

EAST MONTPELIER DOG AND WOLF-HYBRID LICENSES AND FEES

As Adopted June 26, 2017

20 V.S.A. §§ 3541-3591, 3681-3684, 3801-3817

The East Montpelier town clerk shall issue licenses and receive money for them. 20 V.S.A. § 3588. A person must annually license his or her dog on or before April 1.

A MUNICIPALITY MAY LEVY A SURCHARGE, NOT TO EXCEED \$10.00, TO ENFORCE ITS ANIMAL AND RABIES CONTROL PROGRAM.

(20 V.S.A. § 3581(c)(2)) (This is an optional surcharge determined by each individual municipality.)

Basic License Fee	State of Vermont Rabies Control Programs 20 V.S.A. § 3581(f)	State of Vermont Spay/Neuter Program 20 V.S.A. § 3581(c)(1)	Minimum Required Charge
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If you own or keep a **neutered or spayed dog or wolf-hybrid that is six months or older on or before April 1**, the license fee, according to 20 V.S.A. § 3581, is:

On or Before April 1	\$4.00	+	\$1.00	+	\$4.00	=	\$9.00
After April 1	\$6.00	+	\$1.00	+	\$4.00	=	\$11.00

If you own or keep an **unneutered or unspayed dog or wolf-hybrid that is six months or older on or before April 1**, the license fee, according to 20 V.S.A. § 3581, is:

On or Before April 1	\$8.00	+	\$1.00	+	\$4.00	=	\$13.00
After April 1	\$12.00	+	\$1.00	+	\$4.00	=	\$17.00

If you **become an owner/keeper of a neutered or spayed dog or wolf-hybrid that is six months of age or older after April 1**, you have **30 days to license the animal**. The license fee, according to 20 V.S.A. § 3582, is:

On or Before October 1	\$4.00	+	\$1.00	+	\$4.00	=	\$9.00
After October 1	\$2.00	+	\$1.00	+	\$4.00	=	\$7.00

If you **become an owner/keeper of an unneutered or unspayed dog or wolf-hybrid that is six months of age or older after April 1, you have 30 days to license the animal.** The license fee, according to 20 V.S.A. § 3582, is:

On or Before October 1	\$8.00	+	\$1.00	+	\$4.00	=	\$13.00
After October 1	\$4.00	+	\$1.00	+	\$4.00	=	\$9.00

If the owner **waits more than 30 days after the neutered or spayed dog or wolf-hybrid becomes six months old,** the license fee, according to 20 V.S.A. § 3582, is:

On or Before October 1	\$6.00	+	\$1.00	+	\$4.00	=	\$11.00
After October 1	\$3.00	+	\$1.00	+	\$4.00	=	\$8.00

If the owner waits **more than 30 days after the unneutered or unspayed dog or wolf-hybrid becomes six months old,** the license fee, according to 20 V.S.A. § 3582, is:

On or Before October 1	\$12.00	+	\$1.00	+	\$4.00	=	\$17.00
After October 1	\$6.00	+	\$1.00	+	\$4.00	=	\$11.00

- To register a dog or wolf-hybrid as a neutered male or spayed female, a certificate, signed by a licensed veterinarian stating the animal has been sterilized, must be shown to the clerk. 20 V.S.A. § 3581(b).
- To license a dog or wolf-hybrid, the owner/keeper shall give the municipal clerk a certificate (or certified copy) signed by a licensed veterinarian stating the dog or wolf-hybrid has a current approved vaccination against rabies. The owner shall certify that the dog or wolf-hybrid being licensed is the animal that was vaccinated. The municipal clerk shall keep the certificate (or copy) on file. 20 V.S.A. § 3581(d).

A current vaccination against rabies means that:

- All dog and wolf-hybrid vaccinations recognized by state and local authorities shall be administered by or under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

- All dogs and wolf-hybrids over three months of age shall be vaccinated against rabies. The initial vaccination shall be valid for 12 months. Within 9 to 12 months of the initial vaccination, the animal must receive a booster vaccination.
- All subsequent vaccinations following the initial vaccination shall be valid for 36 months. All vaccinations, including the initial vaccination, shall be with a U.S. Department of Agriculture-approved three-year rabies vaccine product. 20 V.S.A. § 3581(e).

	Breeding [or Special] License	Pet Dealer Permit (20 V.S.A. § 3681)
On or Before April 1	\$30.00 for the first ten dogs or wolf-hybrids; \$3.00 for each additional dog or wolf-hybrid (20 V.S.A. § 3583(a)(3))	\$25.00
After April 1	\$45.00 for the first ten dogs or wolf-hybrids; \$4.50 for each additional dog or wolf-hybrid (20 V.S.A. § 3583(c))	\$37.50

Breeding Licenses:

The owner/keeper of dogs or wolf-hybrids kept for breeding purposes may get a breeding [or special] license for such animals on or before April 1 if the animals are kept in a proper enclosure. A current rabies vaccination is also required for each dog or wolf-hybrid. Such licensed dogs or wolf-hybrids are exempt from other license fees and any town surcharge. However, each breeding license issued is subject to the \$1.00 state fee for state rabies control programs. 20 V.S.A. §§ 3583, 3581(f).

NOTE: Breeders of cats and ferrets may also apply for a breeding license for their operations.

Pet Dealers:

A pet dealer is any person (excluding pet shops, animal shelters, or rescue organizations) who sells or exchanges or who offers to sell or exchange cats, dogs, or wolf-hybrids, or any combination thereof, from three or more litters of cats, dogs, or wolf-hybrids in any 12-month period. A pet dealer shall apply to the municipal clerk of the town or city in which cats, dogs, or wolf-hybrids are kept for a pet dealer permit. The permit shall expire on March 31 of every year. The permit must be displayed prominently on the premises where the cats, dogs, or wolf-hybrids are kept. The pet dealer permit does not exempt the dogs or wolf-hybrids from any other required license(s). The clerk must distribute a copy of Part 3 of the Animal Welfare Regulations adopted by the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, contact information for the Animal Health Section, and information about sales tax obligations to the pet dealer. He or she must also maintain a record of the types of animals being kept by the permit holder. 20 V.S.A. § 3681.

Working Farm Dog License:

A person who owns a working farm dog and intends to use it on a farm pursuant to 20 V.S.A. § 3549 must get a working farm dog license by paying \$5.00 in addition to other fees required by law. “Working farm dog” means a dog that is bred or trained to herd or protect livestock or poultry or to protect crops and that is used for those purposes and that is registered as a working farm dog. 20 V.S.A. §3581(a). Municipalities shall not prohibit or regulate the barking or running at large of a working farm dog when it is on the property being farmed by the person who registered the working farm dog if the working farm dog is barking and/or running at large in order to herd or protect livestock, poultry or crops.

OTHER LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

- A person may bring a licensed dog(s) bearing the identification of the owner into Vermont for a period not to exceed 90 days, provided the owner has a valid certificate of rabies vaccination. The certificate shall state that the dog(s) rabies vaccination is current for the 90 days following entry into Vermont. 20 V.S.A. § 3587.
- The municipal clerk shall pay the license fee money into the town treasury within 60 days of receipt and give a sworn statement as to the amount of money received and paid over by him or her. The municipal clerk retains \$2.00 for his or her own use for each license or permit he or she issues. 20 V.S.A. § 3588.
- The municipal clerk shall keep a record of licenses he or she issues, with the names of the owners/keepers of the dogs or wolf-hybrids licensed and the names, registered numbers and descriptions of such dogs or wolf-hybrids. 20 V.S.A. § 3589.
- A license from a municipal clerk shall be valid in any part of the state and may be transferred with the dog or wolf-hybrid, provided the license is recorded by the municipal clerk where the dog or wolf-hybrid is currently being kept. 20 V.S.A. § 3591.
- A municipality may waive the license fee for a dog or wolf-hybrid impounded, pursuant to subsection (a) of § 3621, for the current year upon showing current vaccinations and financial hardship. In the event of waiver due to financial hardship, the state shall not receive its portion of a dog license fee. 20 V.S.A. § 3621 (b).

List of Dogs:

Each year the selectboard shall designate a person(s) to make and maintain a list of unlicensed, inoculated and licensed dogs and wolf-hybrids in its town and to submit such list to the municipal clerk. 20 V.S.A. § 3590(a).

The municipal clerk shall notify the owners/keepers of dogs or wolf-hybrids on the list that have not been licensed or inoculated and, after May 30 of each year, give such list to the selectboard. Owners shall also be notified that unlicensed or uninoculated dogs or wolf-hybrids may be impounded for at least ten days, after which they may be humanely destroyed. 20 V.S.A. §§ 3590 (b), 3621 (a).

A PERSON WHO FAILS TO LICENSE A DOG OR WOLF-HYBRID IN THE REQUIRED MANNER MAY BE FINED UP TO \$500.00. 20 V.S.A. § 3550(a).