

**Regulations Pertaining to the Care of Animals in Commercial Animal Establishments: Kennels,
Grooming Shop, Pet Shop or Zoological Park**

Facilities shall be subject to unannounced inspections during regular business hours to ensure compliance with regulations. Failure of an applicant for a permit or permit holder to comply with any one of the following conditions shall be deemed just cause for denial or revocation of any permit, whether original or renewal (City of Victoria Municipal Code Article II Commercial Animal Establishments Section 4-22- Revocation).

Every person who owns, conducts, manages or operates any animal establishment for which a permit is required shall comply with each of the following conditions:

1. Housing facilities for animals shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect animals from injury and restrict entrance of other animals. In the case of animals kept outdoors, sufficient shade shall be provided to prevent overheating or discomfort from sun exposure. Animals kept outdoors shall also be provided with access to shelter to allow them to remain dry during inclement weather.
2. All animals and all animal buildings or enclosures shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition with sufficient light provided to permit routine observation of animals and proper cleaning of the facilities.
3. All animals shall be supplied with sufficient good and wholesome food (protected from spoilage) and water as often as the feeding habits of the respective animals require. Areas used to store food or bedding must be free of any accumulation of trash, waste material, junk, weeds and other discarded materials.
4. Animal buildings and enclosures shall be so constructed and maintained as to prevent the escape of animals.
5. All reasonable precautions shall be taken to protect the public from the animals and animals from the public.
6. Every building or enclosure wherein animals are maintained shall be properly ventilated to prevent drafts and to remove odors. Heating and cooling shall be provided as required according to the physical needs of the animals.
7. All animal rooms, cages and runs shall be of sufficient size to provide adequate and proper housing for animals kept therein.
 - a. All animal rooms, cages and runs shall be constructed in a manner and made of materials that allow them to be readily cleaned and sanitized, or removed and replaced when worn or soiled.

b. Interior surfaces that come in contact with dogs or cats must: (1) Be free of excessive rust (2) Be free of jagged edges or sharp points that injure animals (3). All surfaces must be maintained on a regular basis.

8. All dog runs shall be of concrete or other impervious material and provided with adequate drainage into an approved sewage disposal installation.

10. All animals shall be taken to a licensed veterinarian for examination and treatment if so ordered by the director.

11. Adequate and effective vector control (pest control) shall be established and maintained at all times.

12. Additional requirements for grooming and bathing facilities:

1. Provide a weather-proof bathing area which is properly drained.
2. A bath must be provided with hot and cold water.
3. A separate area for proper drying of animals after bathing must be provided.
4. Grooming tables must be stable and easy to clean, and have a non-slip surface.
5. Grooming equipment must be kept clean and well maintained.
6. Animal holding, bathing and grooming areas must be cleaned and disinfected at least daily.

13. Every violation of applicable regulations shall be corrected within a reasonable time to be specified by the director.

Source: United States Department of Agriculture [USDA]. (2013). Animal Welfare Act & Animal Welfare Regulations Specifications for the Humane Handling, Care, Treatment, and Transportation of Dogs and Cats. 2015, from <http://awic.nal.usda.gov/government-and-professional-resources/federal-laws/animal-welfare-act>