

**Ordinance Number 99-1**

**Ordinance Regulating Dogs Running at Large**

The Board of Supervisors of Becker Township, Minnesota hereby ordain:

**SECTION I**

**Running at Large Prohibited**

No dog shall be permitted to run at large within Becker Township, Minnesota. Running at large shall be defined as loose without a controlling device. A trained animal in the possession of its master shall be considered controlled. This control must be proven upon the request of any township or law enforcement official. An animal that has training and/or breeding indicative to being a threat to any person must be under physical control at all times.

**SECTION II**

**Keeping Dogs**

It is unlawful for a person to keep a dog within the Township in a fashion which unreasonably annoys, endangers or injures the safety, health or comfort to the public. A person who is in a position of authority or control over the person keeping the dog or over the property where the dog is kept shall also be liable for violation of this Section.

**SECTION III**

**Enforcement**

It shall be lawful for any law enforcement officer or other designated township employee to take up and impound any dog in the township which is in violation of the provisions of any part of this Ordinance, and in enforcing this Ordinance, such officer or employee may enter upon any private property when there is reasonable cause to believe there has been a violation of this Ordinance.

**SECTION IV**  
Impounding

The township, through its agents, officers and employees, shall impound any dog found running at large and shall give notice of the impounding to the owner of such dog, if known. In case the owner is unknown, such officer or agent shall post notice on the township hall bulletin board that if the dog is not claimed within five (5) days of the posting of the notice, it will be disposed of. If such dog is not claimed within the specified time and all fees and charges paid, the pound master shall dispose of such dog and dispose of the carcass unless it is requested by a licensed educational or scientific institution under MN Stat. 35.71 or unless requested by a person who is willing to pay all costs related to the dog at the pound. An impounding fee of township expenses plus \$5.00 shall be charged for any dog impounded under this Ordinance.

**SECTION V**  
Violations

Any person, firm, corporation or other entity found guilty of violation of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$200.

**SECTION VI**  
Effective Date

This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Adopted by: The Board of Township Supervisors of Becker Township, Minnesota this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1999.

Howard Johnson, Becker Township Chairman

Attest: Judy Shermak, Clerk

Becker Township  
Ordinance Regulating Dogs Running at Large  
Page 3

**Township of Becker  
Ordinance No. 99-1-A**

An Ordinance Amending Section II of the Becker Township Ordinance Regulating  
Dogs Running At Large (Habitual Barking)

The Becker Township Board ordains:

**SECTION II  
Keeping Dogs  
Habitual Barking**

**KEEPING DOGS.** It is unlawful for a person to keep a dog within the Township in a fashion which unreasonably annoys, endangers or injures the safety, health or comfort of the public. A person who is in a position of authority or control over the person keeping the dog or over the property where the dog is kept shall also be liable for violation of this Section.

**HABITUAL BARKING.** It shall be unlawful for any person to keep or harbor a dog which habitually barks or cries. Habitual barking shall be defined as barking for repeated intervals of at least five minutes with less than one minute of interruption. Such barking must also be audible off of the owner's or caretaker's premises. This ordinance shall be effective following its passage and publication.

Adopted by Becker Township Board this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 2002.

Howard T Johnson, Chairman

Attest: Judy Shermak, Clerk