This Ordinance was adopted at open Annual Town Meeting on March 7, 2005 by a show of hands being 38 for and 19 against, at Norridgewock, Maine

Charlotte A. Curtis, Town Clerk Norridgewock, Maine

# TOWN OF NORRIDGEWOCK

# **DOG NUISANCE ORDAINACE**

#### **SECTION 1: DEFINITION:**

Terms, as used int his Ordinance, shall have the following meaning, unless the context indicates otherwise.

- 1. DOG shall be intended to mean both male and female canines.
- 2. OWNER shall mean any person or person, firm, association or corporation owning, keeping or harboring a dog.

# **SECTION 2: DOG NUISANCE**

It shall be unlawful for any owner of or any person harboring any dog in the Town of Norridgewock to permit or allow such dog to engage in habitual, prolonged or repeated loud howling, barking, whining, yelping, crying or other conduct sustained for one hour or intermittently for three hours and can be heard at or beyond the boundary of the property on which the dog is located so as to disturb the peace of any person other than the owner or owners harboring such dog or dogs.

# **SECTION 3: ENFORCEMENT**

Any person who observes a dog actng in violation of the ordinance may file a written complaint with the Animal Control Officer or Local Law Enforcement (sheriff or State Police) specifying the objectionable conduct of the dog, the date, and time thereof, a description of the dog, and name and residence, if known, of the owner or other person harboring said dog. Upon receipt of such complaint, the Animal Control Officer or Local Law Enforcement shall issue a warning to said owner or other person harboring said dog or dogs. In the event that another complaint of such nature is received within one (1) month form the date of the initial complaint, the Animal Control Officer shall contact the Local Law Enforcement who shall cause the complaint to be filed before the District Court in the county where such owner or keeper resides. It shall be the duty of all Animal control Officers to enforce the provisions of the Ordinance.

# **SECTION 4: PENALTY**

Upon complaint before any District Court in the county where such owner or keeper resides, any person found violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of civil violation and punishable by a fine of \$50.00 for each first offense, \$75.00 for a second offense, and \$100.00 for third and subsequent offenses. All fines so assessed shall be recovered for the use of the Town of Norridgewock through the District Court. The Defendant shall be responsible for all costs, including attorney fees.