

## **Rabies Fact Sheet Animal Licenses**

The New Jersey Administrative Code Title 8, Chapter 23A specifies the requirements for the rabies vaccination needed for issuing animal licenses. No animal license can be issued for any given year unless the animal's vaccination is valid throughout at least ten of the twelve months of the licensing period. In the Borough of Rocky Hill, licenses are issued on a calendar year basis so that vaccination documentation must say that the animal's immunity is valid through at least November 1.

The following was excerpted from the New Jersey Administrative Code on April 20, 2009 for your information. As with all items on the website, we request that you contact our Borough Clerk for the most up-to-date information.

### **§ 8:23A-4.1 Requirements for licensure**

- a) Except as otherwise provided in 8:23A-4.3, no municipal clerk or other official designated to license dogs shall grant any such license and official metal registration tag for any dog unless the dog owner provides evidence that the dog to be licensed and registered has been inoculated against rabies with a vaccine having duration of immunity which extends throughout at least ten of the 12 months of the licensing period. Dogs with a duration of immunity against rabies that expires prior to the tenth month of the licensing period shall be revaccinated prior to issuance of a license.
- b) The rabies inoculation required in (a) above shall be made by a duly licensed veterinarian. The vaccine used must be approved by the United States Department of Agriculture and administered to the animal at the dosage and route of administration in accordance with the specifications of the product label and package insert.
- c) The veterinarian immunizing the animal shall issue and sign a National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians Form #51, "Rabies Vaccination Certificate," and shall arrange that the following information is typed or printed on the rabies certificate: the date of inoculation, the duration of immunity, the name and serial number of the product used, a description of the animal, the name and license number of the veterinarian, and the full mailing address of the owner. Computer-generated forms containing the same information, signature stamps, and electronic signatures are acceptable. The animal owner shall retain the certificate of inoculation and exhibit it to the animal licensing official of the municipality when application for a license is made.

### **§ 8:23A-4.3 Certification of exemption**

Municipal dog licensing officials shall grant an exemption to the rabies inoculation requirement for any dog that a duly licensed veterinarian certifies in writing to be incapable of being inoculated because of an infirmity, other physical condition, or regimen of therapy.

### **§ 8:23A-5.1 Violation; penalty**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 4:19-15.19, and except as otherwise provided in that law, any person who violates or who fails or refuses to comply with this chapter shall be liable to a penalty of not less than \$ 5.00 nor more than \$ 50.00 for each offense, to be recovered by and in the name of the Commissioner of the Department, the local board of health of the municipality, or the municipality.