



Maricopa County

Planning & Development Department

Department Directive

Department Directive:
DD-2013-14

Supersedes: DD-2003-05

Effective: Immediately

Initiator: Tom Ewers

Director: *Debra W. Stark*

PURPOSE: To clarify the definition of a kennel in the Zoning Ordinance to be consistent with the State of Arizona Revised Statutes for the purposes of Code Enforcement.

REFERENCE:

Arizona Revised Statutes § 11-1018:

11-1018. Exemption of cities, towns and counties

- A. The provisions of this article shall not apply to incorporated cities or towns that impose a license fee and vaccination on dogs by ordinance, provided that such ordinance is equal to or more stringent than the provisions of this article.
- B. The provisions of this article shall not apply to counties which regulate the running at large of dogs in the unincorporated areas of the county by ordinance provided that such ordinance is equal to or more stringent than the provisions of this article.

Maricopa County Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 2 – Excerpt

“Any premises that are used for the commercial breeding, boarding, training, grooming or bathing of dogs, cats and/or other small domesticated house pets (not farm animals), or for the breeding or keeping of dogs for racing purposes.”

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

As a matter of policy, dogs, cats and/or other small domesticated house pets (not farm animals), kept for commercial purposes or the breeding or keeping of dogs for racing purposes, as described in the zoning ordinance, will require a special use permit for a kennel. As the ordinance defines the animals in plural form, then the requirement will be “more than one”.

This directive is not meant to limit the number of personal pets kept on a parcel. Obvious concerns may arise during the course of an inspection involving numerous animals.

Special attention will be directed toward the conditions in which numerous personal pets are kept. Referrals to Animal Care and Control Services will be made in cases where animal care and overcrowding may be a concern or in cases where the animal licensing requirements may not be met.