

## SECTION 5 –QUARANTINE PROCEDURES FOR ANIMALS

### 5.1 RABIES QUARANTINE:

- a) When Animal Control has probable cause to believe that the owner of an animal that has bitten a human has been identified, the owner, if any, will be required to produce the animal for ten (10) days confinement at the owner's expense.
- b) Refusal to produce said animal constitutes a violation of this Section.
- c) The ten (10) day observation period begins on the day the animal is produced for quarantine.

6

- d) The animal must be placed in an animal control facility or a veterinary hospital approved for that purpose by the Texas Department of State Health Services.
- e) However, the owner of the animal may request permission from the Animal Control Officer for home quarantine if the following criteria can be met:
  - 1) The animal was on the property of its owner at the time of the attack;
  - 2) A secure facility is available at the residence of the animal's owner which is approved by the Animal Control Officer;
  - 3) The animal's vaccination is current along with a current Comal County license, as registered with the Animal Control Office;
  - 4) The animal must be observed on at least the first and the last day of the quarantine period by either the Animal Control Officer or, at the owner's expense, a licensed veterinarian of the owner's choice; and
  - 5) If the animal becomes ill during the observation period, the Animal Control Officer must be notified immediately by the owner or a licensed veterinarian having possession of the animal.

**5.2 HUMANE DESTRUCTION:** If the biting animal cannot be maintained in a secure quarantine or if the owner chooses not to pay for the quarantine, the animal shall be humanely destroyed, and the brain shall be submitted to a Texas Department of State Health Services - certified laboratory for rabies diagnosis, at the owner's expense.

**5.3 WILD ANIMALS:** No wild animals will be placed in quarantine. All wild animals involved in biting incidents shall be humanely killed in such a manner that the brain is not mutilated and the brain shall be submitted to a Texas Department of State Health Services - certified laboratory for rabies diagnosis.

### 5.4 PENALTY FOR VIOLATION:

- a) Any person who violated a provision of this Section may be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
- b) Each day an animal is not produced for quarantine shall constitute a separate offense.