

POLICY ON PET OWNERSHIP

Section 227 of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983, provides for the ownership of common household pets in federally assisted rental housing units built exclusively for occupancy by the elderly and the handicapped. (TX077002)

The following rules shall apply for the keeping of pets by tenants living in the elderly units operated by the Housing Authority of the City of Ballinger, Texas:

1. Common household pets as authorized by this policy are cats, dogs, fish and birds.
2. Cats and dogs shall be limited to small breeds where total weight shall not exceed twenty (20) pounds and total height shall not exceed twelve (12) inches. Seeing-eye dogs are excluded to height and weight.
3. All cat and dog pets shall be neutered and/or spayed, as verified by veterinarian, cost to be paid by the owner. Pet owners will be required to present a certificate of health from their veterinarian verifying required annual vaccines.
4. A fifty dollar (\$50.00) pet deposit shall be made to the Housing Authority. Such deposit shall be used to help cover cost of damages to the units caused by the pets. No deposit necessary for fish and birds.
5. Pets shall be quartered in the units and dogs and cats shall be kept on a leash when taken outside. No dog houses will be allowed on the premises.
6. Pets (dogs and cats) shall be allowed to run only on the owner's lawn and owners shall clean up after pets each day.
7. The City Ordinance concerning pets will be complied with.
8. Pets shall be removed from the premises when their conduct or condition is duly determined to constitute a nuisance or a threat to the health or safety of other occupants of the Authority.
9. Birds must be kept in regular bird cages and not allowed to fly throughout the Units.
10. Each tenant will be allowed to house only two (2) animals at any time.
11. Dishes or containers for food and water will be located within the owner's apartment. Food and/or table scraps (bones) will not be deposited on the owner's porches or yards.
12. Tenants will not feed or water stray animals.
13. Pet owners will be responsible and liable for any bodily harm to other tenants or individuals and/or the destruction of personal property belonging to others caused by the actions of their pets.

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Tenant Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Director Date