



State Regulations Prohibiting Animal Cruelty

New Jersey has enacted a series of State Regulations to prevent cruelty to animals. They protect our pets and wildlife from a range of situations and activities, including:

- Exposure to harsh weather conditions
- Proper shelter
- Evacuations
- Restraints & Confinement
- Leaving an animal in a vehicle
- Sale and adoption
- Abandonment
- Exhibition
- Animal fighting
- Abuse & neglect

If you witness an instance of Animal Cruelty, please contact the Maplewood Police Department's Humane Law Enforcement Officer at (973) 762-3400.

For more information visit:
www.maplewoodnj.gov



Pet Ownership & Animal Control in the Township of Maplewood



Maplewood Health Department
Municipal Building
574 Valley St.
Maplewood, NJ 07040
(973) 762-8120
HealthDepartment@maplewoodnj.gov
www.maplewoodnj.gov

Animal Control

The Maplewood Health Department oversees Animal Control services in Maplewood Township. Animal Control will assist with:

- Sick or injured wildlife
- Dogs running at large
- Potentially rabid animals, including bats in the home
- Other urgent situations

To reach Animal Control:

- **Call the Maplewood Health Department at (973) 762-8120, x2002** Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 4:30 PM.
- **Call (973) 762-3400, the Maplewood Police Department's non-emergency number**, anytime.

Either department can take the information and will then contact Animal Control as needed.

A few things to keep in mind:

- *Animal Control does not handle dead animals on private property.* They must be moved to the street, and the Maplewood Department of Public Works can then handle pick up. DPW can be reached at (973) 762-1175. If you prefer to call a service to pick it up from your property for a fee, there is [a list on our website](#).
- *Under state law, Animal Control is NOT responsible for healthy animals considered "Nuisance Wildlife."* This includes squirrels, skunks, raccoons, groundhogs, chipmunks, birds, and live, uninjured deer.

Annual Dog and Cat Licensing

(Ord. 113-2:113-7)

Dogs seven months and older are required by both State Law and Township Ordinance to have an annual pet license. By Township Ordinance all cats 4 months and older are also required to have an annual license.

Fees:

- \$15 for spayed/neutered pets
- \$18 for non-spayed/neutered pets
- \$7 late fee for renewals after Jan 31

Why do I need to license my pet?

- Rabies is still found in our area. Dogs and cats can become infected through a bite, scratch or other contact with a rabid animal. Pet licensing helps ensure that pets are vaccinated against rabies.
- Licensing fees support local animal control, animal sheltering, and the state operated low cost spay and neuter program, as well as funding rabies testing and control activities
- A lost pet with a tag on its collar can quickly be traced and returned to you.

How do I license my pet?

- Visit maplewoodnj.gov/pets
- Enter your contact information and a general description of your pet.
- Provide proof of a current rabies vaccine from a licensed vet.
- Pay the fee.
- Your tag will be mailed to you.

Rules and Regulations

(Ord. 113-12, 113-30, 113-31)

Maplewood Township requires pet owners to adhere to a number of regulations to ensure the safety and comfort of all residents:

- ◆ Residents must clean up after their pets and dispose of pet waste in a proper garbage receptacle.
- ◆ Dogs are prohibited from running at large in public spaces. Dogs must be securely controlled by an adequate leash no more than six (6) feet long.
- ◆ Dogs are not permitted to cause damage to others' lawns, shrubbery, flowers, grounds or property.
- ◆ Continuous or habitual barking and howling are not permitted.
- ◆ Feeding stray or unlicensed cats or leaving food outdoors for stray animals is prohibited. Violators shall be subject to a \$100.00 fine in the first instance and \$250.00 thereafter.

Raising chickens in Maplewood

(Ch. 13, Ord. # 2709-13)

Up to 15 households within the Township of Maplewood may be licensed to raise up to five chickens per property for the purpose of household egg gathering. Roosters are not permitted.

Call the Health Department at (973) 762-8120, x2002 for more information on chicken permit requirements and fees.

