

DRAFT as of 1/13/2021

Section 5.5.3 on Pets and Other Animals, as of <date>, supercedes item 5-3 of First River Farms Rules and Regulation as June 20, 2016.

5.5.3 Pets and Other Animals

5.5.3.1 Pets (Domesticated Animals)

As important members of the family, dogs, cats and other domesticated animals are welcome in our community. In order to keep everyone safe and healthy, it is important that pet owners adhere to the following rules of our community, as well as the zoning ordinances and animal control and care ordinances of Fairfax County.

- a. Dogs, cats and other four-legged pets are required to be on a leash and under control at all times while outside, unless they are in their owner's enclosed back yard.
 - Pets must not be allowed to run loose in the neighborhood. This includes, but is not limited to, cats.
 - Residents may report owners of off-leash pets to Fairfax County Police at the non-emergency number.
 - Residents may also report loose pets to Fairfax County Animal Control whose officers are authorized to pick up any animals that are running at large if they are creating a public nuisance and/or threatening public safety or health.
- b. Pets of all types are not allowed in any playground or recreational area within or adjacent to the community. This prevents contamination of the ground on which neighborhood children play due to pet urination and defecation.
- c. Owners of dogs, cats and/or other four-legged animals should allow their pets to relieve themselves only in their own yards and along the perimeter path behind Clifton Farm and Carter Farm Courts. Allowing pets to relieve themselves on neighbors' properties is prohibited.
- d. Owners of dogs, cats and/or other four-legged animals are required to pick-up and properly dispose of their pets' feces.
 - When walking animals, pet feces must be picked up immediately.
 - Residents must not allow pet feces to accumulate in enclosed backyards.
 - Pet feces must be double-bagged and disposed of in the owner's county-provided trash bin.
 - Residents are not allowed to keep receptacles for pet waste on a front porch within view from the common sidewalk, parking lot or street.

- Dumping of pet waste in common areas or in the surrounding county parkland is illegal.
- e. Owners of dogs, cats and/or other four-legged animals must keep their pets off the property of other neighbors in the community.
- Permitting pets on others' property without permission is considered trespassing.
 - Pet owners will be held responsible for any damage caused by their animals to landscape and/or other property.
- f. By county law, all dogs and cats four months of age or older must be vaccinated against rabies. Dog owners must annually purchase county licenses for all dogs four months of age or older.
- g. Repeat violators of any of these pet rules should be reported to the HOA's management company so that the HOA Board of Directors may take corrective action.

5.5.3.2 *Wild Birds*

- a. Residents are not allowed to capture, tame, or harbor wild birds on their own property or in common areas.
- b. Spreading of bird feed on the ground in front or back yards (whether or not enclosed), or in common areas is prohibited in order to prevent infestations of vermin and attraction of other wild animals.
- c. Residents may have bird feeders only on their own property. No bird feeders are allowed in common areas.
- Only one (1) bird feeder is allowed in a resident's front yard without prior approval of the Grounds Committee. Residents may submit a request for additional birdfeeders to be located in their front yards.
 - No more than two (2) bird feeders are allowed in a resident's back yard, whether or not enclosed.
 - Residents must keep the areas around and under bird feeders clear of excessive amounts of bird droppings, seeds and husks in order to prevent infestations of vermin and attraction of other wild animals.
 - If, at any time, a complaint is received that the display of a bird feeder is causing excessive bird droppings or other debris on a neighbor's property, the Board of Directors may require the owner to move the feeder's location, change to a smaller feeder, or to remove the feeder altogether.

5.5.3.3 *Other Wild and Feral Animals*: Residents are not allowed to tame, capture, harbor, or feed wild or feral animals on their own property, in common areas or on adjacent Fairfax County parkland. This prohibition includes the open spreading or disposal of any food item that may attract wild animals.

5.5.3.4 Trapping of Wild and Feral Animals: Bird and animal traps are not allowed outside on personal property, including rooftops, or on common property. All traps set for birds and other animals, usually inside an attic, must be attended to according to the laws of Virginia which mandates that traps be checked every 24 hours. Any trapped animals must be removed in a safe and humane fashion, if possible.