

# LEON COUNTY

## DIVISION OF ANIMAL CONTROL



### **Leon County Ordinance** **Sec. 4-76. - Rabies Vaccination Required.**

- (a) *Frequency; exception.* Every ferret, dog and cat four months of age or older shall be vaccinated against rabies with a U.S. government-approved vaccine. Each animal shall be required to be vaccinated no more frequently than the effective period of the approved vaccine used. Such vaccination is excused only if a licensed veterinarian certifies in writing that a vaccination would be injurious to the ferret's, dog's or cat's health. In such case, the ferret, dog or cat shall be confined in an enclosed building or kennel until the ferret, dog or cat can be safely vaccinated.
- (b) *Proof of vaccination; tags.* Proof of vaccination shall consist of a rabies vaccination certificate signed by the licensed veterinarian administering the vaccination and a rabies vaccination tag. The rabies vaccination tag shall be displayed around the ferret's, dog's or cat's neck at all times. A rabies vaccination certificate and a rabies vaccination tag issued for one ferret, dog or cat shall be not valid for any other ferret, dog or cat. Rabies vaccinations by a licensed veterinarian outside of the county shall be recognized as current rabies vaccinations in the county throughout the duration of the vaccine used.
- (c) *Removal of tag.* It is unlawful for any person to remove the rabies vaccination tag of any currently vaccinated ferret, dog or cat unless:
- (1) The ferret, dog or cat is participating in any organized exhibition or field trial, or is training for these events, or is engaged in a legal sport under competent supervision; or
  - (2) A licensed veterinarian directs in writing that the rabies vaccination tag be removed for reasons of the ferret's, dog's or cat's health. In such event, the ferret, dog or cat shall be confined until the veterinarian permits the tag again to be placed on the ferret, dog or cat; or
  - (3) The animal is securely confined.
- (d) *Display of proof.* It is unlawful for the owner of a ferret, dog or cat to refuse to show proof of current vaccination of such ferret, dog or cat by the end of the next business day if such information is requested by the director of animal control, any animal control officer or the Department of Health or its designee.
- (e) *Rabies information to go to county.* Any veterinarian administering a rabies vaccination to a ferret, dog or cat within the county shall furnish the information contained therein to the division of animal control or to the Department of Health or its designee upon request.