

**“Animal abandonment” means a person who is the owner, the possessor, or having charge or custody of an animal, who abandons such animal in a private or public place.**

**“Cruelty” means every act, omission or neglect, whereby unjustifiable physical pain, suffering or death is caused or permitted. Cruelty has the same meaning as “torture”.**

**Horse tripping” means deliberately causing an equine to fall or lose its balance with a rope, lasso, stick or any other object for sport , entertainment, competition or party. Except a horse may be tripped for medical reasons**

**55.110 Keeping of animals in sanitary conditions. No person shall keep any animal unless its area is kept clean and free from animal waste and odors that are offensive to a reasonable person of normal sensitivities in the vicinity.**

**[§13, Ord. No. 1207]**

**55.130 Animal waste disposal.**

**1. Except as provided in subsection 3, within the congested areas designated herein it is unlawful for any person owning or having control or custody of any animal to permit the animal to defecate upon the public property of the county or upon the private property of another unless the person immediately removes the feces and properly disposes of it; provided however, that nothing herein contained authorizes such person to enter upon the private property of another without permission.**

**2. Except as provided in subsection 3, within the congested areas designated herein it is unlawful for any person to walk a dog on public property of the county or upon the private property of another without carrying at all times a suitable container or other suitable instrument for the removal and disposal of dog feces.**

**3. This provision does not apply to persons with disabilities who use service animals for assistance. Persons whose dogs are participating in dog shows or direct command obedience classes are exempt from this section**

while their animal is actually participating in such shows or classes, but all feces must be removed and disposed of immediately upon the conclusion of the show or class.

[§16, Ord. No. 1207; A Ord. No. 1269]

**55.140 Cruelty to animals; generally.**

**1. It is unlawful for any person to:**

- (a) Fail to provide an animal with sufficient and wholesome food.**
  - (b) Fail to provide an animal with sufficient and potable water for adequate hydration.**
  - (c) Fail to provide an animal with accessible necessary shelter to protect it from the elements of the weather.**
  - (d) Fail to provide an animal with reasonable veterinary care when needed.**
  - (e) Beat, cruelly treat, torment, overload, overwork, unjustifiably injure, maim, mutilate, poison, or kill any animal whether belonging to himself or to another.**
  - (f) Intentionally allow an animal to fight with another animal or person.**
  - (g) Abandon an animal.**
  - (h) Crop a dog's ears at any age or dock the tail of a dog that is more than 5 days old.**
- This section does not apply to a licensed veterinarian.**
- (i) Tether an animal in violation of NRS 574.100.**

**2. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to prohibit or interfere with an animal control officer or law enforcement officer in the exercise and performance of their duties.**

**3. It is illegal for anyone to engage in the practice of "horse tripping" anywhere within Washoe County in accordance with NRS 574.**

**4. Any violation of this section of the Washoe County Code for cruelty to animals or "horse tripping" must be punished as a misdemeanor criminal violation in accordance with NRS 244.359.**

[§17, Ord. No. 1207]

**55.170 Animal fighting; pigeon shoots.**

**1. It is unlawful for any person to keep or use, or be in any manner connected with or interested in the management of, or receive money or other things of value for the admission of any person to a house, apartment, pit or place to willfully procure or permit the same to be used or occupied for such baiting or fighting, or to instigate, promote, arrange or carry on, or do any act as assistant, umpire, principal, spectator or otherwise, in aid of or calculated to encourage or further any fight between birds or animals.**

**2. It is unlawful for any person to manufacture, own, possess, purchase, sell, barter or exchange, or advertise for sale,**

barter or exchange, any gaff, spur or other sharp implement designed for attachment to a cock or other bird with the intent that the implement be used in fighting another cock or other bird.

3. It is unlawful for any person to provide or use pigeons or other birds, or to fire upon the same, in connection with any "shoot" which may result in the killing or injuring of any pigeons or such other birds.

[§20, Ord. No. 1207]

#### 55.190 Endangering animals.

1. It is unlawful for any person to hold or confine an animal in a pen, house, car, truck, trailer or any other place without a sufficient supply of good and wholesome air, water, food and necessary veterinary care.

2. It is unlawful for any person to hold or confine an animal in a car, truck, trailer, box or crate when the temperature and surrounding environment may cause the animal unnecessary suffering or death.

3. To ensure humane treatment and alleviate suffering or needless death, any animal control officer or peace officer may remove an animal from a situation that restricts the animal's ability to escape suffering or death. However, the officer will make every reasonable effort to allow the owner of the animal to remedy the situation before removal, or if no owner is available, the officer will attempt to notify the owner as soon as possible that the animal has been removed.

[§23, Ord. No. 1207]

55.200 Tethering animals. It is unlawful for any person who has care, custody and control of any animal to tether it on public property or on private property without the permission of the property owner.

[§24, Ord. No. 1207]