

July 2007

Dog complaint?

Information For the Dog Owner

It is unlawful for any person to keep a dog within the city limits that is in the habit of barking or howling or disturbs the peace and quiet of another person. GARDEN City ordinance 90.19 prohibits loud barking, loud noise and running at large. A conviction under 90.19 is a misdemeanor. If you have been informed your dog is disturbing another person's peace, you need to take action. To assist citizens in resolving barking dog issues, we recommend the following:

Suggestions for Curbing Barking Dogs

Buy a kennel that is the appropriate size or larger for the dog. At minimum, the dog should be able to stand-up and turn around in the kennel. Keep the dog and the kennel inside your house when you are gone. Most dogs adjust very well to the use of a kennel. Puppies should only be kenneled for a maximum of 1 hour at a time for every month in age (e.g., a 4 month old puppy should not be kenneled for more than 4 hours).

No dog should be kenneled for more than 8 hours at a time. For every hour that the dog is kenneled, the dog should be allowed out of the kennel to exercise and join the family activities (e.g. a dog kenneled for 8 hours needs to be out of the kennel for a minimum of 8 hours before going back in).

Train the dog yourself using books or videos from the library, or enroll in special interest classes at community colleges, the Michigan Humane Society, or a pet store.

SERVICE-PRIDE-INTEGRITY



GARDEN CITY POLICE
COMMUNITY SERVICES

**CITY DEPARTMENT
PHONE NUMBERS**

EMERGENCY- 911

POLICE 793-1700

DETECTIVE BUREAU 793-1710

CITY HALL 793-1600

21ST DIST. COURT 793-1680

BUILDING DEPT. 793-1650

CITY CLERK 793-1620

LIBRARY 793-1830

MAPLEWOOD CTR. 793-1850

PARKS & REC. 793-1880

BARKING DOG

Consult with your veterinarian or consider professional dog obedience training. Make sure that the trainer uses positive reinforcement methods.

Buy a barking dog collar or muzzle. There are different varieties that work in different ways. Check with your veterinarian about which one would best suit your dog. You can find these at pet stores.

Think about the time of day that the barking is a problem. Remember, not everyone follows the same work schedule, or they may work from their home.

Ask yourself why the dog is barking. Is the dog lonely, frustrated, bored, etc.? Regular daily exercise with a human is essential to keeping the dog from frustration and boredom. Providing toys and playing music or other soothing sounds may help.

Take the dog for a walk instead of always leaving it in the yard alone. This will help the dog become more familiar with its surroundings.

Don't make a big event out of leaving or returning home. Overly excited dogs are more likely to bark.

Keep in mind that dogs with access to a doggie door have access to the outside to bark.

Confine the dog to a smaller area of the yard away from the neighbors.

Contact your veterinarian or an animal trainer for other ideas or call the Michigan Humane Society for other useful information and help.

Search the internet using the key words "barking dog" this search will yield numerous sources of information and help with barking dogs.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BLOCK / CITY CRIME STATS

June Crime Statistics

Arson 2	Robbery 1
Breaking & Entering 7	Public Peace 0
Larceny 32	Fraud 13
Sexual Assault 2	Runaway 2
Stolen Vehicles 10	Drugs 9
Assaults 39	Property Damage 30
Murder 0	

The numbers listed are statistics for the entire city during the month listed