

**ANIMAL  
ABANDONMENT**  
is against the law,  
and considered  
animal cruelty.



Failure to properly groom your pet – severely overgrown nails, matted fur etc. is neglecting your animal and can be extremely painful and cause serious discomfort for your pet.

**Tail docking and ear cropping causes distress to animals and considered an act of animal cruelty. Offenders will face charges.**



Parasite infestations left untreated (fleas, mites, worms, mange, ticks etc.) is considered neglect and failure to provide adequate medical care.

**SPCA**  
Nova Scotia



Tethering an animal for more the 12 consecutive hours in a 24-hour period is **illegal**.

## CRUELTY WILL COST YOU

In accordance with the Animal Protection Act, the Nova Scotia SPCA Cruelty Investigations Team have the authority to issue Summary Offence Tickets to offenders.

### SELLING CAT/ DOG WITHOUT VETERINARY CERTIFICATE

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| FIRST OFFENCE  | \$237.50 |
| SECOND OFFENCE | \$410.00 |

### CAUSING ANIMAL TO BE IN DISTRESS

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| FIRST OFFENCE  | \$410.00 |
| SECOND OFFENCE | \$697.50 |

### FAILING TO PROVIDE ANIMAL WITH ADEQUATE FOOD/WATER

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| FINE | \$410.00 |
|------|----------|

### FAILING TO PROVIDE ANIMAL WITH ADEQUATE MEDICAL CARE

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| FINE | \$410.00 |
|------|----------|

### FAILING TO PROTECT ANIMAL FROM INJURIOUS HEAT/COLD

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| FINE | \$410.00 |
|------|----------|

### KEEPING ANIMAL IN INADEQUATE SPACE OR UNSANITARY CONDITIONS

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| FINE | \$410.00 |
|------|----------|

### TETHERING ANIMAL IN CONTRAVENTION OF REGULATIONS

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| FINE | \$410.00 |
|------|----------|

### LEAVING ANIMAL IN UNATTENDED MOTOR VEHICLE IN CONDITIONS THAT COULD CAUSE DISTRESS

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| FINE | \$697.50 |
|------|----------|

### ABANDONED BY IT'S OWNER IN A MANNER LIKELY TO CAUSE DISTRESS

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| FINE | \$410.00 |
|------|----------|

If you witness  
an act of animal  
cruelty or neglect...  
**CONTACT US:**



P.O. BOX 38073  
STN Burnside  
Dartmouth NS B3B 1W4



**TOLL FREE** 1 (888) 703-7722  
**LOCAL** 1 (902) 835-4798



**FILE AN ONLINE COMPLAINT  
OR FOR A FULL LIST OF FINES:**  
[www.spcans.ca](http://www.spcans.ca)



## STANDARDS FOR ANIMAL CARE

The Nova Scotia SPCA has been protecting animals since 1877.

Our Special Constable's across the province have been enforcing the Animal Protection Act since its inception in 1996.





## STANDARDS FOR TETHERING

Animals can only be tied outside for up to 12 hours in any 24 hour period.

Owner's or caretaker's must ensure that the minimum length of a tether used on the animal is greater than:

- 5 meters; or
- 5 times the length of the animal, as measured from the tip of it's nose to the base of it's tail
- Pets are family, take them inside

## PEN'S & OUTDOOR ENCLOSURES

If one or more animal is kept in a pen, the animals owner or caretaker must ensure that the pen has an area large enough to provide the animals with adequate space for all of the following:

- Feeding, resting, urinating and defecating;
- Engaging in species-typical behaviors and maintaining adequate social distances.

Animals cannot be left in a pen unsupervised for more than 12 consecutive hours.

If an animal is kept in a pen for longer than 12 consecutive hours in any 24-hour period, the animal - owners must ensure that the animal has time out of the pen during the same 24-hour period to allow for exercise, socialization and protection from inclement weather.

## ANIMAL HOUSING

An animal's owner or caretaker must ensure that the animal has continuous access to a shelter if the animal is kept outdoors (if kept in a pen or tethered).

Shelters must provide protection from...

- Heat
- Direct Sunlight
- Wind
- Cold
- Rain
- Sleet/ Snow

Clean, dry bedding must be provided and enclosures must consist of four sides, a roof and floor. Housing must be properly insulated (double walled), wire flooring is unacceptable and houses should be on a raised platform- as not to absorb the cold from the ground. A flap is required on the door for protection.

## DOGS

Outdoor dog houses should be double walled and insulated to suit the needs of the species, breed, age and disposition. For specific dog house building requirements, visit: [www.spcans.ca](http://www.spcans.ca)



This is an example of an **inadequate dog house**. Owners with homes like these would be in violation of the Animal Protection Act and potentially **FINED!**

Here is a diagram for a well constructed outdoor dog house. Dimensions for dog houses can be found on our website, [www.spcans.ca](http://www.spcans.ca) for a complete list of dog house requirements and dimensions.



**ALL ANIMALS MUST HAVE ACCESS TO FRESH POTABLE, UNFROZEN WATER!**

## CATS

Cats who are outdoors must have adequate shelter from injurious weather. Double walled houses are required in cold weather - insulated so that heat stays in and cold out.

It must be configured to prevent the animal from doing any of the following:

- Moving over an edge, such as the edge of a wall or stairway, in a manner that could result in strangulation or injury of the animal
- It must not cause discomfort for the animal because of its type or weight

## OUTDOOR SHELTERS

Nova Scotia has a very large feral cat population, many cats and kittens seek shelter in the winter months. You can make a difference.



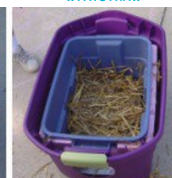
Building an outdoor cat shelter is easy! You'll need:

- 1 large - 30 Gallon Tupperware
- 1 Medium - 20 Gallon Tupperware
- Styrofoam Sheet
- Straw
- Box Cutter

STYROFOAM INSULATION IN 1ST CONTAINER



2ND CONTAINER WITH STRAW



COVERED INNER CONTAINER



MORE INSULATION SURROUNDING 2ND CONTAINER



FINAL COVER - ENSURING THERE IS A CLEAR SAFE ENTRY FOR CATS



COMPLETED OUTDOOR CAT SHELTER