

TO THE DOG OWNERS OF TIPPAH COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI:

We have recently been inundated with telephone calls regarding stray or loose dogs in the County. The Board of Supervisors passed an Ordinance on May 3, 1999 regarding Dog Control. Please do not confuse the leash law within the City with the Ordinance. The Ordinance only applies to vicious dogs. The Ordinance passed by the Board reads as follows:

SECTION ONE:

This Ordinance shall commonly be known as the "DOG CONTROL ORDINANCE OF TIPPAH COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI;

SECTION TWO:

It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, or harbor any Pit Bulldog, Rottweiler, Doberman, mixed breed, or any other dog deemed vicious by nature, unless said dog is safely secured by fence, cage, dog pen or heavy chain;

SECTION THREE:

Any person found violating this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined, not more than Five Hundred (500.00) Dollars and/or imprisoned for not more than Sixty (60) days in the Tippah County Jail, at the discretion of the Court, for each separate offense;

SECTION FOUR:

As further provided, *as* authorized by Section 41-53-11 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, the sheriff, conservation officer, or any other peace officer of the county are authorized to kill or otherwise destroy any and all dogs above the age of Six (6) months which are running at large and have not been inoculated, as required by law.

This Ordinance applies to vicious dogs, however, due to the severity of loose dogs, whether vicious or not, invading people's property, the Sheriff has authorized his deputies to destroy any dog that is a menace to the neighborhood. The Sheriff would like to advise the general public that if you have a situation of this nature and you have exhausted every effort with the does owner to keep the animal off your property, then you have every right to protect your property.

The Sheriff's Department belongs to you the people of Tippah County and we are certainly willing and able to serve the people, however, we do not have the manpower to answer every call concerning dogs. Please use your own judgment in regard to this matter.