

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ADOPTION OF AN
ANIMAL FROM THE GILES COUNTY POUND.

After public hearing held on April 3, 2008, pursuant to advertisement in the Virginian Leader, a newspaper of general circulation in Giles County, on, March 12th and March 19th, 2008,

BE IT ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:

Pursuant to the authority granted by Chapter 27.4 of Title 3.1 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, the County of Giles hereby imposes the following requirements for the adoption of animals from the Giles County Pound.

1. No person shall be permitted to adopt more than two animals or one family of animals in any thirty (30) day period.
2. No person who has been convicted of animal cruelty, neglect or abandonment shall be permitted to adopt an animal. The person desiring to adopt an animal shall sign a sworn statement certifying that he or she has not been convicted of any such violation.
3. No person who has surrendered an animal to the pound within the past two (2) years shall be permitted to adopt an animal, unless the surrender is for good cause as the result of a failed adoption.
4. No person who resides in a county or city other than Giles County or a county or city in the Commonwealth of Virginia which adjoins Giles County may adopt an animal until such animal has been sterilized as required by Virginia Code Section 3.1-796 (C) (4).
5. A. Every new owner of a dog or cat adopted from a releasing agency shall cause to be sterilized the dog or cat pursuant to the agreement required by subdivision 2 of subsection B of this section.
B. A dog or cat shall not be released for adoption unless:
 1. The animal has already been sterilized; or
 2. The individual adopting the animal signs an agreement to have the animal sterilized by a licensed veterinarian (i) within thirty days of the adoption, if the animal is sexually mature, or (ii) within thirty days after the animal reaches six months of age, if the animal is not sexually mature at the time of adoption.C. The time for sterilization may extend for thirty days the date by which a dog or cat must be sterilized on presentation of a written report from a veterinarian stating that the life or health of the adopted animal may be jeopardized by sterilization. In cases involving extenuating circumstances, the veterinarian and the releasing agency may negotiate the terms of an extension of the date by which the animal must be sterilized.

D. Nothing in this section shall preclude the sterilization of a sexually immature dog or cat upon the written agreement of the veterinarian, the animal control officer or his designee, and the new owner.

E. Upon the petition of an animal control officer to the Giles County General District Court, the court may order the new owner to take any steps necessary to comply with the requirements of this article. This remedy shall be exclusive of and in addition to any civil penalty which may be imposed under this article.

F. Any person who violates subsection A or B of this section shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed fifty dollars.


6. Each new owner who signs a sterilization agreement shall, within seven days of the sterilization, cause to be delivered or mailed to the Animal Control Officer written confirmation signed by the veterinarian who performed the sterilization. The confirmation shall briefly describe the dog or cat; include the new owner's name and address; certify that the sterilization was performed; and specify the date of the procedure. Any person who violates this section shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$ 150.


7. There is hereby imposed an adoption fee of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) for each animal adopted from the pound. In addition to the adoption fee, the person adopting an unsterilized animal shall present at the time of an adoption a receipt from a licensed veterinarian verifying that payment has been made for the sterilization of the animal to be adopted. In lieu of a receipt from a veterinarian the payment of an additional fee in the amount One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) may be made. Upon presentation of written confirmation of the adopted animal being sterilized as set forth in Section 6 above, the additional adoption fee will be refunded. Payment of the additional adoption fee does not eliminate the responsibility for having the animal sterilized.

This Ordinance was adopted upon proper motion, at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Giles County, Virginia, held on April 3, 2008, and shall become effective immediately.

References: Va. Code Section 3.1-796.96, 3.1-796.124.1 through 3.1-796.124.7

	voting for	voting against	abstain	absent
Spencer	✓	_____	_____	_____
Gentry	✓	_____	_____	_____
Baker	✓	_____	_____	_____
McCoy	✓	_____	_____	_____
Hobbs	✓	_____	_____	_____

Attest: 
Christopher P. McKlarney, Clerk

Approved as to form: 
County Attorney