



BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE NEW JERSEY



ORDINANCE NO. 07-2026

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTERS 89 "DOGS" AND 126 "PEACE AND GOOD ORDER" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERDALE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Riverdale, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 89, "Dogs", Section 89-6 shall be re-entitled "Injury to Person or Property" and amended to read, in its entirety, as follows:

§89-6 Injury to Person or Property

Any person owning, keeping, or harboring any domestic animal shall maintain control of the domestic animal and prevent that animal from causing any injury to any person or property including damage to any lawn, shrubbery, flowers, grounds or other property.

Section 2. Chapter 89, "Dogs", Section 89-7, "Violations and Penalties" shall be amended to read, in its entirety, as follows:

§89-7 Violations and Penalties

Any person found guilty of violating or failing to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter except Section 89-5 shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000 for each violation or imprisonment for a term not to exceed 90 days, or both. The penalty for a violation of Section 89-5 shall be a fine of \$75.00 for the first offense, \$100.00 for the second offense, and \$150.00 for the third and any subsequent offense.

Section 3. Chapter 126, "Peace and Good Order", shall be amended by the inclusion of new Section 126-5 which shall be entitled "Unnecessary Domestic Animal Noise or Nuisance Barking" which shall read, in its entirety, as follows:

§126-5 Unnecessary Domestic Animal Noise or Nuisance Barking

No person shall keep within the Borough any dog or other domestic animal, causing a nuisance and disturbing the peace and quiet of the neighborhood in which it shall be kept by chronically, howling, barking, or making and causing other sounds or noises particularly between the hours of 10 pm and 7 am. It should be unlawful for any property owner or tenant to allow any domesticated or caged animal to create a sound across a real property line which unreasonably disturbs or interferes with the peace, comfort and repose of any resident or to refuse or intentionally fail to cease the unreasonable noise when ordered to do so by the Police or Animal Control. Prima facie evidence of a violation of this section shall include, but not limited to:

1. Vocalizing, howling, yelping, barking, squawking, etc. for ten minutes without interruption defined as an average of four or more vocalizations per minute in that period; or
2. Vocalizing for 20 minutes intermittently, defined as an average of two vocalizations or more per minute in that period.

It's an affirmative defense under the section that the dog or other animal was intentionally provoked to bark or make any other noise.



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Section 4. If any section or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid in any Court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect the other sections or provisions of this Ordinance, except so far as the section or provision so declared invalid shall be inseparable from the remainder or any portion thereof.

Section 5. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances which are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 6. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage and publication in the manner provided by law.

Adopted this 24 day of June, 2026


Abubakar Jalloh, Borough Clerk


Paul M. Carelli, Mayor

NOTICE OF PENDING ORDINANCE

The ordinance published herewith was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the governing body of the Borough of Riverdale, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, held on June 24, 2026. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the governing body to be held at Borough Hall, in the Borough on July 22, 2026 at 7:30 o'clock p.m., and during the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting, copies of said ordinance will be made available at the Clerk's office to the members of the general public who shall request the same.

Abubakar Jalloh, Borough Clerk