



Animal Control Code Enforcement Department

Ordinance Available: www.hualapai-nsn.gov

**Report Animal Problems Anytime to the BIA Law Enforcement Dispatch
(928) 769-2220**

MISSION STATEMENT:

"Provide a high level of services to the citizen of the Hualapai Tribe by humanely enforcing the Hualapai Tribe and Order Ordinances as they pertain to domestic animals and the public's health, safety and welfare."

VISION STATEMENT

"Strive toward the reduction and prevention of animal related problems in the community through public education, the warning/citation system, and the impoundment of domestic animals with the commitment of Public Safety to the People of the Tall Pines."

Dog Bite Investigation Expectations

An INITIAL REPORT has been made. Officers will do follow-up investigations after their initial contact with the pet owner, victim and witnesses. Please be patient as it is not uncommon for the investigation process to take several days to several weeks to complete. Officers will provide timely updates on their progress and the final outcome of the investigation. Should you have questions regarding the status of your case, please contact Law Enforcement Dispatch 928-769-2220 to request the officer call you. The law enforcement dispatch team will forward your request to the officer and they will contact you.

Offense and Citation

If the case involves a pet owner who has been cited, the pet owner is to appear before the Hualapai Tribal Court. Victim(s) of an attack and/or any witnesses maybe subpoena to appear before the courts in prosecution of the case. Prosecution of an offense through Tribal Court may have fines ordered for the pet owner to pay, a Maximum Fine per each violation is \$500.00

CAN A PET OWNER BE SUED

Yes, a victim of an attack may sue the pet owner through Civil Court for injuries or damages. This civil lawsuit is a separate action from the pet owner being cited for violations of the Hualapai Tribe Ordinance.

VICTIM RIGHTS

Seek medical attention immediately if you are injured. Even if your injuries are minor, you should still contact with emergency medical services (EMS) or your physician; some injuries may not be obvious to you. Tell medical officials exactly how the injuries happened and make sure it is noted in your medical records.

VICTIM RIGHTS AND EXPECTATIONS

The Hualapai Tribe has determined through the Law and Order Ordinance Section 15.5 Public Nuisance: No person shall allow any animals to unreasonably annoy humans, endanger the life or health of other animals or persons, or substantially interfere with the rights of citizens, other than their owner, to the enjoyment of life or property.

- **In matters of an animal bite and you received injuries:**
 - You and your physician will be notified if the animal is current on rabies vaccine.
 - In circumstances where the pet may not be current or unable to access information of the vaccine status. You and your physician will be updated for the animals Ten Day quarantine. Your physician will discuss with you the best medical solution.
- **Impoundment Quarantine**
 - Once it is determined the suspected animal(s) in a bite situation is identified, the animal will be placed on a ten day mandatory quarantine period
 - Expectations of Quarantine
 - Determination if animal is current on rabies vaccine.
 - Regardless of vaccine status, animal will be monitored for a period of ten days.
 - Upon successful completion of a quarantine, the animal involved will no longer be on quarantine.
- **VICTIM WITNESS RESPONSIBILITIES**
 - Any person who is a victim or witness of an animal attack should immediately report.
 - Document important information;
 - Time
 - Location
 - Description of Animal including describing collars attached, license visible.
 - Did anyone else witness
 - How did the attack occur
 - Any other vital information
- **RESOURCES AVAILABLE**

Understanding an attack or bite incident can be a life traumatic incident. Most important victims of a bite and/or attack seek medical treatment.

 - Indian Health Services (I H S)
 - Hospital/Urgent Care

If your encounter requires counseling; the following can assist you in seeking appropriate assistance:

- Indian Health Service (I H S)
- Hualapai Health Education and Wellness Center/ Behavioral Health

ANIMAL ATTACK / BITE – VICTIM AND OWNER RIGHTS

ANIMAL OWNER EXPECTATIONS

This section outlines expectation of the animal owner.

Animal Bites, Attacks or harm to any person or other animal is a serious offense.

You are expected to cooperate and provide the following information:

1. Proof of Rabies Vaccine.
2. Age of Animal and other vital statistics.

Any animal involved with an attack, bite incident will be placed on a mandatory rabies quarantine status, and regardless if animal is current on rabies vaccine.

Fees for quarantine must be paid in full and you are responsible to provide proof of payment to the Officer. All payments are to be made at the Hualapai Tribal Administration in the full amount.

Quarantine Fee **IS NOT A FINE** and separate from any court action and/or fine that maybe imposed upon you by the Tribal Judge of the Court of Law on the Hualapai Reservation.

What is a Quarantine? Quarantine limits the animal's contact with other animals and people, reducing exposure if the animal involved does have rabies. Quarantine also allows the Animal Control Agent(s) and health officials to observe the animal for any signs or symptoms associated with the rabies virus. Quarantine of any animal must be in controlled environment, though some at home quarantine is allowed. In matters where a “at home quarantine” is not followed, the quarantine animal will be placed for the remainder of the period at a controlled site and the owner will be responsible for fees applicable of a full quarantine price, No Exceptions.

Fees for Quarantine: Seventy-Five Dollars (75\$) for any animal placed on quarantine status at the Hualapai Tribe Kennel Impoundment Yard. Additional fees maybe applicable for mileage or other facility rate charge. It is the responsibility of the animal owner to fully cooperate with furnishing vital information and documents associated with their pet, also fully responsible to pay all fees associated with the quarantine and responsible on own to coordinate when to reclaim the animal. Any animal that is not reclaimed or picked-up by the animal’s owner within seventy-two hours (72 Hours) will be considered abandoned. Any animal that is classified as “abandoned” results in immediate relinquishment of animal, the animal will be placed under the care of the department for determination and classification for potential adoption pending demeanor classification. Owner who has abandoned animal will be cited for the violation. Owner will remain responsible for all quarantine fees associated during the observation period. The Tribal Courts may impose a fine of Five Hundred Dollars for each violation as cited through the court of law.

ANIMAL ATTACK / BITE – VICTIM AND OWNER RIGHTS

What is Rabies? A deadly virus spread to people from the saliva of infected animals. Rabies is usually spread through an animal bite. Animals most likely to spread rabies include dogs, bats, coyotes, foxes, skunks, and raccoons.

Symptoms include fever, headache, excess salivation, muscle spasms, paralysis, and mental confusion. Seek immediate medical attention after a bite or suspected bite. There is no specific treatment for rabies. Once symptoms appear, it's nearly **always fatal**.

The Animal Owner is expected to comply with Hualapai Tribal Law and Order Ordinance. Animals involved in more than one biting incident that are not kept secure will be picked up and Euthanized for the safety of the public.

The Hualapai Ordinance regarding ANIMAL CONTROL matters has been approved by the Hualapai Tribal Council and Enforced by public safety departments (Animal Control Agent, Police and Game Fish Department or designees of the Tribe for Enforcement). Matters of Chapter 15 regarding ANIMAL CONTROL is CIVIL VIOLATIONS of the Hualapai Law and Order Code. Maximum Fine of FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each violation maybe imposed by the Hualapai Tribal Court. The Statue of Limitations on the Hualapai Reservation Section 4.2 “ *the offense, violation or other event forming the basis of the action occurred within one-year period prior to date of the initiation of the action.*” Meaning though the Statue of Limitations could result in filing through the Hualapai Tribal Court, this matter maybe prosecuted within the one-year period of the statute of limitations.

This section provides information and educational tools for prevention of bites.

DOG BITE PREVENTION

reference: avma.org

Dog bites pose a serious health risk to our communities and society. More than 4.5 million people are bitten by dogs each year in the United States, and more than 800,000 receive medical attention for dog bites, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC). At least half of those bitten are children. Here are more dog bite facts:

- Almost 1 in 5 people bitten by dogs require medical attention.
- Children are the most common victims of dog bites and are far more likely to be severely injured.
- Most dog bites affecting young children occur during everyday activities and while interacting with familiar dogs.

Any dog can bite: big or small, male or female, young or old. Even the cuddliest, fuzziest, sweetest pet **can bite** if provoked. Remember, it is not a dog's breed that determines whether it will bite, but rather the dog's individual history and behavior.

Most dog bites are preventable, and there are many things you can do at home and within our community to help prevent them.

Why do dogs bite?

Dogs bite for a variety of reasons, but most commonly as a reaction to something. If the dog finds itself in a stressful situation, it may bite to defend itself or its territory. Dogs can bite because they are scared or have been startled. They can bite because they feel threatened. They can bite to protect something that is valuable to them, like their puppies, their food or a toy.

Dogs might bite because they aren't feeling well. They could be sick or sore due to injury or illness and might want to be left alone. Dogs also might nip and bite during play. Even though nipping during play might be fun for the dog, it can be dangerous for people. It's a good idea to avoid wrestling or playing tug-of-war with your dog. These types of activities can make your dog overly excited, which may lead to a nip or a bite.

What you can do to prevent dog bites

Socializing your dog

Socialization is a good way to help prevent your dog from biting. Socializing your pet helps your dog feel at ease in different situations. By introducing your dog to people and other animals while it's a puppy, it feels more comfortable in different situations as it gets older. It's also important to use a leash in public to make sure that you are able to control your dog.

Being a responsible pet owner

Responsible pet ownership builds a solid foundation for dog bite prevention. Basics of responsible dog ownership that can help reduce the risk of dog bites include carefully selecting the dog that's right for your family, proper training, regular exercise, and neutering or spaying your pet.

Educating your family

Educate yourself and your children about how—or whether—to approach a dog.

Avoiding risky situations

It's important to know how to avoid escalating risky situations and to understand when you should and should not interact with dogs. You should avoid petting a dog in these scenarios:

- If the dog is not with its owner
- If the dog is with its owner but the owner does not give permission to pet the dog
- If the dog is on the other side of a fence—don't reach through or over a fence to pet a dog
- If a dog is sleeping or eating
- If a dog is sick or injured
- If a dog is resting with her puppies or seems very protective of her puppies and anxious about your presence
- If a dog is playing with a toy
- If a dog is growling or barking
- If a dog appears to be hiding or seeking time alone

Paying attention to body language

Reading a dog's body language also can be helpful. Just like people, dogs rely on body gestures, postures and vocalizations to express themselves and communicate. While we can't always read a dog's body language accurately, it can give us helpful clues as to whether a dog is feeling stressed, frightened, or threatened.