

Eff. 02-2009

### **6.05.130 Owner responsibility – Control of dogs – Leash requirements.**

A. It is unlawful for the owner or caretaker in charge of a dog to:

1. Permit the dog within the corporate limits of the city of Burlington to run at large, roam, stray, or be away from the premises of the owner or caretaker, or be in or on any public property, or private property of another except with the permission of the owner or custodian of the private property, unless the dog is physically controlled by the owner or caretaker or other competent and authorized person capable of handling and physically controlling the dog by means of a physical control device, such as a leash or carrying cage.

2. Any dog that has already been declared potentially dangerous or dangerous that is caught running at large shall be considered a separate violation and will be subject to the provisions of chapter 6.06 BMC.

3. It is unlawful for a dog to enter park areas that are specifically posted to prohibit dogs, regardless of whether or not the dog is restrained by a leash.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, no physical control device is required for a dog within the boundaries of a city owned or sanctioned off-leash dog park, or while participating in an organized exhibition that has received a permit from the city.

4. Control device requirements shall not apply to police dogs while in performance of law enforcement duties.

5. It is unlawful for a dog to enter or remain on any public park property unless such dog is restrained by a leash or other similar physical restraint.

B. Any person who violates this section shall have committed a civil infraction and shall be assessed a monetary fine as follows:

1. First offense – \$50.00.

2. Second offense – \$75.00.

3. Third offense – \$100.00.

4. Fourth and subsequent offenses – \$150.00 and the animal control officer may declare the dog a public nuisance and may require abatement of the animal per BMC [6.05.160](#). (Ord. 1667 § 2, 2009).

Visit <http://www.codepublishing.com/wa/burlington/> to view the Burlington Municipal Code in its entirety.