

LOWNDES COUNTY PET SHOP ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LOWNDES COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FOR THE CARE AND CONTROL OF ANIMALS WITHIN LOWNDES COUNTY, REGULATING PET SHOPS, PROMOTING THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE CITIZENS OF LOWNDES COUNTY, PROVIDING PENALTIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

I. TITLE

This Ordinance shall be known as the “Lowndes County Pet Shop Ordinance.”

II. PURPOSE AND INTENT

Together with the purposes set forth in the Preamble, the purpose of this Ordinance is to provide for the humane treatment of Animals by regulating the care and control of Animals within the unincorporated areas of Lowndes County, by regulating Pet Shops, and other matters set forth herein, and to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of Lowndes County.

III. DEFINITIONS

When used in this Ordinance, the following words, terms, and phrases, and their derivations, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

- (a) *Animal* means any live creature, both domestic and wild, except humans. Animal also includes birds, fish, and reptiles.
- (b) *Animal Care Facility* means a facility, maintained by or under contract with any state, county, or municipality, whose mission and practice is, in whole or in significant part, the rescue and placement of Animals in permanent homes or with Animal Rescue Organizations.
- (c) *Animal Rescue Organization* means any not-for-profit organization which has tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, whose mission and practice is, in whole or in significant part, the rescue and placement of animals in permanent homes.
- (d) *Animal Services* means the Animal Services Department of Lowndes County.
- (e) *Animal Services Officer* means an employee of Animal Services designated to administer and enforce the provisions and requirements contained within this Ordinance.
- (f) *Animal Shelter* means the Lowndes County Animal Shelter where Animals impounded.
- (g) *Board* means Board of Commissioners of Lowndes County, Georgia.