

ORDINANCE NO. 3-01  
OF  
ROBINSON TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

AN ORDINANCE OF ROBINSON TOWNSHIP,  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA,  
REGULATING DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE  
AND BARKING DOGS AND RELATED  
ACTIVITIES WITH PENALTIES FOR  
VIOLATION THEREOF.

SECTION I - Title; purpose; objectives

This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the "Dog Ordinance of the Township of Robinson".

The purpose of this Ordinance is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Township as pertains to nuisances and/or problems from dogs running at large, excessive barking of dogs and the accumulation of animal excreta.

SECTION II - Word Usage:

For the purpose of this Ordinance, certain terms and words shall be interpreted or defined as follows:

- A. Words used in the present tense shall include the future.
- B. Words used in the singular shall include the plural, and the plural shall include the singular.
- C. The word "person" includes a corporation, as well as an individual or any other legal entity.
- D. The word "shall" is always mandatory.
- E. The word "owner" includes but is not limited to the present possessor of the subject animal, as well as and/or in conjunction with the registered or titled owner of the animal.

SECTION III - Dogs Running at Large

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog or any other person responsible to said owner, whether the dog bears a proper license tag or not, to permit such dog to run at large upon the outdoor area of any public or private property in Robinson Township.

#### SECTION IV - Barking Dogs

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to confine a dog in an open air enclosure, including a fenced yard or on a tether or related fixture where the dog's barking may disturb the quiet of the neighborhood after 10:00 p.m. or before 6:00 a.m. prevailing time. Said dog shall be confined within a relatively soundproof building with closed doors and windows during those hours so that any barking will not annoy, disturb, injure or endanger the comfort, repose, peace or safety of any individual in the township.

B. It shall be unlawful for any owner or persons responsible to said owner to permit the continual barking of any dog or dogs at any times. Continued barking shall mean the barking of any dog wherein the barking is repeated on more than three occasions during any ten-minute period.

#### SECTION V - Defecating on Public or Private Property:

It shall be unlawful for any person owning, keeping or walking any dog to permit his or her dog to discharge such animal's excreta upon any public or private property within the Township, other than the property of the owner of such dog, if such person does not immediately thereafter remove and clean up such animal's excreta from the public or private property.

#### SECTION VI - Accumulation of Excreta:

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog to permit the accumulation of excreta from such dog in a pen or enclosure, including a yard, or at any place with Robinson Township where such accumulation creates a threat to the health of any person or the odor therefrom pollutes the air inhaled by any neighbor or other person.

#### SECTION VI - Violations and Penalties

Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this article shall, upon conviction thereof, in a summary proceeding before a District Justice, be sentenced to pay a fine not less than \$25.00 and not more than \$600.00, plus the costs of prosecution, and, in default of payment of such fine and costs, to imprisonment in the county prison for not more than 30 days. This Ordinance shall be enforced by the Township Ordinance Enforcement Officer and/or any police officer employed by or through the Township and/or the Pennsylvania State Police.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED THIS 12 day of November, 2001

ROBINSON TOWNSHIP

*Guylf Ruzick*  
Supervisor

*J. M. Lulani*  
Supervisor

*Loeie J. Dewey*  
Supervisor

ATTEST:

*Ken L. Dekey*  
Secretary