

## Town of Garland

### Dog Ordinance

The Town of Garland hereby ordains that the following ordinance shall be adopted:

#### Section I. Definitions

As used in this ordinance, unless the context otherwise indicates:

- A. Dog – any of large and varied groups of domesticated animals in the canine family.
- B. Owner – shall be intended to mean any person or persons, firm, association or corporation owning, keeping, harboring or in possession of or having control of a dog, the parent or parents or guardian of a minor who owns, keeps or has in possession a dog.
- C. At Large – shall be intended to mean off the premises of the owner and not under the control of any person by means of personal presence and attention as will reasonably control the conduct of such dog either by leash, cord, chain or “at heel”, or under command.
- D. Animal Control Officer – the Select Board shall appoint an animal control officer for the purpose of enforcement of the provisions of this ordinance and the performance of the duties and responsibilities conferred upon animal control officers under Maine State Statute. The animal control officer shall be authorized to issue compliance orders and court summons as required by this ordinance and the Maine State Statute.

#### Section II. Running at Large

- A. No owner shall cause or permit any dog to run at large with the Town of Garland. A dog, while in or on any public way or place shall be under restraint of a leash of not more than eight feet in length.
- B. Nothing in this section shall require the leashing of any dog while it is on the property of its owner.

#### Section III. Removal and Disposal of Dog Excrement

- A. It shall be a violation of this section for any owner to fail to immediately remove and dispose of any feces left cast or deposited by the dog upon the premises of any public way or place or upon the property of others.
- b. This section shall not apply to a dog accompanying any handicapped person who, because of their handicap, is physically unable to comply with the requirements of this section.

#### Section IV. Garland Pond Swim front

- A. All people using the Garland Pond Swim Front for recreation are expected to follow the rule of carry in/carry out for all items brought to the swim front, this includes all trash. No Dogs will be allowed between the hours of 9am through 7pm beginning June 1 through August 31.

Owners shall immediately pick up and remove any feces left cast or deposited by the dog upon the premises of the swim front to include the parking lot.

- B. Dogs will be allowed at the swim front during the hours of 9am – 7pm only if boarding a boat, canoe, kayak and shall always remain under the control of their owner.

#### **Section V. License**

A suitable tag showing the year the dog license was issued in accordance with the State of Maine Statutes and bearing such other data as the commissioner of agriculture may prescribe shall be securely attached to a collar which must be always worn by the dog for which the license was issued. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove such tag or to place either a collar or tag on any dog not described or for which the license was not issued.

#### **Section 6. Fees**

Any owner of a dog that has been transported by the Animal Control Officer will be charged a \$15.00 fee plus any mileage expenses, boarding and medical expenses for the care of the dog. Failure to pay such a fee within 30 days of the billing date is a violation of this ordinance.

#### **Section 7. Penalty**

Upon a signed and sworn written complaint by any person, a duly qualified law enforcement official, animal control officer or person acting in that capacity for the Town of Garland may investigate and may give written notice to the owner that they have been found in violation of this Ordinance. The written notice shall be made part of the complaint. Upon continuance of such violation, the owner found in violation of this ordinance by a court shall be subject to a fine of not less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) nor more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), and shall also be liable to reimburse the Town and its officials for all costs incurred by the Town and its officials in connection with this violation, including but not limited to compensation for the animal control officer at the rate paid by the Town of Garland, mileage expenses, the actual cost of boarding the dog in question, and reasonable attorney's fees. In no event will the fine assessed by the court be less than expenses incurred by the Town of Garland in the process of violation of this ordinance unless different penalties are provided for in Maine State Statute.

#### **Section 8. Severability Clause**

If any part of this ordinance shall be held invalid, such part shall be deemed severable and the invalidity thereof shall not affect the remaining parts of this ordinance.

#### **Section 9: Effective Date**

This ordinance shall become effective on March 8, 2025, following approved vote by the municipal legislative body.

Public Hearing held on: December 17, 2024

Garland Select Board

Regina M. Fick

Regina Fick, Select Board Chair

2/5/2025

Date

Nova Watson

Nova Watson, Select Board Member

Teresa Scott

Teresa Scott, Select Board Member

Attest: A true copy of an ordinance entitled "Town of Garland, Town Dog Ordinance" as certified to me by the municipal officers of Garland on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2025.

Signature: Lesley A Maynard

Lesley A Maynard, Town Clerk of Garland

And I have this day 27 of February, 2025, posted one copy of an ordinance entitled "Town of Garland, Town Dog Ordinance", attested by the municipal clerk, with the warrant(s) at the same place(s).

Signature: Paul Keib

