

## **Pennsylvania's Dog Laws:**

- If your dog is not licensed, you may be fined up to \$500 per dog. Find where to purchase yours online at **LicenseYourDogPa.pa.gov**
- Your dog must be under control and supervised at all times; fines range from \$500-\$1000 per dog. You are responsible for any damage caused by your dog on someone else's property.
- It is illegal to mistreat or abuse animals. Report suspected abuse to your local humane organization or police.
- Purposely poisoning a dog, whether it is yours or someone else's, is illegal.
- You may not abandon or attempt to abandon any dog. You could be fined \$1,000 plus court costs.
- Puppies under eight weeks old cannot be bartered, traded, sold, or transferred.
- You must have a kennel license if you keep, sell, transfer, adopt or foster at least 26 dogs in a calendar year.
- If your dog attacks or kills a human or domestic animal without provocation, it may be considered dangerous. You may face extensive fines and restrictions.

## **Pennsylvania's Rabies Law:**

Ignoring Pennsylvania's rabies vaccination law can be costly – in more ways than one. Dogs and cats are exposed to the rabies virus through wild and stray animals, posing a threat to their health and yours.

- Dogs and cats three months or older must have a current rabies vaccination
- Owners of non-vaccinated pets may be fined up to \$300 plus court costs
- Licensed veterinarians can vaccinate dogs and provide a vaccination certificate
- Dog wardens perform random checks to ensure rabies vaccinations are current

## **License Your Dog. It's the Law:**

- All dogs three months or older or upon transfer must be licensed by Jan. 1 of each year
- Owners of non-licensed dogs can be cited with a maximum fine of \$500 per dog plus court costs
- Dog wardens randomly canvass neighborhoods to ensure all dogs are licensed, violators may be fined
- If your dog gets lost, a current license is the fastest way to get your dog back home
- Licensing fees help the millions of dogs in Pennsylvania by funding the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
- Purchase a license from your local county treasurer or issuing agent
- An annual license is \$10.80, and a lifetime license is \$52.80, discounts are available to older adults and people with disabilities

**Find out how to purchase your 2026 dog license visit:**

**[www.LicenseYourDogPa.pa.gov](http://www.LicenseYourDogPa.pa.gov)**

**click on your county**