

# MEMORANDUM

To: All Meadows-Ferndale HOA (MFHOA) Owners and Residents  
From: MFHOA Board of Directors  
Date: June 27, 2021  
Subject: PETS

Over the past few months your Board of Directors has received several complaints about dogs in various locations in our community. These complaints involve dogs that are variously noisy, aggressive, threatening, and/or roaming unleashed. There has even been some biting. Such behaviors violate numerous sections of the Ferndale Municipal Code (FMC) and the Meadows HOA CC&Rs. Specifically:

- FMC 6.02.140 Pet Noise: "It is unlawful to allow a dog or other domestic animal to unreasonably disturb persons ..."
- FMC 6.02.150 Control of Intimidating Pets: "It is unlawful for any person, firm or corporation which owns, possesses, harbors, or has control or charge of chasing and/or intimidating dog(s) as defined in FMC 6.02.020(8) to allow the chasing and/or intimidating dog(s) to run at large and not under restraint."
- FMC 6.02.200 Leash Required: " It is unlawful for the owner or custodian of any dog to cause, permit or allow such dog to roam, run, be at large, or to be away from the premises of such owner or custodian and to be on any public place, or on any public property, unless permitted by law, or the private property of another in the City of Ferndale, unless such dog, while away from such premises, is controlled by a leash or lead, such control to be exercised by such owner or custodian or other competent and authorized person. Any dog found roaming, running, being at large or being away from such premises and not on a leash as provided in this section may be confiscated and impounded subject to redemption in the manner provided by this chapter."
- CC&R paragraphs 4.6 (Pet Control) and 4.13 (Pet Noise) mirror the FMC regulations.

Our guidance to resident and visiting pet owners is simple: please follow the rules to maintain a pleasant and safe environment throughout our community. If you have a question about a situation, a rule, or the interpretation of a rule, please contact your Board via the "SEND US A MESSAGE" portal at the bottom of the website homepage ( <https://www.meadows-ferndale-hoa.org/> ).

Guidance to all others is not quite so simple. The Board needs your help to ensure that the rules are followed, thereby facilitating the safe and pleasant environment we desire and deserve. If you see what appears to be a violation, you should call the Ferndale Police Department's 911 service line. When they answer, state that your call is NOT for an emergency and that you would like to remain anonymous (if these are applicable). Then answer their questions. They will log your complaint and forward it to Whatcom County Animal Control. You can call Animal Control directly, but the FPD has advised that calling them (911) is preferred.

You should also inform your Board through the "SEND US A MESSAGE" portal mentioned above. Your message should include the "who, what, where, and when" of the incident and an indication of

what action you have taken (e.g., called 911 – or not), along with the FPD case number if available. This will allow us to track the case for future intervention should that become necessary and possible. Please recognize, however, that the Board’s remediation process is, by law, deliberately long and complicated to inhibit impulsive action. Animal Control has vastly more authority to enact a quick solution – but the Board needs to know when incidents are referred to them.

We thank you for your cooperation.

*Board of Directors*  
**Meadows-Ferndale HOA**