

VILLAGE OF HAMMOND
PIATT COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE #2025-12

"An Ordinance to Regulate and Control the Keeping of Animals Within the Corporate Limits of
the Village of Hammond"

Adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hammond this
9th Day of December, 2025

Published in pamphlet form by authority of the Village Board of the Village of Hammond, Piatt
County, Illinois

VILLAGE OF HAMMOND
PIATT COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ORDINANCE #2025-12

"AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE AND CONTROL THE KEEPING OF ANIMALS
WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE VILLAGE OF HAMMOND"

Be it ordained, by the President and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hammond, Piatt County, Illinois:

1. The Board finds that the running at large of animals, including cats, present health problems and constitutes a nuisance within the Village and hereby declares it unlawful to permit any animal to run at large in the Village of Hammond at any time.
2. It shall be unlawful for anyone to keep or maintain within the Village limits any animal, except typical household pets such as cats, dogs, caged birds, turtles, and the like, and also allowed to be kept are hens, ducks, quail, and turkeys. It shall be unlawful for anyone to keep or maintain the following species of fowl (Guinea Fowl, Feese, and Roosters) or any livestock within the corporate limits of the Village.
3. It shall be unlawful for anyone within the Village limits to own a vicious, dangerous, or fierce animal.
4. It shall be unlawful for anyone within the Village limits to own more than five (5) dogs at any given time.
5. Running at large - shall be defined as the presence of an animal beyond the limits of the property owned or occupied by the person keeping or maintaining such animal unless the animal is securely restrained by a leash or lead and controlled by a responsible person.
6. Inoculations - it shall be the duty of the owner of any dog or cat kept in the Village of Hammond to have the animal inoculated against rabies at least once a year. The owner shall obtain as proof of compliance either a county rabies tag or the certificate of a registered veterinarian documenting that such inoculation was given.
7. Muzzles - whenever the President of the Village of Hammond by proclamation shall declare that the danger from rabies is great, it shall be unlawful to permit any animal to be in any public place unless such animal is securely muzzled.
8. Identification tag - every person owning, keeping, or maintaining a dog or cat shall keep and maintain a collar around the neck of the animal with both an identification tag showing the name and address of the owner and a tag verifying the rabies inoculation.
9. Disturbing the peace - no person owning or having custody of any dog, cat, or other animal shall permit such animal to disturb the peace and quiet of the neighborhood by barking or making other loud or unusual noises for more than a 10 (ten) minute period of time, or by running through or across property other than that of the owner or custodian.

10. Habitat and/or disease - no person shall keep a dog, cat, or other animal within the Village of Hammond unless that animal shall be provided with sufficient food, potable water, and secure shelter enclosed from the elements. No person shall keep an animal afflicted with a contagious or infectious disease, nor shall such diseased animal be shipped or removed from the premises of the owner thereof except under the supervision of the Village Animal Control Officer and/or the Village Dog Catcher. It is the duty of the owner of any diseased animal and such treatment affected premises as to prevent the communication or spread of contagion or infection except in cases where the State Veterinarian is empowered to act.

11. Cruelty to animals - whoever is guilty of cruelty to any animal by overloading, overriding, overworking, cruelly beating, mutilating, or cruelly killing any animal, or causing or knowingly allowing such acts to be done; or cruelly working any old, maimed, infirm, sick, or disabled animal, or causing or knowingly allowing such acts to be done; or by unnecessarily abandoning any old, maimed, infirm, sick, or disabled animal, or by driving or by causing to be driven, or kept any animal in an unnecessarily or cruel manner shall be guilty of an offense punishable by a fine as provided by this Ordinance.

12. Litigation - in any action at law, whether civil or criminal, brought under the Ordinance, the fact that an animal has been found on premises not owned or occupied by the owner or keeper of the animal shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this Ordinance even if the owner of such animal lacked actual knowledge that the animal was running at large.

13. Animal Control Officer – it shall be the duty of the Village’s Animal Control Officer to have the following duties:

- a) Performs on call duties for the Village, follow through on matters, and use independent judgment and training to take appropriate actions to deal with standard recurring situations. Enforces animal control ordinances and related laws, rules, and regulations.
- b) Enforces animal regulations including, but not limited to, animals running at large and transport to Douglas County Animal Control of said animal. Has the authority to issue ordinance violations as appropriate.
- c) Prepares and maintains necessary reports and records.
- d) Responds to and investigates complaints from residents.
- e) Performs related work as required.
- f) Must have the ability to perform animal control duties efficiently, handle animals safely and effectively, deal courteously with the public, operate vehicle safely.
- g) Pest control.
- h) Remove dead animals.
- i) Complete any/all necessary licensing and training required by the State of Illinois, County of Piatt, and the Village of Hammond’s Animal Control Ordinance. This will include pepper spray training.
- j) Attends the monthly Board Meeting to give monthly report of any calls and the outcome of those calls.

14. Impoundment - It shall be the duty of the Village's Animal Control Officer and/or Dog Catcher, or another designated person to capture and confine any animal found running at large

within the Village of Hammond. As a situation may arise, and at the discretion of the Officer, upon capture of such an animal, the Officer may or may not cause the animal to be confined or impounded. If such animal may be confined, it shall be impounded pursuant to a contract with the Village of Hammond, in a facility operated by Douglas County Animal Control that is suitable for the secure keeping of such an animal for at least seven (7) days. Upon impoundment, the Officer shall, within two (2) days notify, by US Mail, the owner of the animal, if the same can be identified, of the place at which the animal is confined. Animals not redeemed from impoundment within seven (7) days shall become the property of Douglas County Animal Control.

14A. Redemption of animals from impoundment - animals shall be released from impoundment if within seven (7) days of the date of impoundment, upon presentation of sufficient evidence of ownership of the animal and payment of a \$115.00 fine to the Village of Hammond. Upon receipt of proof of ownership and payment of the fine, the Village shall issue a receipt authorizing Douglas County Animal Control to release the animal. Evidence of ownership may be presented and fines paid at the Village Hall of the Village of Hammond during normal business hours.

15. Penalties – Running At Large: Any person, firm, or corporation violating the provisions of paragraph 5 of this Ordinance shall be notified as follows:

1. The Village shall place phone call to homeowner notifying him or her of the violation.
2. If a second violation occurs within twelve (12) months of the first violation, the Village shall send a letter via regular first class mail to the homeowner notifying him or her of the violation.
3. If a third violation occurs within twelve (12) months of the second violation, the Village shall send a violation letter via certified mail with return receipt requested to the homeowner notifying him or her of the violation and the amount of the fine to be paid to the Village. The fine shall be due to be paid in full within 10 days of the date the violation letter is mailed. Any subsequent violation within twelve (12) months of the prior violation shall warrant an additional violation letter and fine. The Village shall be authorized to issue a fine up to \$750.00 for each violation requiring the mailing of a violation letter under this paragraph.

16. Penalties – Other: Any person, firm, or corporation violating any provisions of this Ordinance other than paragraph 5 shall be notified as follows:

1. Place phone call to homeowner notifying them of the violation on their property and giving them 10 days in which to fix the violation.
2. If compliance is not met in the 10 days, a non-certified letter will be sent reiterating the violation that needs to be corrected. Allow another 10 days.
3. If compliance is still not met, a certified violation letter is mailed to the homeowner. The first fine will be charged at this time for non-compliance and due within 10 days. The fine structure is as follows:

- 1st Offense: up to \$750.00
- 2nd Offense-committed within 12 months of any prior offense: up to \$750.00

- 3rd Offense-committed within 12 months of any prior offense: up to \$750.00

A separate offense shall be deemed committed each day the violation continues. Fines for release of an animal from impoundment as set forth in Section 13A hereof are in addition to any other fines for violation of this Ordinance.

Notice shall be deemed to be properly served by:

- Depositing the notice in U.S. mail, prepaid first-class postage regardless of whether the addressee accepts or refuses delivery; or
- Personal service; or
- Posting of notice upon property.

17. Failure to recover - if an animal confined under this Ordinance shall not have been recovered by its owner or keeper within seven (7) days shall be placed for adoption.

18. Enforcement - the Village Board may take whatever action it deems appropriate in conformance with the laws of the State of Illinois to enforce this Ordinance and to abate nuisances defined herein. Said action, includes, but is not limited to, the filing of an action in the Circuit Court of Piatt County.

19. Separability - should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction; such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance which will remain in full force and effect.

20. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval and publication as required by law. Any and all prior Ordinances not conforming herewith are hereby revoked and declared to be null and void.

Passed by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hammond, Piatt County, Illinois, this 9th day of December, 2025, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:4

NAYS:0

ABSENT:1

2 open seats

Kelsey Wells
Village Clerk, Village of Hammond
Piatt County, Illinois

John Drummond
President, Board of Trustees
Village of Hammond, Piatt County, Illinois

State of Illinois)
) ss.
County of Piatt)
Certificate of Publication)

I, Kelsey Wells, certify that I am the duly appointed and acting Municipal Clerk of the Village of Hammond, Piatt County, Illinois.

I further certify that on December 9th, 2025, the Corporate Authorities of such municipality passed and approved Ordinance #2025-13, entitled "An Ordinance to Regulate and Control the Keeping of Animals Within the Corporate Limits of the Village of Hammond", which provided by its terms that it should be published in pamphlet form.

The pamphlet form of Ordinance #2025-13, including the Ordinance and a cover sheet thereof, was prepared and a copy of such Ordinance was posted in the municipal building commencing on December 9, 2025 and continuing for at least 10 (ten) days thereafter. Copies of such Ordinance were also available for public inspection upon request in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

Dated at Hammond, Illinois, this 9th day of December, 2025.

(SEAL)

Kelsey Wells
Municipal Clerk