

# About Dog Kennel Licenses

**Q Do I need a kennel license?**

Any establishment where 3 or more dogs are kept for sale, boarding, breeding, or training purposes for payment are required by State law to have a kennel license.

**Q How long is a kennel license good for?**

Kennel licenses are good for June 1 - May 31 beginning the year of the license. For example, a 2023 dog kennel license would be active from June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024.

**Q When are kennel licenses due?**

Kennel licenses must be renewed each year before June 1. There is an extra fee for late renewals.

**Q What is the difference between the kennel license types - limited and unlimited?**

Kennel licenses are based on the number of dogs approved to occupy a kennel at any time. The limited license is good for up to 10 dogs and the unlimited license is for more than 10 dogs.

**Q How much does a kennel license cost?**

Limited licenses are \$10 for the year, and unlimited licenses are \$25. Any kennel licenses submitted after June 1 are \$20 and \$50 instead.

**Q What do I need before I apply for a kennel license?**

- A copy of the zoning permit.
- A recent (within 30 days) kennel inspection report.

**Q How do I get a zoning permit?**

Each city, village, or township will have an ordinance regarding zoning for their jurisdiction. You will need to contact the Clerk's office there to find out their procedure for getting a zoning permit for a dog kennel.

**Q How do I get a kennel inspection report?**

You can contact the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office's Animal Control division to schedule a kennel inspection. Upon successful completion of a kennel inspection, you will receive a copy of the kennel inspection report.

**Q How do I contact Washtenaw County Animal Control?**

- Call the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office's non-emergency dispatch number (734-994-2911 ex 8). They will connect you to the on-duty Animal Control Officer.
- Email both Animal Control Officers directly (they work opposite days, so it's best to include both of them for a timely response): [lowhornb@washtenaw.org](mailto:lowhornb@washtenaw.org) and [meersm@washtenaw.org](mailto:meersm@washtenaw.org)



**Catherine McClary, CPFO, CPFIM**  
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Questions & Answers  
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## Questions & Answers - continued

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**Q I no longer own this kennel. Why am I still getting the renewal notice?**

When there is a change in ownership and we have not been given a new contact address, you may still receive the next renewal notice. If this is the case, please contact us and let us know that ownership has changed.

**Q What happens if I DON'T get a kennel license?**

By Michigan State law, if a kennel is not licensed, the owner may be subject to fines or fees and/or a misdemeanor charge.

**Q How do I apply for a kennel license?**

Once you have a zoning permit and recent kennel inspection report, submit a dog kennel license application with a copy of each to the Washtenaw County Treasurer's office with payment based on the kennel license type.

- By mail: Washtenaw County Treasurer, P.O. Box 8645, Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8645
- In-person: 200 N Main Street, Ann Arbor, 2nd floor, Suite 200
- By 24-hour Drop Box: located at the Main Street entrance of our building (200 N Main).