

**Town of Saltcoats
Bylaw No. 09-2011**

A BYLAW OF THE TOWN OF SALTCOATS TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE PUBLIC WELL-BEING AND THE PROTECTION OF CATS OWNED BY RESPONSIBLE OWNERS THROUGH THE LICENSING AND CONTROL OF CATS.

THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SALTCOATS ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. This Bylaw shall be cited as the "CAT BYLAW".
2. In this Bylaw unless the context otherwise requires
 - a. "Municipality" means the Town of Saltcoats;
 - b. "Administrator" means the Administrator of the municipality;
 - c. "Cat" means either male or female of the family felidae;
 - d. "Council" means the Council of the Town of Saltcoats;
 - e. "Enforcement Officer" means the Enforcement Officer appointed by the Council of the Town of Saltcoats to enforce the provisions of this bylaw, or any authorized person to act on behalf of Council.
 - f. "Dwelling Unit" means one (1) or more habitable rooms constituting of a self-contained unit used for or intended to be used together for living and sleeping purposes by one or more persons.
 - g. "Business Unit" means a commercial or industrial establishment
 - h. "Harbouring" shall include any offering of protection, shelter, food or drink to a cat even if such has not been put in place for the exclusive use of such a cat or cats.
 - i. "Owner" or "Keeper" shall mean any person who owns or harbours or suffers any cat to remain about his/her house, home, place of residence, or premises.
 - j. "In heat" shall mean a female cat whose reproduction cycle is at the phase when the female is sexually receptive.
 - k. "Stray" shall mean an animal found to be at large with no evidence of ownership or keepership.
3. No cat shall run at large in the municipality, and for the purpose of the bylaw a cat shall be deemed to be running at large when it is beyond the land owned or occupied by the owner or harbourer of the said cat, or beyond the boundaries of any lands where it may be with permission of the owner or occupant of the said land, and when it is not under control by being:
 - a. in direct and continuous charge of a person competent to control it; or
 - b. securely confined within an enclosure; or

- c. securely fastened so it cannot roam at will
4. A person who owns or harbours a cat found running at large will be guilty of an infraction of this bylaw.
5. Every female cat in heat shall be confined to a building / enclosure or a kennel.
6.
 - a. Every person who owns or harbours a cat over the age of eight weeks (8) shall, not later than the 31st day of January in each year or within ten (10) days after becoming owner or keeper of a cat, obtain a licence for the said cat from the Town Office. Such a licence expires on December 31st of the same year. Failure to purchase a licence shall constitute an offence under this Bylaw and be subject to the penalty / action as detailed in Section 10 of this Bylaw. This licence is not transferable to any other cat or owner.
 - b. When applying for a licence, the applicant shall provide the Town Administrator with a colour photo of the cat, a description of the cat, the name and address of the owner or keeper of the cat, and any other relevant information that may be required by the Town administrator.
 - c. When applying for a licence the applicant shall provide the Town Administrator with a certificate of a veterinarian indicating that the cat has been vaccinated against rabies within two (2) years prior to the date of application for a licence, or a letter from a Veterinarian indicating that such vaccination would be inadvisable for said cat.
 - d. When issuing a licence for a cat the Town administrator shall supply the applicant with a tag and a receipt for the licence and the said tag shall be attached to the collar to be worn around the neck of the cat. It shall be the responsibility of the owner or harbourer of the said cat to see that the tag is affixed to the collar of the cat. A cat not displaying the tag shall be considered an unlicensed cat and subject to the penalty/action as per item 10 of this Bylaw.
 - e. Every person who owns or harbours any cat within the Town shall on demand of the Enforcement Officer or Town Administrator show his/her licence receipt or other evidence that he/she has paid the fee provided by this Bylaw for that particular year.
 - f. The annual fee for all cats shall be in accordance with Schedule "A" attached hereto, which said schedule may from time to time be amended by resolution of Council.
 - g. Every applicant for a cat licence must produce to the Town Administrator a certificate from a veterinarian that such cat has been spayed or neutered to receive the spayed/neutered rate.
 - h. No person shall keep more than three (3) cats over the age of three (3) months in or about any dwelling/business unit, and shall upon the request of the Town Administrator or Enforcement Officer, disclose the number of cats being kept on or in his/her land or buildings.

7. Any licenced cat found running at large contrary to the provisions of this bylaw may be taken to a secure holding facility provided or approved by the municipality. Any cat running at large without an identification tag will be referenced against the photo identification catalogue maintained by the Town and possible owner(s) or keeper(s) contacted. Untagged animals not matching photo identification shall be deemed stray and will be sent to a designated holding facility. They will be held for up to seventy two (72) hours at the contracted rate per day as well as a set re-claim fee. If the cat remains unclaimed after seventy two (72) hours, all rights will be relinquished to:
 - i. A designated holding facility
 - ii. A designated animal handling organization
- The per day housing fee as well as the re-claim fee will be the responsibility of the pet owner and must be paid prior to the release of the cat from the holding facility as well as any licencing fees / penalties owing to the Town of Saltcoats.
8. The Enforcement Officer, or any other person authorized by the Council, is hereby empowered to seize and capture and impound any cat running at large contrary to the provisions of this Bylaw.
9. During the period of impoundment of any cat, it shall be supplied with adequate food and water and shelter from the elements.
10. A person who contravenes the provisions of this Bylaw is guilty of an offense and upon summary conviction, shall be liable to the penalty provided for by the General Penalty Bylaw # 3-2004 of the municipality.
11. If a cat defecates on any public or private property other than the property of its owner or keeper, the owner or keeper of the cat shall cause such defecation to be removed immediately and disposed of in a sanitary fashion. Failure to cause such removal shall be a breach of this bylaw.
12. Bylaw No 8-99 of the Town of Saltcoats is hereby repealed.

This Bylaw shall come into force and take effect immediately upon being adopted.

Dated this 21st day of September, 2011.


Mayor


Administrator

Certified a true copy
Of Bylaw No 09-2011
Adopted by resolution of
Council on the 21 day of
September, 2011.




Administrator

Schedule A

Annual License Fee for Cats

Males	\$25.00
Females	\$25.00
Spayed/Neutered Cats	\$10.00
Replacement of lost tag	\$5.00

Bylaw No 09-2011
(aka – “The Cat Bylaw”)

Schedule B

Offence Penalties

Offence Under	Offence	Amount
Section 6(a)	Unlicensed Cat	\$100.00
Section 6(d)	Cat not wearing license	\$25.00
Section 3	Cat at large	\$100.00
Section 11	Defecation – on property other than owner without removing it	\$100.00
Section 5	Fail to keep female in heat housed securely	\$100.00
Section 6(c)	Fail to show or produce certificate of current rabies vaccination (within 24 mos. prior to application date) or letter of inadvisability from vet	\$100.00