

ORDINANCE NO. 1903

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON REGARDING STRAY OR FERAL CATS

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners finds and declares that the population of stray and feral cats poses a danger to the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 58 of the Codified Ordinances of the Township of Abington, entitled “Animals” shall be and hereby is amended to add the following new Article VI, to be titled “Feral Cats” and consisting of sections 152-32 through 152-35, to read as follows:

ARTICLE VI, Feral Cats

152-32. Definitions.

As used in this Article, the term “feral cat” shall mean any homeless, wild or untamed cat.

As used in this Article, the term “stray cat” shall mean any cat whose owner or keeper from time to time allows the cat to run free off of the property of the owner or keeper.

152-33. Responsibilities of cat owners regarding stray cats.

It shall be unlawful for any owner of any cat to permit such cat to run free outside the residence of its owner or keeper unless said cat has been:

1. Neutered or spayed to prevent it from procreating;
2. Immunized against rabies in compliance with Pennsylvania law; and
3. Appropriately “tipped” on the left ear to signify that it has been

neutered/spayed and immunized.

152-34. Feeding of feral cats.

It shall be unlawful for any person to continue to feed feral cats, if such feeding causes a nuisance to neighbors or creates a condition contrary to the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

Any person feeding stray or feral cats may be required to cooperate with any humane program sponsored by the Township or operating under the township’s auspices, that traps stray and feral cats for the purpose of spaying/neutering the cats, immunizing the cats from rabies, “tipping” the cat’s left ear and then returning the cat to its environment in the general vicinity in which it was trapped.

152-35. Violations and penalties.

Any person failing to comply with any of the provisions of this Article shall, upon summary conviction before a District Justice, be subject to a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500, and to imprisonment of not more than 30 days for each offense, together with the costs of prosecution.