

St. Johns County Animal Control Leash and Dangerous Law for dogs and cats

Also, the following can be found online at:

<http://www.sjcfcl.us/AnimalControl/media/ORD2017-36.pdf>

Section 14. Leash or Other Restraint

- A. The owner of an animal shall ensure that the animal does not run at large or stray onto public property, including any public street, sidewalk, beach, or right-of-way.
- B. The owner of an animal shall ensure that the animal does not run at large or stray onto the private property of another without permission from the property owner.
- C. Any animal that is off the property of its owner shall be leashed or otherwise restrained in a manner suitable for the breed and type of animal such that it is under the direct control of the owner or possessor. This provision shall not apply to a dog in a dog park.
- D. This section shall not apply to dogs used by state, county, or municipal law enforcement officers in the exercise of their duties.
- E. The Division shall micro-chip any animal that is impounded for violation of this section at the owner's expense.
- F. The Division may require an owner with 3 or more violations of this section to install electronic fencing or other physical restraints, such as fences, zip lines, or corrals, in order to prevent further violations of this section.
- G. No civil penalty shall be assessed for dogs lost and impounded under the provisions of this ordinance during the course of legal hunting or training for hunting, provided that:
 - 1. The dog is redeemed within 5 business days of impoundment;

2. The owner had a valid hunting license at the time of impoundment, and the dog was impounded from an authorized hunting area during an authorized hunting season;
3. All fees for impoundment, keep, and notification are paid before the dog is released;
4. The dog has a current rabies vaccination; and
5. The dog is wearing correct owner identification, including the owner's name, address, and telephone number, or is wearing a tracking collar or device.

H. Any person having custody or control of an animal that violates this section shall be liable regardless of knowledge, intent, or culpability.