

Factsheet

Current Legislation on Tethering Dogs

The following communities have either banned tethering or chaining or have included tethering provisions in their animal protection ordinances. Make a promise to all dogs trapped at the end of chains in your neck of the woods to add your community to the list—and fast. Their lives may depend on it—their quality of life certainly does.

Tucson, Arizona	Eagan, Minnesota
Maumelle, Arkansas	Southaven, Mississippi
Fremont, California	Raytown, Missouri
Hemet, California	Lincoln, Nebraska
San Diego, California	Bernalillo County, New Mexico
San Jose, California	Catawba County, North Carolina
Denver, Colorado	Greenville, North Carolina
Okaloosa, Florida	New Hanover, North Carolina
Aurora, Illinois	Lawton, Oklahoma
Overland Park, Kansas	Midwest City, Oklahoma
Jefferson County, Kentucky	Oak Ridge, Tennessee
Baton Rouge, Louisiana	Allen, Texas
Ouichita, Louisiana	Electra, Texas
St. Charles Parish, Louisiana	Waco, Texas
Rockville, Maryland	

approved enclosure. Sterilized cats are exempt from confinement."

The ordinance also mandates that dog enclosures must provide at least 150 square feet of space for dogs over 6 months of age.

- Okaloosa, Florida
Tethering dogs and cats is prohibited

"Sec. 5-28. Restraint and confinement to property. (d) Dogs or cats shall not be chained, tied, fastened, or otherwise tethered to doghouses, trees, fences, or other stationary objects as a means of confinement to property."

■ Examples of communities that have banned chaining:

- Maumelle, Arkansas

The ordinance, which is regarded as the first of its kind, prohibits tethering dogs to stationary objects, such as doghouses. In addition, it requires that dogs be provided with approved housing:

"Confinement of Animals: From and after the passage of this Ordinance, any person owning animals whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, licensed or unlicensed, shall confine such animal within an adequate fence or enclosure, or within a house, garage, or other building in conformance with Maumelle Bill of Assurance or its successor. Animals shall not be tied or chained to doghouses, or other stationary objects, but must be in an

■ Examples of communities that permit animals to be chained for a limited period of time.

- Denver, Colorado

Dogs may not be chained for a period longer than one hour on a chain less than 6 feet in length.

"Sec. 8-131. Cruelty to animals prohibited. (b) It shall specifically be cruel, dangerous, or inhumane for any person to: (3) Tether and leave, or permit to be left, unattended any animal on a leash, cord, or chain of less than 6 feet in length for longer than one hour."

- Jefferson County, Kentucky
Chaining a dog for more than eight hours in a 24 hour period is prohibited.

"1. For all animals except puppies and dogs, restraint shall mean on the premises of the owner, or if off the premises of the owner, under restraint by means of a lead or leash and under the control of a responsible person.

"2. For puppies and dogs, restraint shall mean on the premises of the owner and confined in a secure enclosure as previously defined, or accompanied by the owner on the owner's property and under their direct control. If off the premises of the owner, the animal must be restrained by a lead or leash and under the control of a responsible person.

"3. A dog or puppy may be restrained by a fixed point chain or tether for no more than eight hours in a 24 hour period."

Write to PETA's DAI&A Department or visit HelpingAnimals.com if you'd like a complete, detailed copy of all ordinances with tethering provisions. Check out our factsheet "Lobbying for Change" to find out how you can break the chain of suffering in your area.