Township Council
1 Municipal Plaza
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

Louise M. Palagano
Municipal Clerk

http://www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com

Meeting: 04/18/16 07:00 PM

2016 ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 134, ANIMALS, ARTICLE 1, General Animal Regulations, § 134-8.1 "Tethering of Animals and Prohibited Treatment of Animals" WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BLOOMFIELD

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 134, ANIMALS, ARTICLE 1, General Animal Regulations, § 134-8.1 "Tethering of Animals and Prohibited Treatment of Animals within the Code of the Township of Bloomfield is hereby amended to the addition to read as follows:

§134-8.1 _Tethering Of Animals.

A. Definitions.

As used in this Section:

(1) Tethering shall mean the restraining of an animal by the tying to any object or structure, including, without limitation, a house, tree, fence, post, garage, weight or shed, by any means, including, without limitation, rope, cord, leash or running line. For purposes of this definition, tethering shall not include the use of a leash used to walk the animal, or forms of restraint used in the transportation of an animal.

B. Tethering of dogs.

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to tether, asten, tie, restrain or cause an unattended dog to be fastened, tied or restrained to houses, trees, fences, garages, stakes or other stationary or highly immobile objects by means of a rope, strap or other physical restraint for the purpose of confinement, except in circumstances where all of the following requirements are satisfied:

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND PROCEDURE
ON BASIS OF FACTS SET FORTH

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of Law-Township Attorney

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(a) The tethering is for a total of no more than seven (7) hours within a twenty-four (24) hour period, with a maximum of four (4) hours at any one (1) interval and a minimum one (1) hour period between confinements.

(b) The tether is attached to the dog by a non-choke type collar, swivels at both ends, and attached to the stationary object by anchors, latches, or similar devices in a manner which the dog is able to move freely and prevents the tether from becoming entangled around the dog or any object so as to limit the dog's freedom within the tethered area or to prevent the dog, or any of its appendages, from becoming entangled by the tether.

(c) The tether shall be of a type commonly used for the size of the dog involved.

(d) The construction of the tether shall be of a lightweight, yet durable material, shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the animal's weight, and may not be thicker than one-eighth (1/8) inch

(e) The tether must be a minimum of fifteen (15) linear feet in length, less than six (6) feet above the ground, and shall remain tangle free.

(f) The tethered dog has easy access to potable drinking water, edible food, dry ground, and adequate shade and/or shelter within the tethering area.

(g) The tethering area shall be clean, clear of obstructions and/or debris, and no less than 150 square feet/per dog in total area.

(h) The dog, whether used for hunting, farming, breeding, or is an otherwise working dog, is regularly monitored while tethered for the aforementioned period of time.

2.   No dog shall be tethered by means of a choke-type, pinch-type, prong-type, or improperly fitting collar.

3.   Chains shall be prohibited for use as a tethering device.

4.   If there are multiple dogs, each dog shall be tethered separately and in such a manner that the tethers shall not become entangled with each other.

5.   No dog shall be tethered within five (5) feet of another person's property, public thoroughfare, and/or right-of-way.

6.   No dog shall be tethered at a vacant structure or premises for any purpose when it is not monitored by a competent adult who is present at the property for the duration of such tethering.

7.   Dogs that are not spayed or neutered shall not be tethered for any period of time.

8.   No dog under the age of one (1) or under 20 pounds shall be tethered.

9. No dog that is sick or injured shall be tethered.

10. No dogs shall be tethered between the hours of 10:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M.

C. Collars.

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to collar an animal with a choke-type collar, prong-type collar, pinch-type collar, or rope.

(2) The collar must be at least as large as the circumference of the animal's neck plus one (1) inch and cannot be constructed primarily of metal.

§134-8.2 Prohibited Treatment of Animals

A. GENEARAL PROHIBITIONS

(1) No owner, caretaker, guardian or handier shall withhold proper shelter, light, space, protection from weather, veterinary care, and/or immune care from any animal.

(2) No owner, caretaker, guardian or handler shall fail to provide his or her animal with sufficient edible food and potable drinking water on a daily basis. Food and water must be in an animal food consumption or water consumption type container, feeder or waterer.

(3) No animal shall be subjected to unnecessary suffering or cruelty such as subjecting the animal to prolonged confinement, fear, injury, pain or physical abuse. Interaction with humans and other animals shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(4) No animal shall be confined in a parked or standing vehicle or enclosed trailer for a period of fifteen (15) or more minutes when the temperature during such period is either below 32° F. or above 85° F.

B. Restrictions on leaving animals outdoors.

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to leave any animal outdoors and unattended for a continuous period of time greater than one-half (1/2) hour if the National Weather Service has issued weather alerts or storm warning, or if the temperature during such period is either below 32° F. or above 85° F. The animal shall be considered outside regardless of access to an outdoor doghouse or similar structure, unless such structure is a properly functioning climate- controlled and weather-resistant structure.

(2) No animal shall be left outside during snow storms, ice storms or thunderstorms.

C. Outdoor animal enclosures.

(1) Animals shall be provided access to an enclosure/structure which protects them against inclement weather, is water resistant and keeps them, dry, provides shade from direct sunlight, and allows them to preserve a normal body temperature.

(2) Animals shall not be housed on a temporary or permanent basis in any enclosure/structure constructed of metal, unless adequately insulated from inclement weather.

(3) If there are multiple animals, each animal shall be provided with a separate enclosure/structure, except as provided for under Article 8 of this Chapter.

(4) Outdoor animal enclosures, including pens, doghouses, or other similar structures shall be soundly constructed, safely and properly positioned on a raised platform, and properly maintained. The top of the enclosure shall be covered to provide the animal with shade and protection from the elements. The floor of the enclosure shall be constructed in such a manner that it protects the animals' feet and legs from injury.

(5) Pet taxis, plastic carriers, boxes, vari-kennels or metal houses shall not be acceptable as adequate outdoor enclosures.

(6) Outside animal enclosure shall be no less than four (4) feet in height, no less than sixty-four (64) in square footage, and must allow for the animal to freely turn around, stand, sit, or lie in a normal position. The animal must be able to lie down while fully extended without the animals' head, tail, legs, face, or feet touching any side of the enclosure. The interior height of the enclosure shall be at least six (6) inches higher than the head of the animal in the enclosure when it is in a normal standing position.

(7) Outdoor animal enclosures shall contain bedding such as straw or other absorbent material in a sufficient quantity to provide adequate insulation for the structure. Bedding shall be maintained in a dry condition and renewed or changed as necessary

(8) Outdoor animal enclosure shall be kept dry, clean, and free of animal waste.

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I hereby certify that the above ordinance was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield at a meeting of said Township Council held on MAY 16, 2016.

Louise M. Palagano

Municipal Clerk of the Township of Bloomfield

M. Venezia

Mayor of the Township of Bloomfield

✔ Vote Record - Ordinance

☐ Adopt
☐ Deny
☐ Withdrawn
☐ Table
☐ Not Discussed
☐ First Reading
☐ Table with no Vote
☐ Approve
☐ Veto by Mayor
☐ Discussion
☐ Defeated
☐ Discussion No Vote

	Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
Elias N. Chalet	☑	☐	☐	☑
Nicholas Joanow	☑	☐	☐	☐
Carlos Bernard	☑	☐	☐	☑
Wartyna Davis	☑	☐	☐	☐
Joseph Lopez	☑	☐	☐	☐
Carlos Pomares	☑	☐	☐	☐
Michael J. Venezia	☑	☐	☐	☐

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