

Tethering a dog in the Gibsonville Town limits is prohibited except in certain circumstances and never for longer than 7 consecutive days. However, tethering a sick, diseased and/or injured dog, or puppy (a dog that is one year of age or younger) is never permitted.

Exceptions:

Tethering is permitted for the following specific reasons and only for fewer than 7 consecutive days:

- Lawful animal events and hunting activities
- To meet the requirements of a camping or recreational facility
- Law Enforcement activities
- After taking possession of a stray and having notified animal control
- When a caretaker is outside and within eyesight of the dog

Additional Resources:

Fencing Assistance -

Unchain Guilford
www.unchaininggreensboro.com
336-459-0394

Animal Resource Friends
https://animalresourcefriends.org
919-883-2156

Spay/Neuter Assistance -

Project BARK (Guilford County)
336-965-1059

Planned Pethood Clinic
4527 W Wendover Ave
Greensboro, NC 27409
336-299-3999

Spay and Neuter Clinic of Alamance Co.
1919 S Church Street
Burlington, NC 27215
336-570-6767

Gibsonville Police Department

129 W Main Street
Gibsonville, NC 27249

Phone: 336-449-7926
Fax: 336-449-0678
E-mail: police@gibsonville.net

Town of Gibsonville

Tethering Questions and Answers



What is tethering?

Tethering refers to keeping dogs on chains, ropes, or other such tie-outs versus within a fenced structure. It is often defined in reference to a stationary object, but also includes overhead trolley systems.

What are the rules related to fenced yards or enclosures?

Any dog confined within a fenced yard or enclosure must have adequate shelter, adequate space, and exercise. Enclosures must be structurally sound, in good repair, humanely clean, and provide adequate space. These provisions are as follows:

Adequate Shelter: a clean, safe place for each animal where it will be protected from natural elements, pain, suffering, or impairment to health.

Adequate Exercise: providing a dog with the opportunity to move in a manner to maintain sufficient muscle tone.

Adequate Space: space sufficient for the animal to make all normal body movements (sit, stand, lie, etc) in a comfortable and normal position.

Humanely Clean Conditions: periodic cleaning of animal enclosures to maintain basic sanitation and health.

What is the timeline for implementation of the new ordinance?

Phase I: Public Information/Outreach

January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018 : Residents will be informed of the new ordinance and provided with information and resources to assist with the transition away from tethering as a method of confinement.

Phase II: Warning Period

January 1, 2019 - June 30, 2019: During this six month period, written warnings will be issued to dog owners who are not in compliance with the ordinance and will be given until the end of Phase II or thirty days, whichever is greater, to comply.

Phase III: Transition Period Ends

On and after July 1, 2019: Full enforcement begins and a formal citation will be issued to owners who previously received a written warning and are not in compliance.

What are the penalties for ordinance violations after full enforcement begins on July 1, 2019?

The civil penalty for violation of the tethering ordinance is \$50. It must be paid to the Town of Gibsonville within 72 hours of receipt. Failure to pay the fine within the 72 hour time frame will result in an additional \$25 penalty.

Failure to comply with the civil penalty may result in criminal charges. Violation of the ordinance is a Class 3 misdemeanor and shall impose a fine no more than \$50 or jail time not more than 30 days as set by G.S. 14-4(a).

