



# Dog Tethering Laws for Pennsylvania Dogs



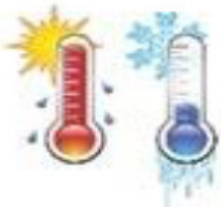
No more than 9 hours tethered in a 24 hour period.



Tether must be the longer of 3 x length of dog or 10 feet.



Must be secured by an appropriate collar. No tow or log chains, no choke, pinch, prong or chain collars.



Temperature: Dogs can only be tethered for 30 minutes if the temperature is over 90 degrees or under 32 degrees.

All dogs must also be provided with:



Note: Dogs in pens with proper shelter/food/water are exempt from time limits.

# ANIMAL ABUSE STATUTE OVERHAUL



TAKES EFFECT ON AUGUST 28, 2017



## 1. Improved tethering conditions for outside.

- No more than 9 hours tethered in 24 hour period.
- Tether must be the longer of 3x length of dog or 10 feet.
- No more than 30 minutes in 90+ or -32 degree weather.
- Must have water and shade.
- Must be secured by an appropriate collar — no tow or log chain, nor choke, pinch, prong, or chain collars.
- Tethered space must be clear of excessive waste.
- No open sores or wounds on the dog's body.



## 2. Added protections for horses.

Currently, most crimes against horses are graded as summary offenses — similar to traffic and littering violations. This law aligns penalties for crimes against horses with penalties for crimes against dogs and cats.



## 3. Increased penalties for animal abuse.

Neglect	Cruelty	Aggravated cruelty
Penalties: Summary offense (up to 90 days in jail and/or a \$300 fine) OR misdemeanor of the third degree (up to 1 year in jail and/or \$2,000 fine) if neglect causes bodily injury or places the animal at imminent risk.	Penalty: Misdemeanor of the second degree (up to 2 years in jail and/or a \$5,000 fine).	Penalty: Felony of the third degree (up to 7 years in jail and/or a \$15,000 fine).



## 4. Ensures convicted animal abusers forfeit abused.

Requires forfeiture of animal of anyone convicted of a felony violation and allows for forfeiture upon other convictions.



## 5. Grants civil immunity for veterinarians and veterinary technicians.

Shields licensed doctors of veterinary medicine, technicians, and assistants who report animal cruelty in good faith from lawsuits.

GOVERNOR TOM WOLF