Health Commissioner.

- E) At all times when outside of the confinements described in Sections 208(C) and (D) for necessary transport or other reason acceptable to the Health Commissioner, a quarantined animal, shall be on a tether or leash of no more than 6 feet. While on such tether or leash, such animal shall at all times be under direct supervision of an adult and/or other responsible person and shall continue to be isolated from all other susceptible animals and contact with humans, other than with the owner, keeper, harbinger, and/or other responsible person.

- F) If while under quarantine an animal is captured and/or confined by an officer for being a stray, running-at-large, and/or not being confined or being kept under the control of the owner, keeper, harbinger, and/or other responsible person, such animal will be confined by the jurisdiction capturing such animal and/or other agency or person designated by the jurisdiction capturing such animal. Such animal shall not be released until the quarantine period has fully expired. Additionally, the owner, keeper, harbinger, and/or person responsible for the care of such animal will be responsible to the jurisdiction capturing the animal for all daily costs and expenses associated with such confinement and such animal shall not be released to the owner, keeper, harbinger, and/or person responsible for the care of such animal until all such costs are paid.

- G) No person, without written permission from the Delaware General Health District, shall change the location of quarantine or remove an animal that has bitten any person within the jurisdiction of the Delaware General Health District from the jurisdiction of

the Delaware General Health District until the designated quarantine period has been fully completed.

- H) Except as specified in 207 (E) of these regulations, no animal shall be immunized against rabies while under quarantine.
- I) Upon the expiration of the quarantine, the place of keeping of the quarantined animal and the premises wherever a quarantined animal has been quartered shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected to the satisfaction of the Health Commissioner.

209 GENERAL QUARANTINE OF DOGS AND OTHER CONTACT ANIMALS IN EVENT OF PREVALENCE OF RABIES (ORC § 955.26 AND 3709.21)

- A) Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 955.26 and 3709.21, whenever, in the judgment of the director of health, any city or general health district board of health, or persons performing the duties of a board of health, rabies is prevalent, the director of health, the board, or those persons shall declare a quarantine of all dogs and other contact animals in the health district or in a part of it. During the quarantine, the owner, keeper, or harbinger of any dog shall keep it confined on the premises of the owner, keeper, or harbinger, or in a suitable pound, kennel, or other place as approved by the Delaware General Health District, at the expense of the owner, keeper, or harbinger, except that a dog or other contact animal may be permitted to leave the premises of its owner, keeper, or harbinger if it is under leash or under the control of a responsible person. The quarantine order shall be considered an emergency and need not be published.

When the quarantine has been declared, the director of health, the board, or those persons may require vaccination for rabies of all dogs or other contact animals within the Health District or part of it. Proof of rabies vaccination within a satisfactory period shall be demonstrated to the county auditor before any registration is issued under section 955.01 of the Revised Code for any dog or other contact animal that is required to be vaccinated. The director shall determine appropriate methods of rabies vaccination and satisfactory periods for purposes of quarantines under this section.

When a quarantine of dogs or other contact animals has been declared in any health district or part of a health district, the county dog warden and all other persons having the authority of police officers shall assist the health authorities in enforcing the quarantine order. When rabies vaccination has been declared compulsory in any health district or part of a health district, the dog warden shall assist the health authorities in enforcing the vaccination order. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a city or general health district board of health may make orders pursuant to sections 3709.20 and 3709.21 of the Revised Code requiring the vaccination of dogs or other contact animals.

- B) No person shall violate a rabies quarantine order issued by the Board of Health of the Delaware General Health District pursuant to Section 955.26 of the Ohio Revised Code, or any other applicable municipal code, regulation, or ordinance.

210 WILD ANIMALS, EXOTIC ANIMALS, AND FERAL ANIMALS EXCEPT CATS AND FERRETS

A) No Person Shall Be Permitted:

- 1) To import into, harbor, feed or market, in any form wholesale or retail a wild animal native to the State of Ohio in the jurisdiction of the Delaware General Health District.
- 2) To import, market, harbor or feed, in any form wholesale or retail within the jurisdiction of the Delaware General Health District other types of wild animals, exotic animals, feral animals, or dangerous animals, including exotic animals not native to the State of Ohio.
- 3) To perform surgery or other techniques on a wild animal, exotic animal or feral animal for the purpose of domesticating it such as but not limited to, neutering, spaying or removing scent glands. Except, *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) and cats may be neutered, spayed or de-scented if all conditions of Section 202(X) (5) of these Regulations are met.
- 4) To immunize a wild animal, exotic animal, or feral animal against rabies. Except, *Mustela putorius furo* (domestic ferret) shall be immunized pursuant to Section 203 of these Regulations.

B) Section 210 of these Regulations does not apply to the following:

- 1) Animals native to the farm and sold at auction or by private sale, such as horses, cattle, swine, and poultry or other livestock; and those animals sold by pet dealers or by private sale, limited to domestic cats, dogs, ferrets, chinchillas, pocket pets, birds, reptiles, fish, amphibians, and invertebrates ; or other animals approved by the Health Commissioner, unless otherwise prohibited by the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, or any other applicable code, regulation, or ordinance.
- 2) Unless otherwise prohibited by the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, or any other applicable code, regulation, or ordinance, animals held for exhibit or use by research institutions and/or governmental agencies having legal authority to possess wild animals, including, but not limited to, publicly supported zoos, the Humane Society of Delaware County and other rehabilitation services, approved by the Delaware General Health District, or other entity granted authority under the Ohio Revised Code.
- 3) A wild animal or exotic animal, which meets the definition of either the term "wild animal" or "exotic animal" as defined in these Regulations, but that was purchased or adopted prior to the adoption of these Regulations. Such wild animal or exotic animal may continue to be owned, kept, or harbored until the animal's death by the person(s) who presently owns, keeps, or harbors such wild animal or exotic animal subject to all of the following conditions:
 - a. That a bill of sale and/or license issued by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife and/or the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Regulatory Enforcement and Animal Care verifies the date of purchase or adoption of such animal as being prior to September 1, 2012.
 - c) A veterinarian certification verifying that the animal is a wild animal or an exotic animal and describing the type of animal.
 - d) That such wild or exotic animals can be confined in a house, building or other enclosure in such a way that human contact, other than with the owner(s), keeper(s), or harborer(s) cannot occur.

- C) Offspring of a wild animal or exotic animal as described in Section 210(B)(3) are not exempted from Section 210 of these Regulations.
- D) In the event of a human exposure with any wild animal, exotic animal, or feral animal, such animal shall be impounded for sacrifice as soon as possible, to permit laboratory examination for rabies.

211 ADMINISTRATION

- A) The Delaware General Health District may furnish and supply forms, records, equipment, and materials used in the administration of Section 203 concerning immunization of domesticated and susceptible animals against rabies.

212 CONTRAINDICATIONS

- A) If rabies vaccination of a dog, cat, or ferret is contraindicated for medical reasons, the Delaware General Health District may exempt the animal from rabies vaccination.
- B) Request for exemption from rabies vaccination for a dog, cat, or ferret shall be made in writing by the owner, keeper, harborer, or veterinarian and shall include:
 - 1) Documentation from a veterinarian indicating the health reason for the request
 - 2) A description of the dog, cat, or ferret
 - 3) Certification that the animal appears to be free of clinical signs of rabies.
- C) Upon receipt of request for a dog, cat, or ferret to be exempted from rabies vaccination, the Delaware General Health District shall review the information presented and inform the owner, keeper, harborer, or veterinarian in writing of the decision to approve or deny the exemption. Such decision shall be valid for 1 year; at which time the owner, keeper, harborer, or veterinarian must make a new request.


213 SEVERABILITY

- A) Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of these Regulations of the Delaware General Health District Board of Health be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remainder of said regulation shall not be affected thereby.

214 PENALTIES

- A) Violations of Regulations or orders made pursuant to these Regulations are punishable pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 3709.211 and/or Ohio Revised Code Section 3709.99.
- B) Each and every violation of the provisions of these Regulations or orders made pursuant to these Regulations shall constitute a separate offense.

Superseding all previous editions, Resolution 2012-07 is hereby amended and approved by the Delaware General Health District Board of Health this 25th day of April 2017.


Walter Threiffall, DVM, President


Shelia L. Hiddleston, Secretary