



The new DFOW logo

**Next general membership meeting:
 Wednesday September 17, 2008—7:00 PM
 Gander Mountain Germantown
 Board meets at 6:30 PM**

Welcome to the September Edition of the Dog Federation of Wisconsin electronic newsletter.

With the fall elections just around the corner, dog fanciers need to take a few minutes of their valuable time and introduce themselves to those that are running for office in their localities. Dog Federation members and affiliated clubs will need to stay focused in this next session, which starts in January of 09' for LEGISLATIVE ALERTS.

The media and the animal welfare individuals in the State of Wisconsin have been having a field day with word games. These words are being pushed by the animal welfare folks and the media in a derogatory fashion. They will only hurt and desensitize the general public to their true meanings in the future. For example

<u>Words</u>	<u>Animal Welfare Definition</u>	<u>The Real Meaning of the Word</u>
Puppy Mill	Anyone who breeds	Kennel operator with substandard and unhealthy conditions
Commercial Breeder	Puppy Mill	In the business of raising dogs for a living (a commercial business as recognized by the IRS)
Hobby Breeder	Puppy Mill	One of the best sources for puppies that come from selected animals. (recognized by the IRS as a hobby business)
Intact Dog	Unacceptable	The only way you can breed a dog
Spay/Neuter	Every animal should be	Creates health issues and doesn't solve the local or state governments' problems.
Purebred Dog Sold	Death to a shelter Dog	An individual buying a purebred pet for their families enjoyment
Shelter Dog Sale	One Dog has been saved from a cruel puppy mill	A shelter dog found a home...

The spin on words used by the animal welfare people to denigrate the work that breeders put into producing sound dogs is shameful. There are many more words that have been spun to make breeders the pariah of this decade. Dog breeders should not be ashamed of what they do nor should they be made criminals for the very act of breeding a dog. This battle of words extends to the titles that animal welfare individuals use to identify themselves in their work. This "title" name game is not only confusing to the pet owners but the titles have never been truly qualified or defined.

When you visit the world of animal welfare the title is the thing. Does it mean that they have education or experience to qualify that title? No. Does it deceive the general public into thinking that the individual has experience or qualifications that would make them extremely knowledgeable? Yes. This comes into play when animal control comes to call. In Wisconsin, animal control can issue abatement orders (if authorized by the municipality) but they do NOT have arrest powers (unless they are also law enforcement officers). Many individuals being visited by animal control assume, rather wrongly, that these individuals have powers that do not exist.

Animal control doesn't have any more authorization to do search and seizure than a certified law enforcement officer. Animal control and law enforcement officers can be held accountable for illegal searches and seizures and can be prosecuted if they work outside the scope of their employment.

Dog breeders in this state, as well as other states, are being talked or coerced into signing over their dogs without due process by animal welfare groups.

Normally individuals arrested by a law enforcement officer in this state for a crime are read their rights and they are allowed to speak with an attorney. When did animal welfare people get the right to become prosecutors and offer deals without the individual breeders knowing what their rights are? Were they (the breeders) allowed or encouraged to speak with an attorney? These breeders, no matter what their crime is, have the right to an attorney and not have their dogs taken from them without due process.

The evidence in question with most breeders is their dogs. While evidence such as guns, knives and the like can be handled by most police evidence rooms, dogs and other animals are something else. Usually a governmental unit will contract with a humane society for the housing of that "evidence" until the case has been adjudicated.

Spread the word to your breeder friends that they should not sign over their dogs to animal control or animal welfare groups without speaking with an attorney. If you have been coerced into signing over your dogs through intimidation or threats you need to speak with an attorney.

False complaints are the mainstay of the animal rights movement. These individuals are using breeder listings and websites to glean their information. Do not assume that because you are doing everything appropriately, that you are safe from false complaints. There are many reports of hobbyists being visited by animal control and inspectors because of false complaints. Even though there were no findings of having done anything wrong, that information is now a public record.

A suggestion to all breeders that are dealing with the public and it is very simple. Start making a log of interactions of individuals that you come in contact with in regard to your dogs/kennels. Names, descriptions, who they brought with them, approx. ages, what you talked about, what they saw in your location, license plates if you notice. Don't sell a dog or puppy to an individual if something doesn't feel right. Trust your instincts.

Joy Brand—President

For additional information regarding your rights, visit these websites:

<http://www.salukiclub.org:80/LegislativeAwareness/whenACcomesknocking.html>
http://www.adoa.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=18&Itemid=54
<http://www.cfa.org/articles/legislative/fight-back.html>

City of Brookfield—Alert

NEXT MEETING TO CONSIDER PET LIMITS IS WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2008—7:00 PM in Council Chambers. City of Brookfield City Hall—2000 N. Calhoun Rd., Brookfield, WI

Despite testimony given by the Elmbrook Humane Society representative, as well as the Police Department Deputy Chief at the July 16, 2008 meeting that animal complaint statistics for the City of Brookfield do not warrant the implementation of pet limits in the community, the Legislative and Licensing committee have decided to proceed with the discussion of pet limits. There is at least one Alderman on the committee who will not rest until pet limits are enacted. In our favor there is one Alderman who seems to understand our position.

It is very important that the elected officials understand why limits do not work and will only affect responsible pet owners. These officials do not understand hobbyists nor those that foster for breed specific rescues. If you are a City of Brookfield resident, you need to make them understand—you are the expert in regards to dogs.

City of Brookfield Legislative and Licensing Committee—Alderman Steven Ponto, Chairman				
District 4, Wards 11-13: Steven V. Ponto 19755 Kilkee Ct. Brookfield, WI 53045 (262) 789-9877	District 5, Wards 14-17: Gary D. Mahkorn 18670 Le Chateau Dr. Brookfield, WI 53045 (262) 784-0605	District 2, Wards 4-6: Rick Owen 17700 Lisa Ln. Brookfield, WI 53045 (262) 790-9888	District 3, Wards 7-10: Ron Balzer 16425 Luella Dr. Brookfield, WI 53005 (262) 782-1177	District 1, Wards 1-3: Bill Carnell 3360 Cardinal Dr. Brookfield, WI 53005 (262) 781-1058

To contact other board members that are not on the committee, please go to the City of Brookfield website for their contact information. <http://www.ci.brookfield.wi.us/index.asp?nid=168>

If you write letters to the committee members, be sure to copy all of the City of Brookfield officials

It is vitally important that you check your local community government agendas on a weekly basis to determine if local authorities are trying to take away the possibility of owning the pets of your choice. ***Please notify doglaw "at" dfow "dot" org if your community is considering an animal ordinance change.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers for:

- Fund Raising**
- Community Education**
- Article Writing**
- Public Speaking at Dog Clubs**

We need stewards and judges for our "Show N Go" at WWCDTC in Ixonia on November 2, 2008.

**If you can devote a few hours of your time to help, please contact
DOGLAW "at" DFOW "dot" ORG**

Dog Federation of Wisconsin, Inc.

Application for Individual Membership

1) Name: _____
Last First M.I.

2) Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

3) Telephone: (_____) _____ E-mail: _____

Do you belong to any All-Breed, Specialty, or Obedience Clubs, or Humane or other dog organizations?
YES _____ NO _____ If YES, please explain: _____

Are you an appointed delegate to the DOG FEDERATION OF WISCONSIN, INC., by any club?
YES _____ NO _____ If YES, which club(s)? _____

6) Do you currently own a dog or dogs? YES _____ NO _____ If YES, which breed(s)? _____

7) Do you have any interests that could be helpful to the DOG FEDERATION OF WISCONSIN, INC.?

_____ Article Writing	_____ Lobbying	_____ Legal
_____ Education	_____ Printing	_____ Professional
_____ DFOW Newsletter	_____ Computer	_____ DFOW Booth
_____ Fundraising	_____ Research	_____ Public Speaking

Statement: Please accept my application for membership in the Dog Federation of Wisconsin.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Voting Memberships Only (\$25.00): Please have two members in good standing become acquainted with you OR have the secretary of the All-Breed, Specialty, or Obedience Clubs you belong to sign as a sponsor. You may email doglaw "at" dfow "dot" org if you do not personally know any DFOW members, or belong to any dog clubs.

Sponsor Statement: It is my belief that the above named person would be an asset to the DFOW; working to preserve our right to own dogs.

Name (Please print): _____ Organization: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name (Please print): _____ Organization: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

This application must be submitted to the Board of Directors of the DOG FEDERATION OF WISCONSIN, INC. with individual dues of \$25.00 for a Voting Membership, OR \$15 for Non-voting Membership. This membership fee is due annually by January 1st. If you join in the last two months of a year, you will not be subject to the next year's dues.

Make check payable to **DFOW** and mail to: Wendy Biewer, Treasurer, W825 Froelich Road, Sullivan, WI 53178

Relocating?

Not only do you need to check out animal ordinances within the municipality you are considering, you also need to check county and State ordinances regarding ZONING as well. Do not rely on the clerk's verbal comments to give you the information that you are seeking. You must research and read for yourself the existing codes as well as all community agendas and local newspapers from the past year so that you can determine if restrictive animal legislation is being considered by the community. Also note that MANY community websites have outdated information regarding their municipal code and have in fact instituted more restrictions on animal owners from when their website had been last updated.

Case in point, in August 2008, a resident of the Town of Geneva was visited by someone representing themselves as "animal control", because someone had reported the home owner for animal abuse and neglect. The animals were in perfect condition, but the home owner was notified that she was over the pet limit and had 72 hours to disburse all but four of her animals. The home owner believed that she had done her homework by looking up the local animal codes before buying the property. However, she did not look at the **County Zoning Code**. Hidden in the Walworth County code under ZONING was this little gem:

"Sec. 74-44. Pet and animal regulations.

(a) Household pets shall be permitted in all zoning districts; provided that not more than four dogs or four cats are kept on any one premises, and provided further that no animals, or pets are bred or reared on such premises for commercial purposes or sold therefrom. Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, offspring of permitted household pets may be kept and sold from the premises for a period of up to eight months."

Section 6 of the Walworth County Ordinances is about animals. No where in this section is there reference to animal limits. This is the section of the code dealing with dog licensing:

*"DIVISION 2. LICENSE**

**State law references: Dog license tax, Wis. Stats. § 174.05.*

Sec. 6-51. Required.

(a) A dog license is necessary for the keeping of any dog over five months of age in this county.

(b) A dog owner who violates this section may be required to forfeit not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$100.00 for the first offense and not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$200.00 for a subsequent offense.

(Ord. No. 90, 12-13-83)"

The State of Wisconsin provides for a multiple dog license that is available for anyone who owns more than one dog. The fee is \$35.00 per year for up to 12 dogs and after that, it costs \$3.00 per dog for additional dogs.

IF a county is going to institute animal limits, would it not be logical to state those limits within the ANIMAL CODE, rather than the ZONING CODE? Be very vigilant in doing your research if you are a hobbyist that is thinking of relocating.

NOTICE:

DFOW will be holding an Obedience and Rally "Show 'N Go" at Western Waukesha County Dog Training Club in Ixonia on November 2, 2008. The flyer is available at:

<http://www.dfow.org/2008ShowAndGoFlyer.pdf>

If your club would like to help dog owners at one of your events, we would provide you with master copies of DFOW literature, but they would have to pay for the cost of reproduction. Local clubs would also be responsible for the booth fee (if applicable) and supplying the volunteers to man the booth. Having a legislative booth may meet one of the AKC requirements that specialty clubs must meet in order to hold events.

Other ways that local clubs can help DFOW:

- ⇒ One large raffle item (or even an entire raffle) at an event with the proceeds going to DFOW.
 - ⇒ X amount of entry fees designated for DFOW.
- ⇒ Run through or match events with all or a portion of the fees going to DFOW.

Contact Tracey Johnston if your club would like to help DFOW. Due to automatic spam programs, we are forced to delete actual email addresses on our website. To contact Tracey, please delete the spaces and change the word "at" to a "@" and change the word "dot" to a "."
AldendaleESS "at" sbcglobal "dot" net

What DFOW can do for your club and members:

Provide a speaker to address your club to explain the animal rights agenda and how it effects all pet owners.

Provide materials that could be used to educate politicians.

Provide support, testimony and materials to help in local community matters.

Arrange seminars on how to correctly deal with public officials.

Provide details on how to make your community "pet friendly".

Is Your Candidate Dog-Friendly?

Does Your Candidate:

Support or Oppose

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Breed Specific Legislation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Legislation To End Insurance Discrimination |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Weight or Size Restrictions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pet Limit Laws |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Public Space Bans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mandatory Microchipping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mandatory or Breed Specific Spay/Neuter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | PAWS – Pet Animal Welfare Statute |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | NAIS – National Animal Identification System |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protecting Property Rights of Citizens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protecting Privacy Rights of Citizens |

Every Election Counts.

