



## VIRGINIA LAW

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### § 18.2-403.3. Offenses involving animals -- Class 4 misdemeanors.

The following unlawful acts and offenses against animals shall constitute and be punished as a Class 4 misdemeanor:

1. Violation of § [3.2-6566](#) pertaining to interference of agents charged with preventing cruelty to animals.
2. Violation of § [3.2-6573](#) pertaining to shooting pigeons.
3. Violation of § [3.2-6554](#) pertaining to disposing of the body of a dead companion animal.
4. Violation of ordinances passed pursuant to §§ [3.2-6522](#) and [3.2-6525](#) pertaining to rabid dogs and preventing the spread of rabies and the running at large of vicious dogs.
5. Violation of an ordinance passed pursuant to § [3.2-6539](#) requiring dogs to be on a leash.
6. Failure by any person to secure and exhibit the permits required by § [29.1-422](#) pertaining to field trails, night trails and foxhounds.
7. Diseased dogs. -- For the owner of any dog with a contagious or infectious disease to permit such dog to stray from his premises if such disease is known to the owner.
8. License application. -- For any person to make a false statement in order to secure a dog or cat license to which he is not entitled.
9. License tax. -- For any dog or cat owner to fail to pay any license tax required by § [3.2-6530](#) before February 1 for the year in which it is due. In addition, the court may order confiscation and the proper disposition of the dog or cat.
10. Concealing a dog or cat. -- For any person to conceal or harbor any dog or cat on which any required license tax has not been paid.
11. Removing collar and tag. -- For any person, except the owner or custodian, to remove a legally acquired license tag from a dog or cat without the permission of the owner or custodian.

## 12. Violation of § 3.2-6503 pertaining to care of animals by owner.

1984, c. 492; 1993, cc. 174, 817 .

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