



**TOWN OF MADISON**  
OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK – TAX COLLECTOR  
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MADISON, NH 03849-0248

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8 AM – 4 PM  
[www.madison-nh.org](http://www.madison-nh.org)

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## **DOG LICENSING FAQs**

### **WHY MUST I REGISTER MY DOG?**

It is the law in New Hampshire. RSA 466:1 requires that every owner or keeper of a dog 4 months old or older shall annually cause it to be registered, numbered, described, and licensed for one year in the office of the clerk of the city or town in which the dog is kept. Regardless of when the license is obtained, the license shall be effective from May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year to April 30<sup>th</sup> of the subsequent year.

### **WHAT DO I NEED TO LICENSE MY DOG?**

State Law RSA 466:1-a: Before a license is issued, the owner or keeper of a dog shall furnish to the clerk verification from a licensed veterinarian that the dog has been vaccinated against rabies.

### **HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?**

State Law RSA 466:4 and 466:6 states the fees as follows:

- Puppy (ages 4-7 months) \$6.50
- Spay/Neutered dog \$6.50
- Unaltered dog \$9.00
- Senior citizen (65 years of age or older) \$2.00 First dog only
- Group License (5 or more dogs) \$20.00

### **HOW CAN I LICENSE MY DOG?**

You can register your dog in person at the Town Clerk's Office, Monday through Thursday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM excluding holidays and election days or by mail. Beginning in early 2012, you will be able to renew existing dogs and pay online.

### **WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T LICENSE MY DOG?**

State Law RSA 466:7 provides there shall be a charge of \$1 for each month or any part of a month that the fee remains unpaid if said fee is not paid before June 1 in any year. As required by RSA 466:13, a civil forfeiture fee will also be assessed in the amount of \$25, which is payable within fifteen days of receipt of the notice of failure to license your dog. If the forfeiture fee is not paid within that time, a summons to appear in court shall be issued in accordance with State Law.

### **IS THERE LEASH LAW IN MADISON?**

**YES!** On January 12, 2000, the Town of Madison adopted the provisions of RSA 466:31 for RESTRAINING DOGS.

### **WHAT IF I NO LONGER HAVE MY DOG or I AM MOVING OUT OF MADISON?**

You should contact the Madison Town Clerk's Office at 603.367.9931 Ext 310/305 or email us at [www.clerk@madison-nh.org](mailto:www.clerk@madison-nh.org) The Clerk's Office will then update your record so you do not receive any future notices.