

DND LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS INSTRUCTION

Annex B - Responsible Pet Ownership – Residential Housing Units

General

1.1 This annex provides direction to ensure that those who live in residential housing units (RHUs) engage in responsible pet ownership. It outlines the expected behaviours of occupants towards pets, and the conditions by which occupants and their pets must abide. The responsible pet ownership approach is founded on the good neighbour concept and humane treatment of animals to ensure that all members of the community feel safe and comfortable living in the quiet enjoyment of their community.

Application

1.2 Notwithstanding the application section of the Living Accommodation Instruction, this policy only applies in RHUs, which includes apartments and trailer pads.

Provincial/Territorial Legislation, Regulations and Municipal By-Laws

1.3 In the event of conflict between any policy statements contained in this annex and federal, provincial/ territorial legislation, regulations, or municipal bylaws, the legislation, regulations, or by-laws will prevail. Occupants of RHUs are expected to comply with all relevant federal, provincial, and territorial legislation, regulations, and municipal by-laws regarding responsible pet ownership.

Note – CAF members should be aware that their choices concerning the type and quantities of animals that they acquire while posted in one jurisdiction may create difficulty if posted/relocated to another.

Pet Owner Responsibilities

1.4 The DND supports responsible pet ownership based upon:

- a. providing appropriate physical care, socialization, training, and medical attention for pets;
- b. licencing and displaying identification tags for pets;
- c. spaying or neutering pets; and
- d. ensuring pets are not threats or nuisances to others in the community.

1.5 Subject to the discretion of the CFHA housing service centre (HSC) manager, minor issues pertaining to owner's responsibilities that do not require specific animal-related expertise may be resolved without the intervention of local animal control or law enforcement authorities. Unless otherwise provided, all other animal related issues and disagreements shall be reported to CFHA and will be escalated to the appropriate local animal control or law enforcement agency, and/or when unavailable, to the military police.

Acceptable Pets

1.6 Subject to applicable federal, provincial/territorial legislation, regulations and municipal by-laws, the pets listed in Table 1 are considered acceptable within all types of RHUs.

Table 1 – Acceptable Pets in RHUs

| ACCEPTABLE | Examples of Acceptable Pets |
|---|--|
| Amphibians except those that are venomous or poisonous | E.g. frogs, toads, newts, salamanders |
| Arachnids except those that are venomous or poisonous | E.g. spiders, scorpions |
| Birds born in captivity except pigeons and birds of prey | E.g. Finches, sparrows, parrots |
| Small caged mammals | E.g. African pigmy hedgehogs, hamsters, guinea pigs, mice, rats, rabbits, ferrets, gerbils and chinchillas |
| Cats (domestic) only | E.g. Maine Coon, Persian, Tabby |
| Dogs domestic, except those that are a restricted breed as per provincial/territorial legislation, regulations and municipal by-laws | E.g. Labrador Retriever, Chihuahua, Bernese Mountain Dog. |
| Fish or crustaceans of a size and type suitable for captivity within an aquarium with a volume of 20-gallons or less, except those that are venomous or poisonous. | E.g. Betta Fish, Fancy Guppy, Angelfish |
| Reptiles born in captivity except those that are venomous or poisonous or which can exceed 1m in length at maturity. | E.g. Geckos, Kenyan Sand Boa, turtles, and tortoises |

Note – All amphibians, arachnids, birds, reptiles and insects must be kept in an unbreachable cage, terrarium or aquarium. Insects used for feeding are exempt.

Prohibited Pets

1.7 Notwithstanding Table 1 Acceptable Pets, and subject to restrictions found in any applicable federal, provincial/territorial legislation, regulations and municipal by-laws, the Table 2 identifies prohibited pets within RHUs.

Table 2 – Prohibited Pets

| | PROHIBITED | Examples: |
|----------------|--|---|
| Mammals | All Artiodactyla | E.g. cattle, goats, sheep, pigs including minipigs and pot-bellied pigs |
| | All Canidae except domesticated dogs (canis lupus familiaris) | E.g. coyotes, wolves, foxes, and hybrid wolf dogs |

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|-----------------|--|---|
| | All Chiroptera | E.g. bats |
| | All Edentates | E.g. anteaters, sloths, and armadillos |
| | All Erinaceidae except the African pigmy Hedgehog | E.g. Hedgehogs and Moonrats |
| | All Felidae except domestic cats (felis catus) | E.g. tigers, leopards, cougars, servals and wildcats |
| | All Hyaenidae | E.g. hyenas |
| | All Lagomorpha except rabbits | E.g. hares and pikas |
| | All Marsupials | E.g. kangaroos, opossums, and wallabies |
| | All Mephitidae | E.g. skunks and stink badgers |
| | All Mustelidae except ferrets | E.g. mink, weasels, otters, and badgers |
| | All Pinnipeds | E.g. seals, fur seals, and walruses |
| | All Primates | E.g. apes, monkeys, and prosimians |
| | All Perissodactyla | E.g. horses, donkeys, jackasses, and mules |
| | All Proboscidae | E.g. elephants |
| | All Procyonidae | E.g. raccoons, coatimundi, and cacomistles |
| | All Rodentia except hamsters, guinea pigs, domesticated mice & rats, chinchillas, and gerbils | E.g. beavers, squirrels, porcupines, chipmunks, prairie dogs, groundhogs, and gophers |
| | All Ursidae | E.g. bears |
| | All Viverridae | E.g. such as mongooses, civets, and genets |
| Birds | All Anseriformes | E.g. ducks, geese, swans, and screamers |
| | All Columbidae | E.g. pigeons and doves |
| | All Galliformes | E.g. chickens, pheasants, grouse, guinea fowls, and turkeys |
| | All Gruiformes | E.g. cranes and rails |
| | All Phoenicopteriformes | E.g. flamingos |
| | All Sphenisciformes | E.g. penguins |
| | All Struthioniformes | E.g. flightless ratites such as ostriches, rheas, cassowaries, emus, and kiwis |
| | All Birds of Prey | E.g. hawks, eagles, buzzards, vultures, owls, falcons, harriers, and kites |
| Reptiles | All Crocodylia | E.g. alligators, crocodiles, and caimans |
| | All venomous and poisonous Snakes. | E.g. Cottonmouth, vipers, copperheads |

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|--------------|--|---|
| | All non-venomous Snakes which reach an adult length of 1m or greater at maturity. Note: These are prohibited regardless of what length the snake is currently. | E.g. Boa Constrictor, and Eastern Milk Snake |
| | All venomous or poisonous Lizards. | E.g. Gila Monster, Mexican Bearded Lizard |
| | All non-venomous lizards which reach an adult length of 1m or greater at maturity. Note: These are prohibited regardless of what length the lizard is currently. | E.g. komodo dragons, iguanas, and water monitor lizard |
| Other | All protected or endangered species whether native or non-native species. | E.g. Whooping Crane, Leatherback Turtle, Eastern Tiger Salamander |
| | All Insects (except those used for feeding), including bees | E.g. Cockroaches, bees & beehives, crickets |
| | All venomous and poisonous animals, even if de-venomized | E.g. Tarantula, and poison dart frog |

Note – Animals and insects not listed in the above are considered prohibited until such time as they are reviewed by the policy issuing authority. Requests for amendments to the acceptable animals list are to be submitted to CMP or ADM(IE) via the respective L1.

Quantity of Pets and Enclosures

1.8 Subject to applicable federal, provincial/territorial legislation, regulations and municipal by-laws, the quantity and types of animals in any type of RHU, including apartments and trailer pads, are as follows:

- a. Up to a maximum of six non-aquatic pets as follows:
 - i. Up to two dogs and/or up to four cats to a maximum combined total of four;
 - ii. Up to four pets in two cages or terrariums, which must be of an appropriate size for the quantity and type of pet(s) to a maximum volume of 6.75 cubic metres/240 cubic feet total; and
- b. One 20-gallon aquarium with water, to contain a quantity of aquatic pets appropriate for the size of the aquarium.

Note 1 – Pets are to be in accordance with acceptable pet list at Section 9.

Note 2 – Some limits are set to conform to the number of pets that can be moved to any location in Canada and to prevent damage to an RHU.

Note 3 – In the event of a pet giving birth causing the occupant to exceed the quantity of pets allowed, a grace period of up to 16 weeks (4 months) applies to provide sufficient time to find new homes for all excess pets. Occupants are encouraged to start looking for new homes for their pets during the pregnancy period to avoid any excess to the quantity of pets allowed in an RHU. Neither the DND nor the CFHA have any responsibility in finding homes for pets. Any perceived breeding (meaning intentional pregnancy or

pregnancy due to negligence in keeping potential mates apart) constitutes an infraction or violation in accordance with paragraph 1.22 of this Annex.

Service Dogs and Emotional Support Animals

1.9 Service Dogs are recognized disability supports as prescribed by medical clinicians, and thus are not pets; the restriction on quantity of pets in Section 7 does not apply to Service Dogs, nor do Service Dogs count towards the quantity of pets.

1.10 Notwithstanding the exception described above, occupants who possess a service dog must inform the CFHA and may be requested to provide documentation to demonstrate that their animal is trained for a specific medical purpose as prescribed by a clinician. DAOD 2005-0 *Service Dogs* and DAOD 2005-1 *Service Dog Access to Defence Establishments* provide information about Service Dog access to work locations.

1.11 Emotional support animals are not currently regulated nor have any defined legal status, and lack the specialized training required of a service or therapy dog trained for that purpose. As such, emotional support animals are to be administered as pets and are subject to policies concerning pets in RHUs.

Licensing and Registration

1.12 All pets over the age of six (6) months must be licenced or registered when required by federal, provincial/territorial legislation, regulations and municipal by-laws in the location where they reside. It is the pet owner's responsibility to provide proof of licensing or registration when requested. All associated costs are the responsibility of the occupant.

Vaccination

1.13 All pets must be vaccinated when required by applicable federal, provincial/territorial legislation, regulations, and municipal by-laws where they reside. It is the pet owner's responsibility to ensure that vaccinations are current, and that documentation can be provided upon request. Dogs and cats are required to wear a collar or harness with valid vaccination(s) and owner contact information whenever the pet is outdoors. All associated costs are the responsibility of the pet's owner.

Pet Health, Wellness, and Animal Abuse

1.14 Occupants are expected to provide for the needs of their pets and ensure a reasonable quality of life for pets under their care, control, and ownership.

1.15 If CAF members, DND employees, CFHA employees or contractors, or members of the community suspect an animal in an RHU is being mistreated in any way, they are expected to immediately report such concerns to a local animal control agency or law enforcement authorities, or if they are unavailable, to the military police. In addition, the CFHA HSC manager must be made aware of reported mistreatment as soon as possible for tracking and oversight purposes.

Control of Pets

1.16 Occupants of RHUs must ensure that pets are appropriately restrained in accordance with federal, provincial/territorial legislation, regulations and municipal by-

laws where they reside, when traversing the community, or anywhere else on DND property.

1.17 No occupant may leave a pet outdoors unsupervised except if the pet is restrained by an enclosure that cannot reasonably be scaled, opened, or otherwise breached by the pet or a child. Occupants without such enclosures must use a tether or leash to ensure positive control of the pet and must be present to supervise the animal. In all cases, tethers, leashes, or enclosures must effectively prevent a pet from accessing adjacent sidewalks, housing units and yards. In addition, the enclosure, leash, or tether must not cause distress to the pet and the area in which the pet is restrained must be free of debris or dangers. Tethers must not be affixed to DND provided infrastructure (such as house railings, gas metres, power distribution boxes, etc.) and must not pose any risk to DND assets nor the health of the pet.

1.18 When DND employees or contractors are present at an RHU, occupants must ensure that all pets are restrained in such a way as to safely permit the work to occur or access to the property as required.

1.19 Other than when inside marked leash-free areas, any pet that is not appropriately restrained will be considered as roaming at-large and may be seized and impounded by local animal control or law enforcement authorities. Occupants, whose pets are not under positive control, or otherwise appropriately restrained, will be reported to a local animal control agency or law enforcement authorities. Such matters may constitute an infraction or violation (as per Annex C Residential Housing Units - Violation Management) and may be recorded in the occupant's housing record on file. If a local animal control agency or law enforcement authority cannot respond in a timely manner, the military police will be called.

Note – Enclosures are not provided by the CFHA and permission must be sought from the local HSC to construct any enclosures. Enclosures must meet the standards of construction expected by the CFHA.

Pet Waste

1.20 The occupant is responsible for ensuring that the grounds around their RHU is kept clear of pet waste so as not to create a nuisance nor a health concern. Therefore, occupants must immediately remove excrement left by their pets anywhere on the DND premises/property and dispose of it and all other pet waste by following applicable federal, provincial/territorial legislation, regulations and municipal by-laws.

Excessive Noise from Pets

1.21 The occupant is responsible for making sure that their pets do not disturb the peace and tranquility of the neighbourhood. Therefore, no occupant will keep any pet which they know makes excessive noise. Complaints relating to excessive noise may result in an infraction notice, or a violation, as applicable.

Breeding of Pets

1.22 Breeding of pets is prohibited in RHUs. In the event of unexpected pregnancy, or adoption/fostering of a pet that is pregnant, refer to Note – 3 within para 1.8 of this annex for details concerning any grace-period to the maximum quantity of pets in an RHU.

Pet Related Home-Based Businesses

1.23 Subject to applicable federal, provincial/territorial legislation, regulations and municipal by-laws, and with the approval of the CFHA HSC manager and the base/wing commander, the occupant may be allowed a pet related home-based businesses in accordance with para 8.9 of the *DND Living Accommodations Instruction*.

Pet Attacks

1.24 Pet attacks and bites create the potential for liability to the owner or anyone who has a pet under their care. Pet owners are responsible to understand and follow federal, provincial/territorial legislation, regulations and municipal by-laws that govern the possession of pets in the location where they reside. Any animal, suspected of having bitten or attacked someone, may be seized and/or quarantined in accordance with this legislation, regulations and municipal by-laws.

Aggressive Dogs

1.25 Occupants may not have dogs in RHUs that demonstrate aggressive behaviour. Aggressive behaviour can include, but is not limited to, growling, biting and snapping at people or other dogs without provocation. In addition, any animal deemed by local animal control or law enforcement authorities to be sufficiently uncontrollable and that poses a danger may be deemed an aggressive dog. In situations where local animal control or law enforcement authorities are not able or are not willing to determine if a dog is aggressive in a timely manner, the military police, appropriate base/wing authorities or the CFHA HSC manager may deem a dog to be aggressive after considering the behaviours described above.

1.26 Animals deemed aggressive are the responsibility of the occupant and must be removed from the RHU by the deadline outlined in the infraction notice. Until such time as the animal is removed, animals deemed aggressive must be kept under strict control of an adult at all times when outside the RHU. Failure to remove an aggressive dog from the premises by the deadline outlined in an infraction notice will be considered a violation.

1.27 In addition, any dog displaying aggressive behaviour may be seized by an appropriate local animal control agency or law enforcement authority or ordered removed from RHU by the military police, appropriate base/wing authorities or the CFHA HSC manager if it poses an immediate or unreasonable risk to others, or when an occupant has failed to remove the aggressive dog.

Injuries/Damage Caused by Pets

1.28 The occupant will, in addition to the pet's owner, be held legally responsible for any injuries or damage caused by a pet. These damages include but are not limited to any work that is required to restore the RHU to its move-in condition as agreed upon at the **1.29** Non-compliance may result in administrative action, disciplinary action, or financial responsibility as applicable. Non-compliance may also constitute an infraction and/or violation (as per Annex C Residential Housing Units - Violation Management).

Note – For greater certainty, no other action against an occupant (e.g. charged with a crime, fined by local authorities, etc.) precludes DND authorities from taking appropriate action against an occupant for the same matter.

Additional Prohibitions, Restrictions and Exceptions

1.30 A level one advisor or commander of a command may recommend through the Chief of Military Personnel (CMP) that this policy's Issuing Authorities approve additional prohibitions, restrictions, or exceptions applicable to occupants of a defence establishment. Such requests must be particular to specific command environments, activities, or operations to mitigate a specific safety hazard, or deficiency. Any request submitted to CMP must specify the specific restrictions, prohibitions, or exception sought, provide a detailed rationale for the request, and any other contextually relevant information.

1.31 Any enforcement of approved additional prohibitions will be the responsibility of the appropriate level one advisor or commander of a command unless otherwise indicated.