

**State of Connecticut  
Regulation of  
Department of Agriculture  
Concerning  
Kennels, Pet Shops, Grooming Facilities, Training Facilities, Animal Importers, and  
Animal Shelters.**

**Section 1. The Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies are amended by adding sections 22-344-32 to 22-344-90, inclusive, as follows:**

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-32. Definitions. As used in this section and sections 22-344-33 to 22-344-90 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies:**

- (1) “CFR” means the Code of Federal Regulations;
- (2) “Clean” means the thorough removal of organic material and debris;
- (3) “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Agriculture;
- (4) “Department” means the Department of Agriculture;
- (5) “Disinfect” means a process that will eliminate pathogens (including Canine parvovirus) in a given area through the treatment of a clean surface with an approved chemical following the manufacturer’s label directions, or by the application of hot water of at least 180 degrees F (82.2 degrees C); and
- (6) “Primary enclosure” means any structure or device used to restrict an animal or animals to a limited amount of space, such as a room, pen, cage, or compartment.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-33. Condition of Commercial Kennel Facilities.**

(a) Facilities for housing dogs and cats shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to prevent injury to the dogs and cats, to contain the dogs and cats and to restrict the entrance of other animals.

(b) Outdoor group exercise areas for dogs, if provided, shall: 1) have adequate drainage, 2) have proper fencing, with a minimum height of six (6) feet, to prevent escape of any dog, and 3) be kept in a safe and sanitary condition. The surface of outdoor group exercise areas shall be kept in a sanitary condition. The surface of outdoor group exercise areas shall be replaced when necessary in order to maintain a sanitary condition.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-34. Commercial Kennel Facilities Walls, Ceilings, and Floors.**

Commercial kennel walls and floors shall be constructed of impervious surfaces, including, but not limited to, tile, sealed cement or concrete block treated with epoxy paint, that can be cleaned and disinfected. Ceilings shall be kept clean and free of accumulated dust and debris.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-35. Commercial Kennel Facilities Runs, Inside Primary Enclosures and Exercise areas.**

- (a) All primary enclosures for dogs and cats shall be indoors.
- (b) Primary enclosures for each dog shall be of sufficient size and design as to allow each dog to stand, sit, lie down, turn around, and make other normal postural adjustments without obstruction, interference, or impediment by the presence of food, water bowls, equipment, or other animals, unless different space requirements are medically required by a Connecticut licensed veterinarian, and shall meet the following minimum space criteria:
- (1) For dogs weighing not more than twenty-five pounds, five square feet per dog; for dogs weighing more than twenty-five pounds but not more than forty-five pounds, nine square feet per dog; and for dogs weighing over forty-five pounds, sixteen square feet per dog; or
  - (2) Provide space equal to or more than the space requirements for dogs pursuant to 9 CFR 3.6(a)(2)(xi) and 9 CFR 3.8(c)(1)(iii), as amended from time to time.
  - (3) Dogs shall not share a same primary enclosure, except dams or foster dams and their puppies, or dogs owned by the same individual, with the owner's written consent.
- (c) Exercise areas for dogs shall meet the following minimum criteria:
- (1) Inside or outside runs shall be provided and shall be not less than thirty-six inches wide for a dog weighing not more than forty-five pounds; forty-eight inches wide for a dog weighing more than forty-five pounds. The minimum length of runs shall be ten feet;
  - (2) Two times the area provided for in subsection (b)(2) of this section if individually housed; or
  - (3) An area equal to the number of dogs multiplied by the area provided for in subsection (b)(2) of this section, if housed as a group.
- (d) Primary enclosures for cats shall meet the following minimum criteria:
- (1) Each primary enclosure for housing cats shall be at least 24 inches high;
  - (2) Each cat shall be provided with a total of at least eight (8.0) square feet of useable space, on one or more levels accessible to the cat. The minimum space required by this subsection shall not include the space occupied by litter, food or water pans;
  - (3) Any cat with nursing kittens shall be provided with an additional amount of floor space equivalent to at least five (5) percent of the minimum requirement in subsection (d)(2) for the cat multiplied by the number of nursing kittens;
  - (4) All primary enclosures shall contain a receptacle with sufficient clean litter for to absorb excreta and body wastes; and
  - (5) Each primary enclosure for cats shall contain an elevated resting surface that, in the aggregate, is large enough to hold all the occupants of the primary enclosure at the same time comfortably.
- (e) Whenever dogs or cats are kept in groups the following shall apply:
- (1) Females in heat (estrus) shall not be kept with males, except for breeding purposes;
  - (2) Any dog or cat exhibiting a vicious or aggressive disposition shall be kept separately; and
  - (3) Puppies or kittens 4 months of age or less shall not be kept with adult dogs or cats other than their dams or foster dams.
- (f) Commercial kennels which keep dogs only during daytime hours shall comply with the following space requirements for primary enclosures and exercise areas:
- (1) Subsections (b) and (c) of this section; or
  - (2) Subsection (c)(3) of this section.
  - (3) In all events, subsection (e) of this section shall be complied with.

(g) Any dog or cat that has or is suspected of having a contagious disease shall be isolated from and have no nose to nose contact with healthy animals. Any dog or cat that has or is suspected of having a contagious disease shall be examined, treated and handled as directed by a Connecticut licensed veterinarian.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-36. Commercial Kennel Facilities Ventilation, Temperature.**

A commercial kennel shall meet the following minimum standards with respect to indoor ventilation and temperature:

(a) A commercial kennel shall provide mechanical ventilation sufficient to maintain healthy air quality, and adequate ambient conditions necessary to minimize odor, ammonia levels, disease transmission risk, and unnecessary stress on the dogs and cats; and

(b) A commercial kennel shall provide a mechanical heating and cooling system of appropriate design and capacity, to maintain an indoor ambient temperature of between fifty-five (55) and eighty (80) degrees Fahrenheit, unless other temperatures are medically required by a Connecticut licensed veterinarian.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-37. Commercial Kennel Facilities Sanitation.**

(a) All buildings, grounds, runs, pens, primary enclosures, exercise areas and any place where dogs or cats are kept shall be maintained in a sanitary manner to minimize the harborage, breeding or attraction of insects or vermin. Trash and food containers shall be kept closed or covered when not in use.

(b) All removable resting surfaces, furniture-type fixtures, equipment or objects within the facility shall be constructed in a manner or made of materials that allow them to be cleaned and disinfected, or removed or replaced when worn or soiled.

(c) Excreta and all food waste shall be removed as often as necessary, but at a minimum, at least once daily, from all runs, primary enclosures, and exercise areas. Runs and all hard surfaces shall be clean and disinfected, and maintained in a sanitary manner. Excreta and all food waste shall be disposed of in a sanitary manner.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-38. Commercial Kennel Records, Health Requirements.**

(a) Commercial kennels shall maintain records of all dogs and cats for two (2) years with at least the following minimum information:

(1) name and address of owner or person responsible for animal, the date of entry, and the date of release;

(2) description of animal including breed, sex, age and color marking;

(3) veterinary care if provided, which shall include date, times, name and dosage of medication provided, and name of person administering product or procedure; and

(4) proof of current rabies vaccination and town license for dogs.

(b) The records required by subsection (a) shall be maintained at the commercial kennel, and shall be readily available for inspection by any designated agent of the commissioner.

(c) Each commercial kennel shall have on file at their place of business, a written emergency plan describing procedures for both natural and man-made disasters such as a fire, flood, extreme weather conditions, power failure or utility disruptions and chemical or toxic spills. The emergency plan shall include procedures for training staff about disaster preparedness, staff's specific responsibilities during a disaster, relocation process (if appropriate), and contacting appropriate emergency response agencies and owners of animals in the care and custody of the licensee.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-39 --- Sec. 22-344-44. Reserved.**

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-45. Pet Shop Structural Standards.**

The facilities for housing animals shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to prevent injury to the animals. All buildings, premises, and surfaces that come in contact with animals shall be maintained in a sanitary manner. Equipment shall be available for the proper storage or disposal of waste material to control vermin, insects and noxious odors. Pet shops shall take effective measures to control and prevent the infestation of animals or premises with external parasites, insects, and vermin. The burning of any excreta, bedding or debris on the premises is prohibited.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-46. Pet Shop Enclosures.**

(a) Enclosures for all animals shall be suited to the species of animals, structurally sound and maintained in good repair to protect animals from injury and escape. Enclosures shall be constructed and maintained so as to enable the animals to remain clean and dry when appropriate for the species. All animals shall be kept in proper enclosures except when cleaning said enclosures, exhibiting animals, and providing veterinary care. Birds acclimated to open perches shall be exempt from the enclosure requirement.

(b) Walls and floors of enclosures shall be constructed of nonabsorbent, nonporous materials impervious to moisture. If wire or grid flooring is used it must be made of galvanized, stainless steel, or plastic coated wire and be of adequate gauge to support the animal(s) without sagging and to prevent the animals' feet from passing through the openings. Enclosures in current use shall be cleaned and disinfected daily or more, if necessary, to maintain a sanitary condition.

(c) Enclosures shall be designed and constructed as to provide adequate physical comfort to the animals. Each animal must be provided with sufficient space to turn about freely and easily stand, sit or lie in a comfortable natural position. Animals that are group housed must be maintained in compatible groups. No female dog or cat in season (estrus) shall be housed in the same primary enclosure with male animals.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-47. Pet Shop Housing Facilities Temperatures, Ventilation.**

(a) Pet shops shall be sufficiently heated and cooled to protect animals from the heat and cold, and to provide for their health and comfort at all times. The temperature of the air surrounding animals shall be maintained, under normal conditions, at a minimum of 65 degrees F and a maximum of 78 degrees F, except for those species of animals which require higher temperatures. Animals shall be provided protection from the direct rays of the sun.

(b) Housing for animals shall be adequately ventilated in such a manner as to minimize drafts, offensive odors and moisture condensation and to provide for the health and comfort of the animals at

all times. Ventilation shall be deemed adequate only if mechanical ventilation, such as exhaust fans, exhaust vents or air conditioning is provided and operating properly.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-48. Pet Shop Lighting.**

Pet shop facilities housing animals shall have ample well distributed light by natural or artificial means, or both, providing a minimum of 30 lumens for a minimum of eight hours in each twenty-four hour period, except where contraindicated for health reasons. Enclosures shall be so placed as to protect animals from excessive illumination except for those species which require it.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-49. Pet Shop Animal Health.**

(a) Animals shall be provided with food that is wholesome, palatable, free from contamination, and of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to maintain animals in good health. Animals, other than certain reptiles which according to normal husbandry practices for their species are not fed at least once daily, must be fed at least once a day, including Sundays and holidays, except as dictated by hibernation, veterinary treatment, normal fasts, or other professionally recognized accepted practices. In the case of immature animals, they shall be fed at least two times per day, except when continuous self-feeders are provided. Feeding pans shall be disinfected daily. Self-feeders may be used for the feeding of dry food provided they are cleaned and disinfected regularly to prevent molding or caking of food. If disposable food receptacles are used, they must be discarded after each feeding. Food shall be stored in facilities which adequately protect food and supplies against deterioration, molding or contamination by vermin or insects.

(b) Potable water shall be provided at all times to each animal in accordance with its needs, except as directed by hibernation, veterinary treatment or other professionally recognized accepted practices. Water containers shall be designed and of sufficient number to provide and dispense adequate quantities of water for the particular species and must be placed in such a way as to prevent spillage. Water containers shall be cleaned and disinfected at least once each day, except that sipper-tube type water bottles, if used, must be kept clean and disinfected, and must be cleaned and disinfected prior to an animal being placed in an enclosure.

(c) All dogs and cats received for resale shall be housed, separate from other dogs and cats on the premises for a minimum of 48 hours before being released to a purchaser. Each animal shall be observed daily by the licensee or his representative in order to recognize general symptoms of injury, illness or disease. Any dog or cat that exhibits symptoms of injury, illness or disease shall be isolated and treated as prescribed by a veterinarian. Any such dog or cat shall be verified by a veterinarian to be healthy before such dog or cat can be offered for sale.

(d) Each pet shop shall consult with a Connecticut licensed veterinarian to determine the place and period of time necessary for exercise for dogs confined in cages. Dogs confined in cages shall be removed at least once daily for exercise. Each pet shop shall follow the advice of the Connecticut licensed veterinarian.

(e) Each pet shop shall have on file at their place of business, a written emergency plan describing procedures for both natural and man-made disasters such as a fire, flood, extreme weather conditions, power failure or utility disruptions and chemical or toxic spills. The emergency plan shall include procedures for training staff about disaster preparedness, staff's specific responsibilities during a disaster, relocation process (if appropriate), and contacting appropriate emergency response agencies.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-50. Pet Shop Prohibited Sales.**

The exhibition, sale or offer for sale by a pet shop of any of the following listed animals is prohibited:

- (1) Chicks, ducks or other poultry, unless licensed under Section 22-326s of the Connecticut General Statutes;
- (2) Foxes (*Urocyon eineroarg-enteus*; *Vulpes fulva*);
- (3) Raccoons (*Procyon Lotor*);
- (4) Skunks (*Mephitis*);
- (5) Venomous reptiles;
- (6) Venomous amphibians;
- (7) Venomous arachnids;
- (8) Turtles, except those sold or offered for sale in accordance with sections 19a-36 or 26-78 of the Connecticut General Statutes and Connecticut Department of Health Services regulation 19a-36-A46;
- (9) Monk or Quaker Parakeets (*Myiopsitta Monachus*);
- (10) All animals listed under section 26-40a of the Connecticut General Statutes as potentially dangerous wild animals; and
- (11) Any animal which exhibits:
  - (A) Obvious signs of infectious disease such as upper respiratory infection, distemper, parvovirus, coronavirus, hepatitis, leptospirosis, rabies or other similar diseases (not to be construed to include incubating diseases);
  - (B) Obvious signs of nutritional disease which may include rickets and emaciation;
  - (C) Obvious signs of severe parasitism—extreme enough to be influencing its general health; or
  - (D) Fractures or congenital abnormalities affecting its general health.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-51. Pet Shop Records.**

(a) The owner or operator of a pet shop shall maintain the following records regarding each dog or cat obtained by the pet shop:

- (1) Name and address of person, firm or corporation from whom animal was obtained, date thereof and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) dealer license number if applicable;
- (2) Description of dog or cat including species, breed, sex, color and distinctive markings, physical condition and health, age and USDA animal identification number if applicable;
- (3) Name and address of person, firm or corporation to whom dog or cat was sold or ownership was transferred and date thereof;
- (4) Disposition of dog or cat, if not sold or transferred, including euthanasia and method, mortality and cause, if known, escape, or other specific circumstance, and date thereof;
- (5) For each dog or cat receiving medical care, the type of service rendered, date and veterinarian's name; and
- (6) If applicable, the USDA interstate and international certificate of health examination for small animals or equivalent official form of this state or the state of origin.

(b) The information required by subsections (a) (1) and (2) of this section shall be entered into a bound logbook with all pages consecutively numbered, or an electronic record system, within 72 hours of receipt of the dog or cat. The information required by subsections (a)(3) through (5) of this section shall be entered into the logbook or electronic record system within 72 hours of the event which is being recorded. Any entry in the log-book which is not adjacent to the original entry describing the animal shall refer to such entry, in order to track the animal's disposition and care.



(c) The records required by subsection (a) shall be maintained at the pet shop for a minimum of two years after the date of sale, transfer or other disposition of the dog or cat addressed by the record, and shall be readily available for inspection and copying by any designated agent of the commissioner.

(d) Pet shops shall retain a record of the name and address of any purchaser of any red-eared slider turtle with distinctive aberrant color patterns, including albino or amelanistic specimens, on a form prescribed by the commissioner.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-52 --- Sec. 22-344-54. Reserved.**

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-55. Grooming Facility Room Requirements.**

Any grooming facility established in a residence shall be in a room, separate from living quarters, at least one hundred forty-four (144) square feet in size, with a separate outside entrance. Adequate lighting and ventilation shall be provided.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-56. Grooming Facility Walls, Ceilings, and Floors.**

The walls and ceiling of the facility shall be painted, paneled or of other suitable materials. Floors shall be covered with a non-toxic easily cleaned water impervious material.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-57. Grooming Facility Grooming equipment.**

A grooming facility shall be equipped with at least the following: a bathing tub, a grooming table, hot and cold running water, a dryer, clippers, combs, brushes and shears. All equipment shall be sterilized after each use and kept in a sanitary manner.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-58. Grooming Facility Drying cages.**

Drying cages shall be kept cleaned and disinfected and shall be of sufficient size to accommodate the dog contained comfortably.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-59. Grooming Facility Exercise area. Keeping dogs overnight.**

There shall be an indoor or outdoor exercise area for dogs being detained for grooming for periods exceeding four hours, measuring at least three feet by eight feet, with covered top provided. Dogs shall not be kept overnight, unless the grooming facility is also licensed as a commercial kennel.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-60. Grooming Facility Sanitation of grooming and exercise areas.**

The grooming area and exercise area, if required, shall be kept cleaned and disinfected at all times.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-61 --- Sec. 22-344-64. Reserved.**

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-65. Training Facility — Facility for housing dogs for training.**

The facility for housing dogs for training shall be subject to the established regulations set forth for commercial kennels, section 22-344-32 through Section 22-344-37, and further the training facility shall be separate from a residence or living quarters.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-66. Training Facility Posting for public safety.**

For reasons of public safety the building or area in which a guard or attack dog is located must be posted with bilingual (English and Spanish) or visual guard dog signs at least eight inches by twelve inches, that shall not be more than 200 feet apart, and shall be at all property corners and at every entrance into the building and area.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-67. Training Facility — Outside training facilities.**

If guard or attack dogs are located outside a facility or a building, the area must be enclosed by at least a six foot secure chain link fence.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-68. Training Facility — Gates and entrances to a facility.**

All gates and entrances to a facility where guard or attack dogs are housed, used or trained must be kept secured to ensure public safety.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-69. Training Facility Control of noise.**

In order to control noise, a sight barrier shall be installed in such a manner as to break the dog's line of sight.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-70. Training Facility Prohibited training procedures.**

Any type of training that would detrimentally affect the dog's health, safety or welfare, or the welfare of the public is prohibited. The following procedures are specifically forbidden:

- (1) Use of electronic training collars in a manner inconsistent with the manufacturer's guidelines and instructions for such devices;
- (2) Use of electronic prods, and similar devices;
- (3) Kicking, beating, hanging or any other kind of physical abuse; and
- (4) Withholding of food or water or reasonable comfort in order to promote aggression.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-71 --- Sec. 22-344-74. Reserved.****(NEW) Sec. 22-344-75. Animal Importer Minimum Standards of Animal Care.**

An animal importer shall comply with the following standards of care when transporting dogs and cats to and within this state:

- (a) The dog or cat shall be contained in a primary enclosure such as a compartment, transport cage, carton, or crate. Primary enclosures used to transport dogs and cats shall be constructed so that:
  - (1) The primary enclosure is strong enough to contain the dogs and cats securely and comfortably and to withstand the normal rigors of transportation;
  - (2) The interior of the primary enclosure has no sharp points or edges and no protrusions that could injure the animal contained in it;
  - (3) The dog or cat is at all times securely contained within the enclosure and cannot put any part of its body outside the enclosure in a way that could result in injury to itself, to handlers, or to persons or animals nearby;
  - (4) The dog or cat can be easily and quickly removed from the enclosure in an emergency;
  - (5) Unless the enclosure is permanently affixed to the conveyance, adequate devices such as



handles or handholds are provided on its exterior, and enable the enclosure to be lifted without tilting it, and ensure that anyone handling the enclosure will not come into physical contact with the animal contained inside;

(6) Unless the enclosure is permanently affixed to the conveyance, it is clearly marked on top and on one or more sides with the words “Live Animals,” in letters at least one (1) inch (2.5 centimeters) high, and with arrows or other markings to indicate the correct upright position of the primary enclosure;

(7) Any material, treatment, paint, preservative, or other chemical used in or on the enclosure is nontoxic to the animal and not harmful to the health or well-being of the animal; and

(8) The primary enclosure has a solid, leak-proof bottom or a removable, leak-proof collection tray under a slatted or mesh floor that prevents seepage of waste products, such as excreta and body fluids, outside of the enclosure. If a slatted or mesh floor is used in the enclosure, it shall be designed and constructed so that the animal cannot put any part of its body between the slats or through the holes in the mesh. Unless the dogs and cats are on raised slatted floors or raised floors made of mesh, the primary enclosure shall contain enough safe and nontoxic absorbent material to absorb excreta.

(b) Primary enclosures used to hold or transport dogs or cats shall be cleaned and disinfected before each use. The interior of vehicles used to transport dogs and cats shall be kept clean. If the dogs or cats are in transit for more than 24 hours, the enclosures shall be cleaned and any soiled absorbent material replaced, or other methods, such as moving the animals to another enclosure, shall be utilized to prevent the soiling of the dogs or cats by body wastes. If it becomes necessary to remove the dog or cat from the enclosure in order to clean, or to move the dog or cat to another enclosure, this procedure shall be completed in a way that safeguards the dog or cat from injury and prevents escape.

(c) Dog and cats shall be transported in a manner that minimizes stress and complies with the following:

(1) Dogs or cats transported in the same primary enclosure shall be of the same species and be maintained in compatible groups;

(2) Puppies or kittens four (4) months of age or less shall not be transported in the same primary enclosure with adult dogs or cats other than their dams;

(3) Dogs or cats that are aggressive or exhibit a vicious disposition shall be transported individually in a primary enclosure;

(4) No female dog or cat in heat (estrus) shall be transported in the same primary enclosure with any male dog or cat;

(5) During vehicle transportation the temperature within the space where dog or cats are held during transport shall not exceed 80 degrees F (26.7 degrees C) or fall below 55 degrees F (12.8 degrees C);

(6) Each dog and cat that is 16 weeks of age or more shall be offered food at least once every 24 hours. Puppies and kittens less than 16 weeks of age shall be offered food at least once every 12 hours. Each dog and cat shall be offered potable water at least once every four (4) hours; and

(7) The animal importer licensee, the operator of the transport vehicle, or a person accompanying the operator, shall observe each dog or cat not less than once every four (4) hours, to ensure compliance with this subsection and take such corrective action as may be necessary to comply with these regulations.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-76 --- Sec. 22-344-79. Reserved.**

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-80. Animal Shelter Standards and Facility Requirements, phase-in date for certain subsections.**

The regulations for animal shelter standards contained in sections 22-344-80 to 22-344-82 of the Connecticut General Statutes, inclusive, shall apply to dogs and cats.

(a) Animal shelter facilities shall meet or exceed the following minimum standards:

- (1) All buildings and premises shall be kept in good repair and in sanitary condition;
- (2) Walls and floors shall be constructed of impervious surfaces such as tile, sealed cement or concrete block treated with epoxy paint that can be cleaned and disinfected. Ceilings shall be kept clean and free of accumulated dust and debris. All equipment used shall be free of rust;
- (3) Carpeted flooring is prohibited in areas where animals are housed, treated, or fed;
- (4) All removable resting surfaces, bedding, furniture-type fixtures, equipment or objects within the facility shall be constructed in a manner or made of materials that allow them to be cleaned and disinfected, or removed or replaced when worn or soiled.
- (5) A washing area shall be provided with hot and cold running water dedicated to cleaning animals, and all of the equipment related to their care. The washing area shall be large enough to accommodate cleaning and disinfection of all items associated with the care of animals, including enclosures, removable resting surfaces, bedding, furniture-type fixtures, equipment, food bowls, water bowls, and toys;
- (6) Natural or artificial illumination shall be maintained during daylight hours in all areas and rooms in which dogs and cats are kept. Natural or artificial illumination shall be well distributed and adequate to provide thorough observation of the facility and its enclosures, cages, and dogs and cats. Artificial illumination shall be available for non-daylight hours. Cages and enclosures in use shall be situated in a manner as to protect dogs and cats from excessive, constant, or stressful illumination;
- (7) Equipment shall be maintained and used in a way that ensures the proper and legal storage or disposal of wastes and potentially disease-contaminated material including, but not limited to, medical supplies, syringes, and needles;
- (8) Effective control measures to prevent the infestation of animals and premises by external parasites, insects, or vermin shall be maintained at all times;
- (9) Dog and cat food in original packaging shall be stored above the floor on clean racks, dollies or other clean surfaces, in such a manner as to protect from contamination. Unsealed bags of dog and cat food shall be stored in covered metal or covered heavy duty plastic containers, in such a manner as to protect from contamination; and
- (10) Dog and cat cages or enclosures shall be equipped with a solid floor.

(b) Subsections (2), (3) and (4) of section 22-344-80(a) shall become effective one year after the effective date of sections 22-344-80 through 22-344-82.

(c) Each animal shelter shall have on file at their place of business, a written emergency plan describing procedures for both natural and man-made disasters such as a fire, flood, extreme weather conditions, power failure or utility disruptions and chemical or toxic spills. The emergency plan shall include procedures for training staff about disaster preparedness, staff's specific responsibilities during a disaster, relocation process (if appropriate), and contacting appropriate emergency response agencies.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-81. Animal Shelter Ventilation and Temperature Standards, phase-in date for certain subsection.**

(a) An animal shelter shall meet the following minimum standards with respect to ventilation and temperature:

- (1) An animal shelter shall provide mechanical ventilation sufficient to maintain health...

quality, and adequate ambient conditions necessary to minimize odor, ammonia levels, disease transmission risk, and unnecessary stress on the dogs and cats due to uncomfortable temperatures or environmental conditions; and

(2) An animal shelter shall provide mechanical heating and cooling systems of appropriate design and capacity to maintain an indoor ambient temperature of between fifty-five (55) and eighty (80) degrees Fahrenheit, unless other temperatures are medically required by a Connecticut licensed veterinarian.

(b) Subsection (2) of section 22-344-81(a) shall become effective one year after the effective date of sections 22-344-80 through 22-344-82.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-82. Animal Shelter Minimum Standards of Animal Care. Control of Rabies in Public Settings.**

(a) All facilities, enclosures, and other places where dogs and cats are kept by an animal shelter shall meet or exceed the following standards:

(1) Be of sufficient size and design as to allow each dog or cat to stand, sit, lie down, turn around, and make other normal postural adjustments without obstruction, interference, or impediment by the presence of food, water bowls, equipment, or other animals, unless different space requirements are medically required by a Connecticut licensed veterinarian. For the purposes of this section facilities which provide space equal to or more than the space requirements for dogs pursuant to 9 CFR 3.6(a)(2)(xi) and 9 CFR 3.8(c)(1)(iii), as amended from time to time, shall be deemed to be in compliance with respect to dogs;

(2) Be cleaned and disinfected at least daily, always before introducing a new animal into the enclosure, and more often if necessary, to maintain sanitary conditions. Cages and enclosures shall be unoccupied during cleaning and disinfecting,

(3) Provide adequate shelter from the sun and inclement weather when animals are outside.

(b) The animal shelter shall provide sufficient staffing adequate to ensure the proper care of dogs and cats on a daily basis. The animal shelter shall, with consideration of differences in species, breed, age, and condition, ensure that:

(1) Dogs and cats are kept clean and dry. No dog or cat shall be permitted to roam outside. No dog or cat shall be permitted outside unless they are acclimated to and can tolerate the climatic conditions likely to be encountered during the period of time they are outside. A working outdoor thermometer shall be available and used to monitor outdoor temperature at appropriate intervals.

(2) Veterinary care is provided by a Connecticut licensed veterinarian in a timely manner and that when necessary, immediate emergency veterinary care shall be provided;

(3) Medications and treatments shall only be administered under the advice or in accordance with written protocols provided by a Connecticut licensed veterinarian, and all medications shall be stored and administered in accordance with federal and state regulations;

(4) Dogs and cats diagnosed and/or under treatment for a communicable disease shall be physically separated from healthy animals to minimize the risk of disease transmission;

(5) Dogs and cats shall have unimpeded access to fresh, wholesome, nutritious food and clean potable drinking water at appropriate intervals, considering the breed, age and species of such animals;

(6) Uneaten food shall be discarded after 24 hours and in no case shall food offered to one animal be subsequently offered to another animal;

(7) Dogs and cats shall be provided with appropriately sized clean and disinfected bowls, dishes, or other containers for food and water;

(8) Dogs and cats shall be kept clean, protected and free from contamination by excrement, urine

or other foreign matter;

(9) Dogs and cats shall be provided with proper and adequate enrichment and exercise to avoid excessive emotional stress and any physical atrophy, unless medically restricted by a Connecticut licensed veterinarian;

(10) Species of animals shall be separated by a physical wall or barrier that reduces sound transfer;

(11) Cats, if housed together, shall be housed in compatible groups without overcrowding; and

(12) Litters of dogs and cats shall not be permanently separated from their dams before eight (8) weeks of age, unless medically necessary as determined by a licensed veterinarian

(13) Unneutered male dogs and cats over three (3) months of age shall be housed separately from female animals.

(14) No cat or dog shall be sold, adopted, transferred, or offered for sale, adoption, or transfer under the age of eight (8) weeks.

(c) Each animal shelter shall comply with the requirements of 22-359 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, related to control of rabies in public settings.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-83 --- 22-344-89. Reserved.**

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-90. Application Procedures for Commercial Kennels, Pet Shops, Grooming Facilities, Training Facilities, and Animal Shelters.**

(a) Applicants for a commercial kennel, pet shop, grooming facility or training facility license and new registrations for an animal shelter may request a pre-application inspection or review of plans for a new kennel, pet shop, grooming facility or training facility license and new registrations of animal shelter facilities at any time prior to actual filing of the application for a license or prior to registering. Such pre-inspection or plan review may be conducted by the commissioner or the commissioner's designated agent, and the results, if any, shall be made available in writing to the applicant. Such pre-application inspection or plan review shall not be considered an approval of any license or registration, or to operate, nor shall it bind the commissioner or the commissioner's designated agent.

(b) Initial applications for commercial kennel, pet shop, grooming facility or training facility license and initial applications for registration of an animal shelter facilities shall be made at least 30 days prior to the planned opening for the facility and shall contain the following information, on a form provided by the department:

(1) Legal name and any trade name of the commercial kennel, pet shop, grooming facility, training facility or animal shelter;

(2) Complete physical address of the commercial kennel, pet shop, grooming facility, training facility or animal shelter;

(3) Mailing address of the commercial kennel, pet shop, grooming facility, training facility or animal shelter;

(4) The name of the operator or manager of the commercial kennel, pet shop, grooming facility, training facility or animal shelter;

(5) The name of the principal owner or owners of the commercial kennel, pet shop, grooming facility, training facility or animal shelter;

(6) The business phone number;

(7) The name and phone number of a responsible person who may be reached during an emergency;

(8) The name, address and phone number of a person upon whom service may be made;

(9) Certification by the zoning enforcement official that the facility conforms to the zoning

regulations of the municipality wherein the facility is located; and

(10) A copy of the floor plan which includes design capacity for each species housed in the facility, dimensions and depicts wash rooms, treatment areas, isolation areas, pens, runs, primary enclosures, walkways, mechanical rooms, common areas, exercise areas and building entrances.

(c) Facilities shall comply with all applicable state and local building, fire, electrical and public health codes or ordinances.

**(NEW) Sec. 22-344-91 --- 22-344-94. Reserved.**

**Section 2. Sec. 22-344-1 --- 22-344-15, Sec. 22-344-15a --- 22-344-15f, Sec. 22-344-16a, Sec. 22-344-17a, Sec. 22-344-18a, Sec. 22-344-19a, Sec. 22-344-20a, 22-344-21a, Sec. 22-344-25c, and Sec. 22-344-26 --- 22-344-31. Repealed**

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**Statement of Purpose**

To update existing regulations for commercial kennels, pet shops, grooming facilities, training facilities and animal importers. The regulations are required by C.G.S. § 22-344 and will provide standards and facility requirements for animal shelters, including standards for buildings and premises; ventilation and temperature; animal care requirements which include requirements concerning staffing, size and design requirements for facilities and enclosures, cleaning, access and temperature standards, and requirements concerning feeding and access to clean water. The regulations also contain a section which prohibits breeding of animals housed in animal shelters.