

How to be an Advocate for Policy Change



October 20th, 2013
All About Animals Rescue
Chris Shelton

www.allaboutanimalsrescue.org



TNR and the Law

Communities all over the nation have ordinances in place which promote Trap-Neuter-Return and protect cats. But there are also ordinances out there that make TNR more difficult for caregivers.

You do not have to pass a law to perform TNR, but you can have a positive impact on the welfare of community cats by changing policy in your city/township to promote this process.



1.

Educate yourself on the TNR process, advantages of TNR and failed alternatives to TNR

2.

Research your local ordinances and how animal control is governed in your city

3.

Find a model ordinance you can use to modify

4.

Introduce your ordinance to city council

Research Your Local Ordinances

-Print Resources-

Clerk's Office

- Visit your county or city clerk's office and ask for a copy of your local ordinances. **This will be the most up-to-date version.

Public Library

- The reference librarian will be able to help you find local ordinances

Law Library

- Your local courthouse may have a library that you can utilize.

Research Your Local Ordinances

-Online Resources-

Local Government Website

- Check for an ordinance link on your city's government website
- Many cities use Municode

Local Shelter Website

- Sometimes your local shelter will have ordinances collected on their website

Other Online Resources

- When in doubt use Google!

Understand Your Local Ordinances

Keyword Search

Feed(ing): The most common type of ordinance that could affect your ability to legally perform TNR is an ordinance that bans feeing of...

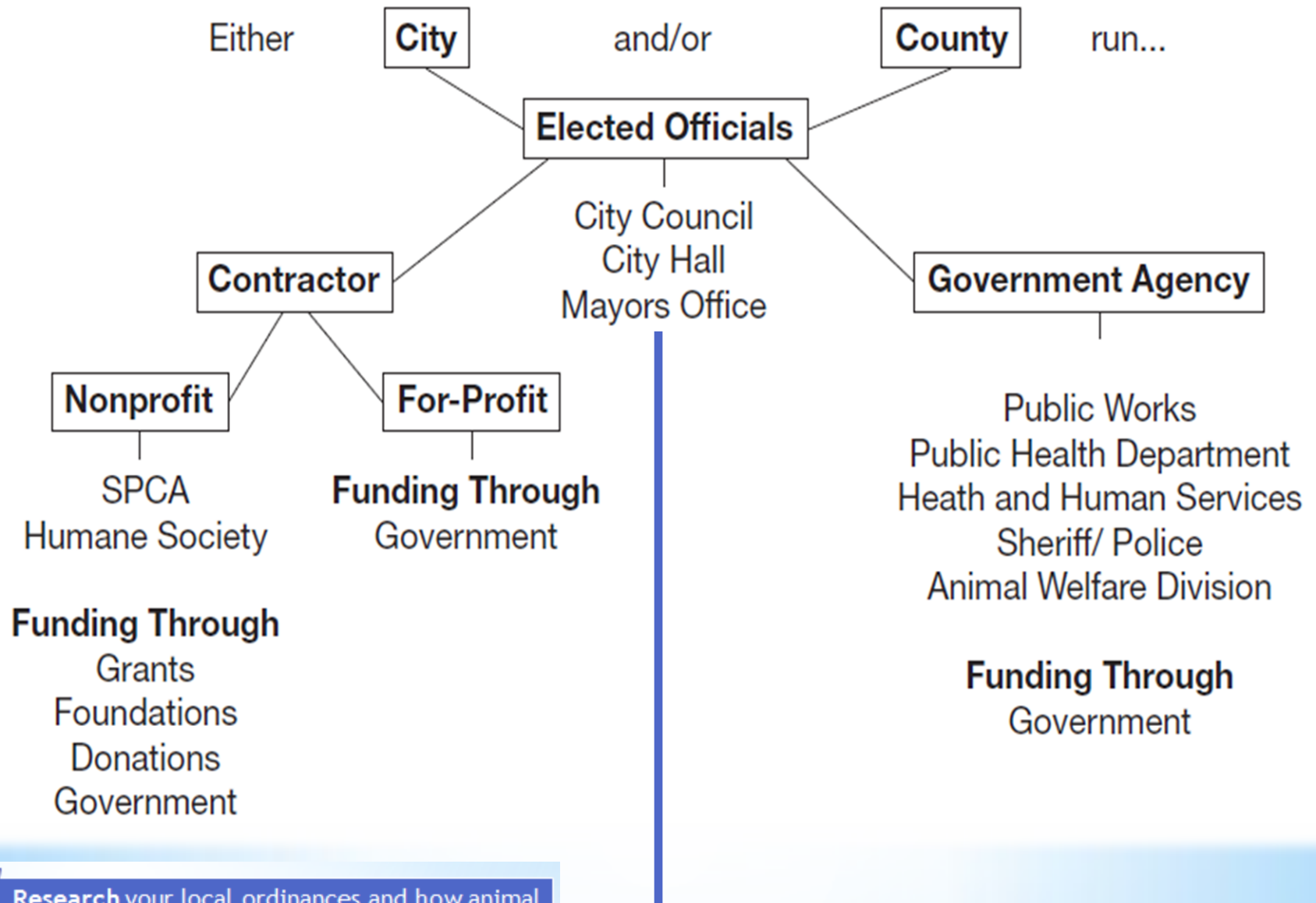
Harboring: This type of ordinance can limit the amount of pets/animals you 'harbor' (home/shelter)

Nuisance: This type of ordinance protects people from noise, odor, litter, etc.

*Other keywords to look for: cat, possess, keep, destruction, rodent

Keep in mind - Most ordinances that work against TNR were designed to prevent people from hoarding animals or attracting rodents!!

How is Animal Control Governed?



Find a Model Ordinance



3.

Find a model ordinance you can use to modify



Microsoft Word
17 - 2003 Document

Introduce Your Ordinance

Best Practices for Ordinance Introduction and Follow-Up:

- Know your city council
 - ☐ Understand friends vs. foes
 - Go to meetings, talk to people in the know, research!
 - ☐ Find a sympathetic member to introduce the ordinance
- Reach out to allies to assist you:
 - ☐ Humane societies
 - ☐ Wildlife rehab
 - ☐ Sanctuaries
 - ☐ Shelters
 - ☐ Other grassroots activist
- Lobby!
 - ☐ Provide the council with information on TNR
 - ☐ Mobilize a group to spread the word
 - ☐ Pass out fliers

Resources

Educate Yourself

<http://www.alleycat.org/page.aspx?pid=889>

<http://www.allaboutanimalsrescue.org/stray-cats/>

http://www.neighborhoodcats.org/HOW_TO_WHAT_IS_TNR

http://www.humanesociety.org/issues/feral_cats/

Researching Local Ordinances:

<http://www.law.msu.edu/library/substantive/local.html>

<http://www.municode.com/>

www.google.com

Find a Model Ordinance

<http://www.allaboutanimalsrescue.org/stray-cats/resources/>

Other General Ordinance Websites:

<http://www.alleycat.org/page.aspx?pid=486>

http://www.bornfreeusa.org/b2a2_ordinance.php

Research Your Local Ordinances -Online Resources-

<http://www.law.msu.edu/library/substantive/local.html>

The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Michigan State University College of Law website. The address bar shows the URL <http://www.law.msu.edu/library/substantive/local.html>. The website header includes the MSU College of Law logo, navigation links like 'Apply Now', 'Make A Gift', and 'Quick Links', and social media icons. A green navigation bar contains links for 'About MSU Law', 'Academics', 'Careers', 'Legal Clinic', 'Faculty & Staff', 'Prospective Students', 'Current Students', and 'Alumni & Donors'. The main content area is titled 'Michigan Ordinances & Code' and lists a variety of local jurisdictions. On the left, there is a sidebar with links to library and administrative resources.

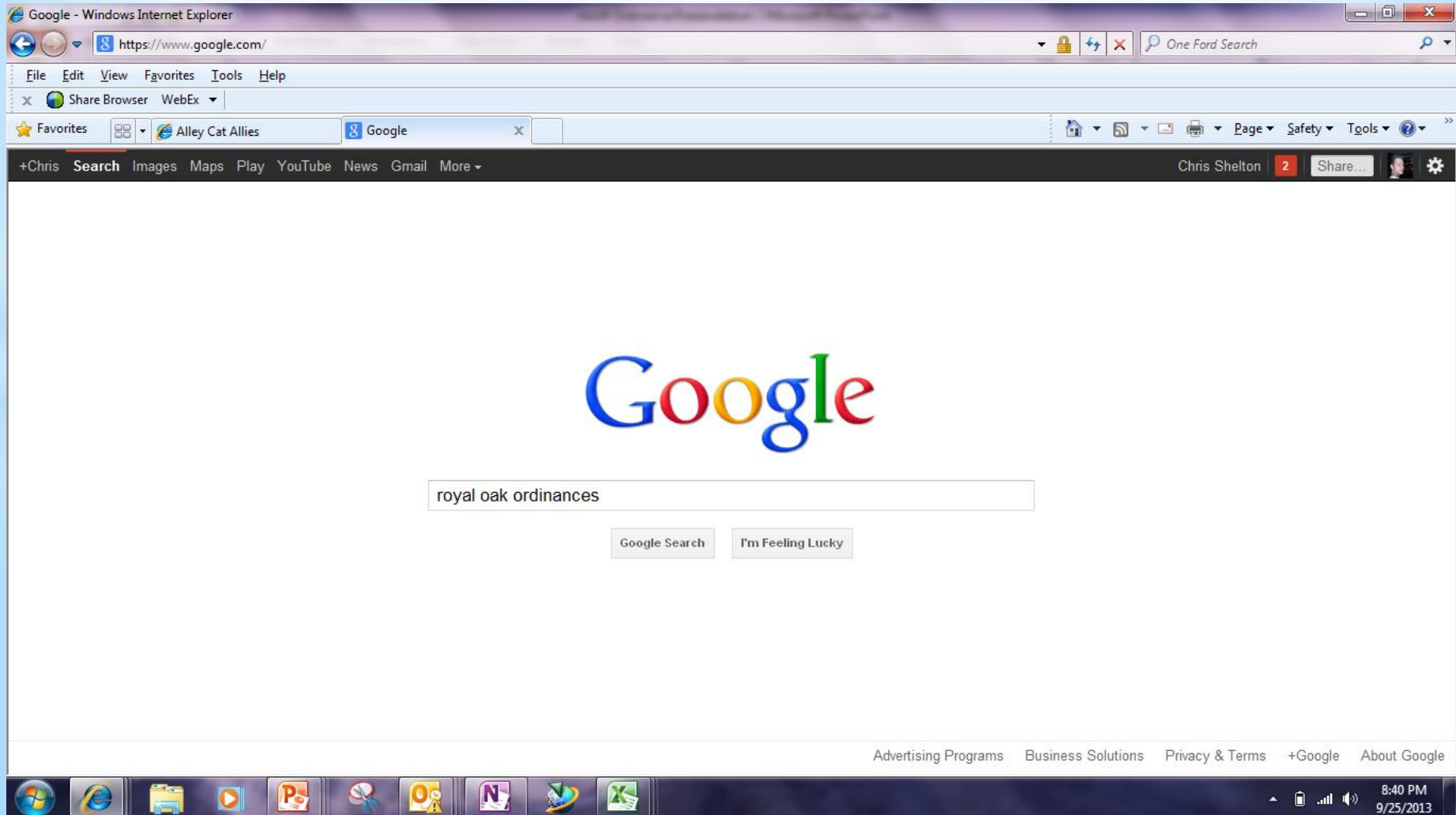
Michigan Ordinances & Code

- Ada, Charter Township of
- Adrian, City of
- Albion, City of
- Alma, City of
- Alpena, City of
- Ann Arbor, City of
- Auburn Hills, City of
- Aurelius, Township of
- Bad Axe, City of
- Battle Creek, City of
- Bay City, City of
- Bedford, Charter Township of
- Belding, City of
- Benton, Charter Township of
- Berkley, City of
- Berlin Charter Township of (Monroe Co.)
- Beverly Hills, Village of

John F. Schaefer Law Library
Library Information
Library Jobs
Faculty & Staff
Visitors & Alumni
Technology Services
Digital Commons
Contact

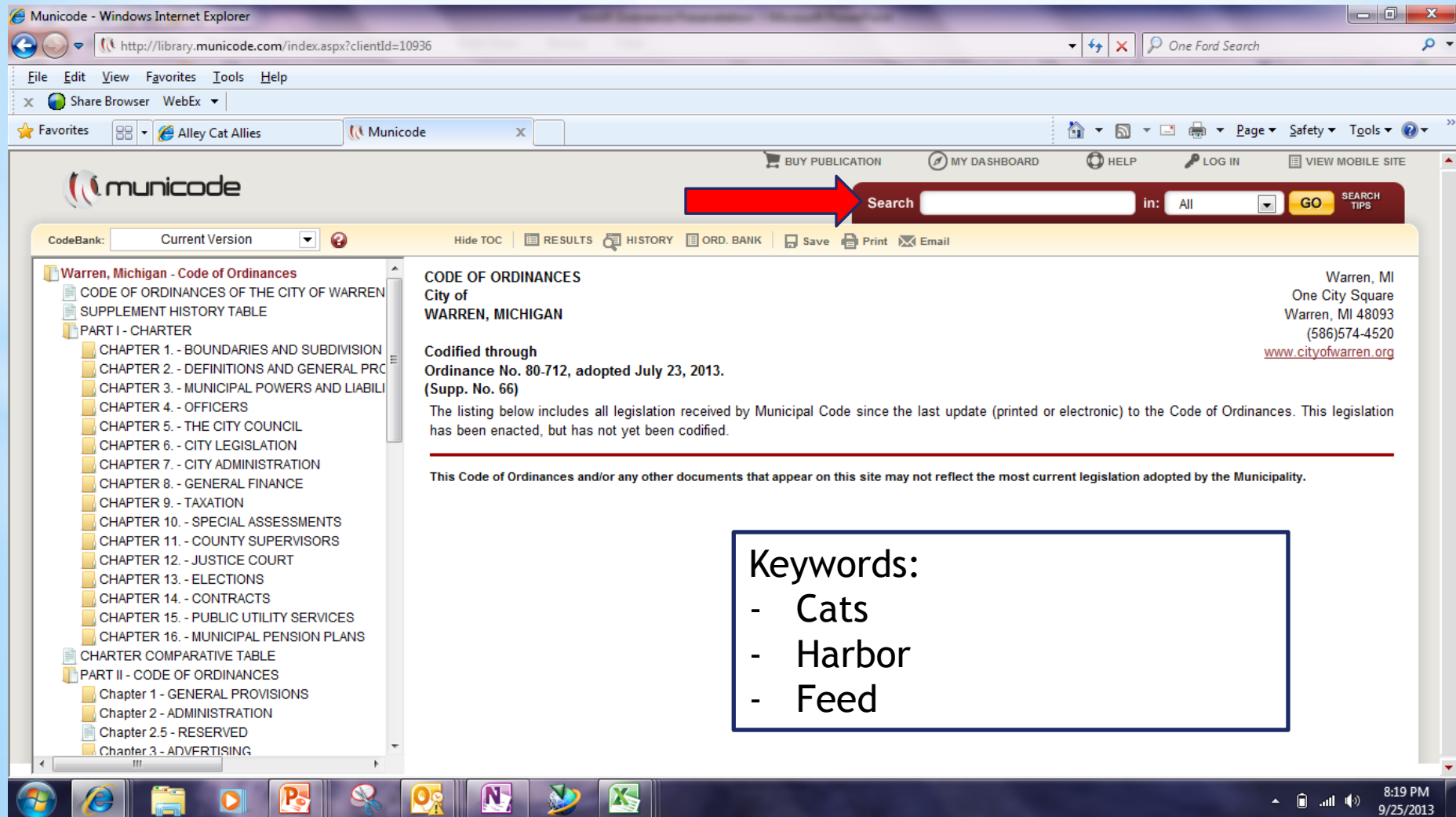
Research Your Local Ordinances -Online Resources-

www.google.com



Research Your Local Ordinances

-Online Resources-



The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Municode website. The address bar shows the URL <http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=10936>. The website header includes the Municode logo and navigation links: BUY PUBLICATION, MY DASHBOARD, HELP, LOG IN, and VIEW MOBILE SITE. A search bar is prominently displayed with a red arrow pointing to it. The search bar contains the text "Search" and "in: All" with a "GO" button. Below the search bar, the website content is divided into two main sections. The left section is a sidebar titled "Warren, Michigan - Code of Ordinances" which lists various chapters and sections. The right section is titled "CODE OF ORDINANCES City of WARREN, MICHIGAN" and contains information about the code, including its codification date and a list of keywords. The keywords are: Cats, Harbor, and Feed. The website also includes a footer with contact information for Warren, MI.

Warren, Michigan - Code of Ordinances

- CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WARREN
- SUPPLEMENT HISTORY TABLE
- PART I - CHARTER
 - CHAPTER 1. - BOUNDARIES AND SUBDIVISION
 - CHAPTER 2. - DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS
 - CHAPTER 3. - MUNICIPAL POWERS AND LIABILITIES
 - CHAPTER 4. - OFFICERS
 - CHAPTER 5. - THE CITY COUNCIL
 - CHAPTER 6. - CITY LEGISLATION
 - CHAPTER 7. - CITY ADMINISTRATION
 - CHAPTER 8. - GENERAL FINANCE
 - CHAPTER 9. - TAXATION
 - CHAPTER 10. - SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS
 - CHAPTER 11. - COUNTY SUPERVISORS
 - CHAPTER 12. - JUSTICE COURT
 - CHAPTER 13. - ELECTIONS
 - CHAPTER 14. - CONTRACTS
 - CHAPTER 15. - PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES
 - CHAPTER 16. - MUNICIPAL PENSION PLANS
- CHARTER COMPARATIVE TABLE
- PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES
 - Chapter 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS
 - Chapter 2 - ADMINISTRATION
 - Chapter 2.5 - RESERVED
 - Chapter 3 - ADVERTISING

CODE OF ORDINANCES
City of
WARREN, MICHIGAN

Codified through
Ordinance No. 80-712, adopted July 23, 2013.
(Supp. No. 66)

The listing below includes all legislation received by Municipal Code since the last update (printed or electronic) to the Code of Ordinances. This legislation has been enacted, but has not yet been codified.

Warren, MI
One City Square
Warren, MI 48093
(586)574-4520
www.cityofwarren.org

This Code of Ordinances and/or any other documents that appear on this site may not reflect the most current legislation adopted by the Municipality.

Keywords:

- Cats
- Harbor
- Feed

Research Your Local Ordinances

-Online Resources-

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Municode website. The address bar shows the URL <http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=10936>. The page features a search bar with the text "One Ford Search" and a "GO" button. Below the search bar, there are navigation links: "BUY PUBLICATION", "MY DASHBOARD", "HELP", "LOG IN", and "VIEW MOBILE SITE". The main content area is titled "CODE OF ORDINANCES" and "City of WARREN, MICHIGAN". It includes a "Codified through Ordinance No. 80-712, adopted July 23, 2013. (Supp. No. 66)" and a paragraph stating: "The listing below includes all legislation received by Municipal Code since the last update (printed or electronic) to the Code of Ordinances. This legislation has been enacted, but has not yet been codified." A red arrow points to "Chapter 7 - ANIMALS" in the left sidebar. The sidebar also lists other chapters, including "PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES", "Chapter 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS", "Chapter 2 - ADMINISTRATION", "Chapter 2.5 - RESERVED", "Chapter 3 - ADVERTISING", "Chapter 4 - ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS", "Chapter 5 - AMBULANCES", "Chapter 6 - AMUSEMENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT", "Chapter 8 - AUCTIONS AND AUCTIONEERS", "Chapter 9 - BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS", "Chapter 10 - CABLE AND TELECOMMUNICATION", "Chapter 11 - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS", "Chapter 12 - FILMING", "Chapter 13 - FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION", "Chapter 14 - FOOD AND FOOD HANDLERS", "Chapter 15 - FRANCHISES", "Chapter 16 - GARBAGE AND RUBBISH", "Chapter 17 - HOTELS/MOTELS, LAUNDRIES AND", "Chapter 18 - LICENSING", "Chapter 19 - MASSAGE", "Chapter 20 - MOBILE HOMES AND TRAILERS", "Chapter 21 - NUISANCES", "Chapter 22 - OFFENSES", "Chapter 23 - PARKS AND RECREATION", and "Chapter 24 - PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS AND TRAVELERS". The bottom of the page shows a Windows taskbar with various application icons and a system clock indicating 8:21 PM on 9/25/2013.

Municode

Search in: All SEARCH TIPS

CodeBank: Current Version

Hide TOC RESULTS HISTORY ORD. BANK Save Print Email

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES

- Chapter 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS
- Chapter 2 - ADMINISTRATION
- Chapter 2.5 - RESERVED
- Chapter 3 - ADVERTISING
- Chapter 4 - ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS
- Chapter 5 - AMBULANCES
- Chapter 6 - AMUSEMENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT
- Chapter 7 - ANIMALS**
- Chapter 8 - AUCTIONS AND AUCTIONEERS
- Chapter 9 - BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS
- Chapter 10 - CABLE AND TELECOMMUNICATION
- Chapter 11 - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
- Chapter 12 - FILMING
- Chapter 13 - FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION
- Chapter 14 - FOOD AND FOOD HANDLERS
- Chapter 15 - FRANCHISES
- Chapter 16 - GARBAGE AND RUBBISH
- Chapter 17 - HOTELS/MOTELS, LAUNDRIES AND
- Chapter 18 - LICENSING
- Chapter 19 - MASSAGE
- Chapter 20 - MOBILE HOMES AND TRAILERS
- Chapter 21 - NUISANCES
- Chapter 22 - OFFENSES
- Chapter 23 - PARKS AND RECREATION
- Chapter 24 - PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS AND TRAVELERS

CODE OF ORDINANCES
City of
WARREN, MICHIGAN

Codified through
Ordinance No. 80-712, adopted July 23, 2013.
(Supp. No. 66)

The listing below includes all legislation received by Municipal Code since the last update (printed or electronic) to the Code of Ordinances. This legislation has been enacted, but has not yet been codified.

Warren, MI
One City Square
Warren, MI 48093
(586)574-4520
www.cityofwarren.org

This Code of Ordinances and/or any other documents that appear on this site may not reflect the most current legislation adopted by the Municipality.

Research Your Local Ordinances

Warren:

Sec. 7-103. Number of cats harbored restricted; nuisance.

It shall be unlawful for any owner or tenant to possess, harbor, shelter or keep more than three (3) adult cats, at any residential dwelling unit or commercial or industrial premises, excepting kennels, veterinary hospitals and pet shops. For the purpose of this section, an adult cat shall be deemed to be any cat six (6) months or older. It shall also be unlawful to maintain any cat or cats so as to create a nuisance by way of noise, odor or otherwise.

(Code 1967, § 4-922(1); Ord. No. 80-340, § 11, 6-9-87)

Royal Oak:

§ 484-14 Keeping of livestock; removal of animals.

A. No person shall keep any livestock, or any other animals, in the City in such a manner as to become a public nuisance. No person shall keep any horses, cattle, sheep, goats, hogs or similar animals in the City without first obtaining a permit therefor. Application for such permit shall be made to the City Clerk upon blanks furnished for the purpose. Such application shall state the location where such livestock or