

(f) Willfully or negligently allow any animal, including one who is aged, diseased, maimed, hopelessly sick, disabled, or nonambulatory, to suffer unnecessary neglect, torture, or pain.

(3) A person who violates subsection two (2) is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days, or by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00, or community service not to exceed 200 hours, or any combination of these penalties.

750.50b Willfully and maliciously killing or injuring animals

(2) A person who willfully, maliciously and without just cause or excuse kills, tortures, mutilates, maims, or disfigures an animal or who willfully and maliciously and without just cause or excuse administers poison to an animal is guilty of a felony, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 4 years, or by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00, or community service for not more than 500 hours or any combination of these penalties.

Compliments of:

Harbor Humane Society
14345 Bagley Street @ US 31
West Olive, MI 49460
(616) 399-2119
www.harborhumane.org



Michigan Animal Law Handbook

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Harbor Humane Society Mission Statement

“To provide a safe harbor for animals entrusted to our care as we strive to secure their future through our outreach and educational programs.”



TO REPORT ANIMAL CRUELTY
Please call
Ottawa County Animal Control At
1-800-249-0911

750.50 Prohibited Conduct

- (2) An owner, possessor, or person having the charge or custody of an animal shall not do any of the following:
- (a) Fail to provide an animal with adequate care.

“Adequate care” means the provision of sufficient food, water, shelter, sanitary conditions, and veterinary medical attention in order to maintain an animal in a state of good health.

“Neglect” means to fail to sufficiently and properly care for an animal to the extent that the animal’s health is jeopardized.

“Sanitary conditions” means space free from health hazards including excessive

animal waste, overcrowding of animals, or other conditions that endanger the animal’s health. This definition does not include a condition resulting from a customary and reasonable practice pursuant to farming or animal husbandry.

“Shelter” means adequate protection from the elements suitable for the age and species of animal and weather conditions to maintain the animal in a state of good health. Shelter, for livestock, includes structures or natural features such as trees and topography. Shelter for a dog shall consist of one or more of the following:

- (i) The Residence of the dog’s owner or other individual.
- (ii) A doghouse that is an enclosed structure with a roof and of appropriate dimensions for the breed and size of the dog. A doghouse shall have dry bedding when the outdoor temperature is at or is predicted to drop below freezing.
- (iii) A structure, including but not limited to a garage, barn or shed that is sufficiently insulated and ventilated to protect the dog from

exposure to extreme temperatures or, if not sufficiently insulated and ventilated, contains a doghouse as provided under subsection (ii) that is accessible to the dog.

“State of good health” means freedom from disease and illness, and in a condition of proper body weight and temperature for the age and species of the animal, unless the animal is undergoing appropriate treatment.

“Water” means potable water that is suitable for the age and species of animal, made regularly available unless otherwise directed by a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine.

(b) Cruelly drive, work, or beat an animal, or cause an animal to be cruelly driven, worked, or beaten.

(e) Abandon an animal or cause an animal to be abandoned, in any place, without making provisions for the animal’s adequate care, unless premises are temporarily vacated for the protection of human life during a disaster.