

City of North Richland Hills



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

FERRETS

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR RESTRICTED ANIMAL OWNERSHIP

Please be advised that the following is a synopsis of the City of North Richland Hills Policies and Ordinances for the keeping of ferrets:

- A. Documentation: The following information must be on file with the Animal Control Division prior to issuance of permit:
 1. Veterinary information to include:
 - a. Veterinarians name and phone number to include emergency contact numbers.
 - b. Inoculation dates, and any medication required. Please note: the ferret must be vaccinated by an approved Ferret Rabies Vaccine.
 - c. Health Certificate issued within 30 days of application for permit.
 - d. Feeding schedule to include type of food, amount and daily time schedule.
 2. Photographs of animal taken within 30 days of application.
 3. Photographs of dwelling and cage where animal will be kept.
 4. Documentation from breeder to include any registration papers, date of birth of animal, name, address and phone number of breeder.
- B. Inspection: The property must be inspected by the Animal Control Division prior to approval of permit. Be advised that the Animal Control Division may inspect the dwelling throughout the permitted year.

C. Maintenance of Animal: The animal must be maintained inside the dwelling of the permitted owner.

1. The animal may not be taken out in areas where the public can come in contact with it.
2. The animal may not be allowed outside the dwelling unless being transported to the veterinarian.
3. If the animal is sold or given away the Animal Control Division must be notified.
4. Be advised that if the animal should bite or scratch anyone it must be:
 - a. Reported to the Animal Control Division immediately.
 - b. The animal must be surrendered immediately to the Animal Control Division for euthanasia and testing by the Texas Department of Health. [A live test approved by T.D.H. may be substituted for euthanasia, if available.]
5. There must be separate sleeping quarters provided for the animal. The animal must remain in the permitted owner's home or in the prescribed enclosure.
 - a. The enclosure must provide adequate exercise area and sleeping quarters.
 - b. The enclosure must have locks and be of strong structure to prevent escape.
 - c. The enclosure must be kept in good repair to prevent both escape and injury to the animal.
 - d. The enclosure must have a water container which is secured so as to prevent its being overturned.
 - e. The enclosure must be kept clean and free of odor and filth.

D. Animal Health:

1. If the animal becomes ill or dies the Animal Control Division must be notified.

2. If the animal receives any vaccinations or medications the Animal Control Division must be supplied with documentation to put in file.
 3. The animal must be provided with continuous clean water and must be fed a diet approved by a licensed veterinarian.
- G. If the animal should escape the dwelling its required to stay in, the Animal Control Division must be notified.
- H. Owner Information: The following information must be on file with the Animal Control Division: Permitted owner's name, address and phone numbers, including emergency telephone numbers for themselves and the veterinarian.
- I. Permit fees and Insurance:
1. The fee for a restricted animal permit shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) and the permit shall expire one year from date of issuance and shall not be transferable.
 2. The owner must provide proof of liability insurance or financial responsibility in the amount of one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) to cover the damages resulting from an escape and/or attack by the animal to be permitted.

Applicant is advised that complaints will be investigated and if found to be valid, the permit will be revoked.

The permit will be good for one (1) year from the date of issue.

The permit is renewed annually for each animal, each requiring a sperate permit and a fifty dollar (\$50.00) fee.