

City of Los Angeles Important Animal Laws



Protect Your Pet. Be Responsible. Avoid Fines.

Spay and Neuter

Cats and dogs are required to be spayed or neutered after the age of four months, with some exemptions allowed. Free spay and neuter vouchers are available at your nearest City Shelter for low-income residents (LAMC 53.15.2).

Licensing

Dogs are required to be licensed after the age of four months. To obtain a license, dog owners must show proof of spay/neuter and rabies vaccination. The cost for a license is \$20 per year/per dog. You can obtain a license online at anonlinelicense.lacity.org or go to your nearest City Shelter (LAMC 53.28).

Leash Law

If you take or allow your dog off your property or place of residence, you must have him or her on a leash (LAMC 53.06).

Picking up after your dog

Dog owners are required to clean up after their dogs when taking them out in public. Don't forget the poop bags when you leave your house for a walk (LAMC 53.49).

Tethering Law

It is illegal to tie up a dog to any stationary object for more than three hours in a 24 hour period or deny them proper water or shelter for long periods of time (LAMC 53.70).

Number of pets allowed

Up to three dogs and three cats are permitted per household (LAMC 53.00 and 53.50).

Leaving pets in cars

Pets should not be left unattended in vehicles under conditions such as heat, cold, and lack of ventilation or water that endanger the health of the animal or may be expected to cause suffering or death (CA Penal Code 597.7).

No Feeding Wildlife

It is illegal to feed non-domesticated mammalian predators such as coyotes, foxes, possums, raccoons and skunks (LAMC 53.06.5).

Selling Animals

Sales of dogs and cats require special permits from LA Animal Services and outdoor sidewalk sales are generally prohibited. Additionally, selling animals usually also requires obtaining a business license from the City of Los Angeles (LAMC 53.42).