

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

Dear Dog Owner:

If you own a dog and do not buy a dog license, you could be placed on a delinquent dog license list and the delinquent dog license tax can be collected in the same manner as personal property taxes. The **only** exception for not buying a dog license is if the dog is kept for educational or scientific purposes. Dogs specially trained to lead blind or deaf persons or to provide support for mobility-impaired persons can obtain a free dog license.

For your information, all dog license fees are deposited into a dog license fund. After deducting expenses for forms and license tags, and retaining \$1,000.00 for payment of potential dog damage claims, the balance of the fund is given to the Humane Society of Douglas County. By purchasing a dog license, you are not only protecting your pet in the event it should become lost, you are supporting your local animal shelter. Only 9% of dogs in Douglas County are licensed. This is a significantly low number in comparison to other counties.

Be a responsible dog owner, and buy a license, it's the law.

Please contact your municipal treasurer for information regarding purchasing a license.

According to Section 174.05 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the owner of a dog more than 5 months of age on January 1 of any year, or 5 months of age within the license year, shall annually, on or before the date the dog becomes 5 months of age, pay the dog license fee and obtain a license. The collecting official shall assess and collect a late fee of \$5 from every owner of a dog 5 months of age or over, if the owner failed to obtain a license prior to April 1 of each year, or within 30 days of acquiring ownership of a licensable dog or if the owner failed to obtain a license on or before the dog reached licensable age.

Section 95.2(2)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes requires that the owner of a dog shall have the dog vaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian within 30 days after the dog reaches 4 months of age and revaccinated within one year after the initial vaccination. The owner of a dog shall have the dog revaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian before the date that the immunization expires as stated on the certificate of vaccination, or, if no date is specified, within 3 years after the previous vaccination.