

YOUR BARKING DOG

If you ever wonder if your dog's bark is worse than her proverbial bite, the answer may be no further than your next-door neighbor.

Some canine behavior problems, such as house soiling, affect only a dog's family. But problems such as excessive barking can result in neighborhood disputes and violations of animal control ordinances, and that means problems with your pet can soon become "people problems."



Learn Why Your Dog Barks

If your dog's "talkative nature" has created tension with your neighbor, then it is a good idea to discuss the problem with them. It's perfectly normal and reasonable for dogs to bark from time to time, just as children make noise when they play outside. But **continual barking** for long periods of time is a symptom of a problem that needs to be addressed – from the perspective of your neighbors and your dog.

First determine when and for how long your dog barks and what causes her to bark. You may need to do some clever detective work to obtain this information, especially if the barking occurs when you're not home. Ask your neighbors what they see and hear, drive or walk around the block and watch and listen for a while, or start a tape/video recorder when you leave your house. With some effort you should be able to find out which of the common problems, is the cause of your dog's barking

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Las Cruces Animal Control is to ensure the well being of both animal and residents of our community by delivering high quality, responsive and cost effective animal control service. Our mission is accomplished by enforcing animal control laws while providing compassionate service to animals and their owners.

LAS CRUCES ANIMAL CONTROL

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City of Las Cruces
Animal Control

LOUD ANIMAL NUISANCE



Sec. 7-15 Nuisance



City of Las Cruces Animal Control
Chapter 7 Sec. 7-15 Nuisance

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any owner of any animal, either willfully or neglectfully, to fail to exercise due care or control that permits such animal to cause damage or be a nuisance to the person or property of another. Any animal may be impounded by the animal control officer when the animal contravenes any section of this Code.
- (b) It shall be termed a nuisance to keep an animal that causes frequent or long-continued noise which disturbs the comfort and repose of any person of ordinary sensibilities in the vicinity.
- (c) No person shall keep or harbor any animal, which howls, barks or makes excessive noise in violation of this section.
- It shall constitute a violation of this section if the howling, barking or noise occurs continually and is audible beyond the property line of the premises on which the animal is located:
- (1) For more than 15 minutes between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., and is attested to by complainants from two or more separate properties;
 - (2) For more than 15 minutes between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., and is attested to by complainants from two or more separate properties;
 - (3) For more than 15 minutes between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., or for more than 15 minutes between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., and is attested to by an animal control officer or law enforcement officer.
 - (d) In order to abate the nuisance created by the animal howling, barking or making noise in violation of this section, animal control officers may enter the yard and may seize any such animal from the yard where the violation is occurring if the officer is unable to contact the owner or if the owner is unable or unwilling to take action to stop the howling, barking or noise.
 - (e) Complaints may be filed in the municipal court by any citizen affected by an incident classified a nuisance.

