

Pasco Municipal Code
Title 8 – Animal Control – Relating to “Pit Bull”

8.02.010 DEFINITION

(14) "Potentially Dangerous Animal" means any animal that when unprovoked: (a) inflicts injury on a human or a domestic animal, or (b) chases or approaches a person upon the streets, sidewalks, any public grounds, or upon private property other than that of the animal's owner, in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack, or (c) has a known propensity, tendency, or disposition to attack, or to cause injury or otherwise to threaten the safety of humans or domestic animals or (d) is a Pit Bull Terrier which means any American Pit Bull Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier or American Staffordshire Terrier breed of dog or any mixed breed of dog which contains as an element of its breeding the breed of American Pit Bull Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, or American Staffordshire Terrier so as to be identifiable as partially of the breed American Pit Bull Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, or American Staffordshire Terrier. (Ord. 3756 Sec. 1, 2006; Ord 3714 Sec. 1, 2005)

(15) "Proper Enclosure" means, while on the owner's property, a dangerous, potentially dangerous or wild animal shall be securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen or structure, resistant to tunneling, suitable to prevent the entry of young children and designed to prevent the animal from escaping. Such pen or structure shall have secure sides not less than five feet high and a secure top, and shall provide protection from the elements for the animal. The requirement for a secure top on the enclosure may be waived by the poundmaster upon showing that it is unnecessary.

This section shall not apply to guard dogs or watch dogs utilized to secure premises enclosed by a fence or wall not less than five feet high and resistant to tunneling, located within an industrial or commercial zone.

8.02.320 WILD, POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS AND DANGEROUS ANIMALS

(5) Permit Required: No person shall have, keep or maintain any wild, potentially dangerous or dangerous animal without first obtaining An annual permit from the poundmaster. The fee for such a permit shall be in addition to the regular annual license fee. A permit will only be granted if the applicant has provided and maintains: (a) a proper enclosure to properly and safely confine the animal as determined by the poundmaster, (b) a conspicuously posted sign on the premises which clearly warns the public and children that there is a wild, potentially dangerous or dangerous animal on the property, (c) \$250,000 surety bond issued by a surety insurer qualified under RCW 48.28 in a form acceptable to the poundmaster payable to any person injured by the wild, potentially dangerous or dangerous animal; or liability insurance, such as homeowner s insurance, issued by an insurer qualified under Title 48 RCW in the amount of not less than \$250,000 with maximum deductible coverage not to exceed \$2,500 in a form requiring notice to the City of cancellation or nonrenewal of such policy not less than 30 days prior to its date of cancellation or expiration, insuring the owner for any personal injuries or property damage inflicted by the animal and (d) proof that all surrounding property owners and occupants have been notified and given an opportunity to comment on the confinement plans. (Ord 3756 Sec. 2, 2006).

(6) Exemption to Permit Requirement: An animal that is classified as “potentially dangerous” under the provisions of subsection **8.02.010 (14)(d) (Pit Bull)** may be exempted from the permit requirements of the above subsection (5), provided such animal has passed the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) test of the American Kennel Club (AKC), as administered by the poundmaster or the Animal Control Authority, and received the appropriate certificate from AKC. Such animal shall be retested and passed at least once every two years in order to maintain this exemption.

(7) Control and Confinement: Dangerous and potentially dangerous animal must be muzzled and securely leashed, restrained and under the control of a person physically able to control the animal when away from the property of the owner or keeper; or, while on the property of the owner, must be securely confined within a “proper enclosure” as defined in section 8.02.010 made of materials strong enough to adequately and humanely confine the dog in a manner which prevents it from escaping the property and to prevent the entry of young children and kept in conformance with requirements in section 8.02.320(5).