



Animal Services

3984 SR 16 West
Green Cove Springs,
Florida 32043

Phone: 904-269-6342

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Howard Wanamaker

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District 1

Wayne Bolla
District 2

Jim Renninger
District 3

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District 4

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District 5

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Hobby Breeder License Guidelines

Section 4 – 37 of the Clay County Code requires any resident of Clay County that engages in the breeding of 3 or fewer female dogs or cats on their premises to obtain a Hobby Breeder License. All other breeders are required to comply with the licensing requirements of the United States Department of Agriculture pursuant to the Animal Welfare Act.

Clay County Board of County Commissioners Division of Animal Services is responsible for issuing the Hobby Breeder License.

All hobby breeders must obtain an annual license from the Division of Animal Services. In order to obtain a Hobby Breeder's License, ALL requirements as set out in Section 4 – 37 of the Clay County Code must be met.

The Hobby Breeder License application form is available for collection from the Division of Animal Services, 3984 State Road 16 W. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 or alternatively can be completed and downloaded [HERE](#). The form must be submitted in person together with the required license application fee of \$100.00 at the address listed above.

Upon receipt of the application and required fee, an Animal Control Officer will make an appointment with you to conduct an inspection of the facility where the animals are being kept.

Hobby breeders **MUST** live on the premises where their facility is located. Full details of the facility requirements can be found in Section 4 -37(c)(6) of the Clay County Code.

A License shall be issued only after an inspection that determines that the minimum requirements and standards set forth in Section 4 – 37 of the Clay County Code have been met.

Once issued the License will be valid for a period of one year from the date of issue, unless otherwise stated or revoked. Renewal applications shall be made within 30 days prior to the expiration date.

Prior to submitting an application for a Hobby Breeder License attention should be drawn to the following:

- Permitted animals - No more than ONE species of dog or cat may be bred. No more than ONE breed of either dog or cat is allowed.
- In order for the dog or cat to be sold, the offspring of the dog or cat must have been bred to enhance or perpetuate a given breed.
- There shall be no more than TWO litters or 20 puppies or kittens, whichever is greater, produced per hobby breeder per year.
- All dogs and cats will be identifiable by either a tattoo or microchip. A microchip scanner must be on the premises if using an implanted microchip.

- Personal pet exemption - A combined total of no more than four dogs or cats may be kept as personal pets in addition to the permitted animals.
- Records of births and sales must be kept and maintained and made available for inspection by the Division of Animal Services.

Upon issuance of your Hobby Breeders license you will receive an individual license number. This number MUST be displayed on all advertisements, literature, postings, or signs concerning the free giveaway or sale of puppies, dogs, kittens or cats of the license holder.

Prior to the sale of any dog or cat, your attention is also drawn to Florida Statutes, section 828.29(4) that requires any dog or cat offered for sale to be no younger than 8 weeks of age and section 828.29(3)(a) that requires any dog or cat offered for sale to be accompanied by an Official Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (Health Certificate).

If you have any questions or require any further clarification, then please contact the Division of Animals Services.
Tel: (904) 269-6342.