

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-001

TOWNSHIP OF CHESANING

SAGINAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN

ADOPTED: February 6, 2025

PUBLICATION DATE: February 16, 2025

EFFECTIVE: February 17, 2025

An ordinance of the Township of Chesaning, Saginaw County, Michigan, to amend the Township of Chesaning Animal Control Ordinance, to provide definitions, to provide for responsible animal care, to regulate diseased animals, to prohibit cruelty to animals, to prohibit a nuisance(s) relating to animals, to prohibit stray animals, to provide that pending proceedings are not affected, to provide for severability, to repeal all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith, to provide for an Effective Date and to direct the publication of this Ordinance or a legally-permissible summary.

**THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESANING
SAGINAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

ORDAINS:

**SECTION I
NAME**

This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the “Township of Chesaning Animal Control Amending Ordinance.”

**SECTION II
DEFINITIONS**

1. Undefined words and terms as used in this Ordinance shall be given their plain and ordinary meaning. Words shall be interpreted so as to further the intent of this Ordinance. Every word importing the singular number only may extend to and embrace the plural number, and every word importing the plural number may be applied and limited to the singular number. Every word importing the masculine gender only may extend and be applied to females as well as males. In an effort to ascertain the meaning of any word or term as used in this Ordinance, it shall be appropriate for a reviewing authority to consult the dictionary definition of any word or term that is used in this Ordinance insofar as the aforesaid word or term is not specifically defined by this Ordinance.

2. An “Animal” is any mammal, domestic or wild, other than man, or any reptile which constitutes a living organism that feeds on organic matter, typically having specialized sense organs and a nervous system and is able to respond rapidly to stimuli.

3. An “Animal Nuisance” is created when an animal:
 - a. Runs uncontrolled.
 - b. Molests or disturbs persons or vehicles by chasing, barking or biting.
 - c. Attacks other animals.
 - d. Damages property other than that of the owner or harborer.
 - e. Barks, whines, howls, honks, brays, cries or makes other noise excessively.
 - f. Creates noxious or offensive odors.
 - g. Defecates upon any public place or upon premises not owned or controlled by the owner or harborer unless promptly removed by the animal owner or harborer.
 - h. Creates an insect breeding and/or attracting sight due to an accumulation of excretion.
4. “Domestic Animal” includes fur, feathered or hoofed animals raised and/or maintained in confinement.
5. “Harborer” is any person who provides food and shelter for any domesticated animal on other than a periodic or temporary basis.
6. “Owner” is any person having right of property to any animal: who keeps an animal; who has an animal in his care or custody; or who knowingly permits an animal to remain on or about any premises occupied by him.
7. “Person” is any individual, firm, corporation, partnership, association, trust, state or other legal entity.

SECTION III: RESPONSIBLE ANIMAL CARE

It shall be unlawful for any owner or harborer of a domestic animal not to provide for his animal:

1. Sufficient quantity of good and wholesome food and water
2. Proper protection and shelter from the weather.
3. Veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering.
4. Humane treatment.
5. Prompt removal and sanitary disposal of all excretion deposited by his animal anywhere upon a public place.

SECTION IV: DISEASED ANIMALS

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any domestic animal to knowingly cause or allow the same to run at large or be exposed in any public place anywhere in the township, or to ship or remove such animal from the owner’s premises when same is afflicted with a contagious or infectious disease except under the supervision of a proper government health office.

SECTION V: CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

1. Beat, underfeed, overload, overwork, torment, abandon or otherwise inhumanely treat any domestic animal anywhere in the Township.
2. Sell, offer for sale, barter, or giveaway as a pet or a novelty, any rabbit, hare, baby chick, duckling or other fowl which has been dyed, colored or otherwise treated to impart an official color thereto.
3. Kill or wound, attempt to kill or wound or take the eggs or young of any game or songbird.
4. Knowingly poison or cause to be poisoned any domestic animal.

SECTION VI: NUISANCE PROHIBITED

It shall be unlawful for the owner or harborer of any dog, cat, or other domestic animal to cause or permit such animal to perform, create or engage in any nuisance as defined by Section 2 or any other nuisance of any cause or nature.

SECTION VII: STRAY ANIMALS

It shall be unlawful for the owner or harborer of any domestic animal to cause or allow the same to run at large in the Township or to be picketed or tied in any public place for the purpose of grazing or feeding. It shall be unlawful for the owner or harborer of any domestic animal to allow either through intent or through negligence the domestic animal to enter onto any other real property without the express permission of the owner of the aforesaid real property.

SECTION VIII: RATIFICATION

All provisions of the Township of Chesaning Animal Control Ordinance, except as specifically stated herein, are hereby confirmed and ratified in their entirety.

SECTION IX: PENDING PROCEEDINGS NOT AFFECTED.

Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding impending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or ordinance hereby repealed as cited in this ordinance; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this ordinance.

SECTION X: SEVERABILITY

Should any section, clause or provision of this Ordinance be declared to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any other part thereof other than the parts so declared to be invalid. The Township of Chesaning Board

of Trustees hereby declares that it would have enacted this Ordinance even without whatever provision may be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction.

SECTION XI: REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION XII: EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance and the rules, regulations, provisions, requirements, orders, and matters established and adopted hereby shall take effect on the day following publication as required by law following adoption by the Township Board.

SECTION XIII: TOWNSHIP PUBLICATION

The Township Clerk is hereby ordered and directed to cause this Ordinance to be published, either in full or in the form of a legally-permitted summary, in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township of Chesaning.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township of Chesaning Board of Trustees, County of Saginaw, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on the 6th day of February 2025 and ordered to be given publication in the manner prescribed by law.

Joe Ruthig, Supervisor

Danie Himstedt, Clerk

Date of Publication: February 16, 2025

Newspaper: Tri-County Citizen

CERTIFICATION

ADOPTED

YEAS: Hornak, Mrdeza, Carlton, Tomac, Himstedt, Gross, Ruthig

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

State of Michigan, County of Saginaw,

I the undersigned Township Clerk for the Township of Chesaning, Saginaw County, Michigan, certify that the above Ordinance No. 2025-001 adopted by the Township of Chesaning Board of Trustees on the 6th day of February 2025, was recorded in full in the Minutes of the Meeting of the Township Board of Trustees on said date. It was signed by the Supervisor and Clerk of the Township.

Dated: February 7, 2025

Daniel Himstedt, Clerk