

ANIMAL AND FOWL ORDINANCE CHANGES (EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2013)

- Douglas is a bird and wildlife sanctuary, which means within the city limits, it is unlawful to trap, hunt, molest or kill any bird or rob any bird's nest. However, if the birds are considered a "nuisance" then the birds will be destroyed as humanely as possible as deemed advisable by the City Manager.
- It shall be unlawful to trap, hunt, molest or kill any other wild game in the city limits except by order of the City Manager.
- Definitions have been added to the Animal Control Ordinance to define abandoned animals, proper shelter, enclosures, dangerous dogs, potential dangerous dogs, and vicious dogs.
- It is unlawful for an owner to restrain an animal by means of tether, chain, cable, rope or cord, unless the tether or other restraint is being held by a competent person. An exception shall be made for the limited purpose of allowing the owner to temporarily restrain the animal by such means to allow the animal's needs to be met, such as the time necessary to clean the animal's living quarters, feed, and water.
- There are new guidelines for the trainers of protection or guard dogs and back yard breeders (kennels).
- Animal Control now has the power to enforce penalties on owners and confiscate animals of owners who are in violation of the new ordinances.



For more information on the Animal and Fowl Ordinance, please go to www.cityofdouglas.com and click on Code of Ordinance, or call Public Works at (912)389-3450.