



Dog Control

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Regional District of Central Okanagan

Kennel License Guide

Both the Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) Responsible Dog Ownership Bylaw No. 1343 and RDCO Bylaw No. 871 and Joe Riche Land Use Bylaw No. 1195, and each of the local governments participating in the dog control service, determine the requirements for obtaining a kennel license for dogs. The participating local government jurisdictions in the dog control service are RDCO Electoral Areas East and West, the City of Kelowna, the District of Lake Country, the District of Peachland and the District of West Kelowna.

The zoning bylaw for each local government jurisdiction is a document that specifies permitted land use regulations for every property. It states whether or not a kennel is permitted and any other conditions that must be met.

The RDCO Responsible Dog Ownership Bylaw No. 1343 applies to all participating local government jurisdictions. The Bylaw states that a kennel license is required in order to keep more than 3 dogs per household or premises.

There are two types of kennels:

- 'Hobby Kennel' where 4 to 20 dogs may be kept, and
- 'Service Kennel' where more than 20 dogs may be kept.

In addition, Bylaw No. 1343 limits the number of dogs that may be kept based on the size of the property.

Note: kennel license requirements do not apply to veterinary hospitals which keep dogs inside a closed building at all times and other dog services businesses which hold dogs inside a closed building and **do not** provide overnight care.

To find out if you meet the requirements for a kennel operation permit:

1. Contact the local government (or regional district) where you live, to find out what zone your property is designated as:
 - Ask whether a kennel is a permitted use. The applicable zoning bylaw may further specify the type of kennel as a service or hobby kennel, which limits the number of dogs that may be kept on your property.
 - Ask about any additional conditions specific to the permitted use of a kennel license on your property. (For example, additional conditions may include setback requirements or an application to the Agricultural Land Commission.)

- If you do not meet all the applicable zoning conditions, talk to staff with the local government office to investigate whether you may apply for a Development Variance Permit.
2. Review RDCO Bylaw No. 1343 for the kennel requirements and standards, and any restrictions to the number of dogs you are permitted for hobby kennels, based on the size of your property. A complete copy of Bylaw No. 1343 can be viewed at www.rdco.com.
 3. In Bylaw No. 1343, 'Hobby Kennel' means a house or property where 4 to 20 dogs over the age of 3 months are kept pursuant to a Kennel Operation Permit. Where your zoning allows hobby kennels, check Bylaw No. 1343 for additional limits to the number of dogs you may keep, based on the size of your lot. The limitations based on the size of a property are:
 - 4 dogs - 0.25 to 1 hectare (0.6178 – 2.47 acres),
 - Up to 8 dogs - 1 to 4 hectares (2.47 – 9.884 acres). and
 - Up to 20 dogs - properties greater than 4 hectares (9.884 acres).
 4. In Bylaw No. 1343, 'Service Kennel' means a facility or property where more than 20 dogs over the age of 3 months are kept, trained, cared for, bred, treated, or boarded for remuneration or purposes of sale pursuant to a Kennel Operation Permit. Additional information for service kennels are described in the Bylaw No. 1343, including:
 - Must be located on a zone that allows a Service Kennel (see Section 43 (a) and (b) of Bylaw No. 1343).
 - Minimum standards for outdoor fences/pens are described in Schedule "C" of Bylaw No. 1343.
 - Kennel standards are described in Schedule "D" of Bylaw No. 1343. Where a kennel fails to continue to meet the requirements of Schedule "D", the permit will be considered to be invalid and will be cancelled.
 - Kennel Operation Permit fee is \$125 each year.
 5. Dogs are to be held within the hobby or service kennel building between the hours of 8pm and 7am and prior to issuance or renewal of a Kennel Operation Permit, the kennel may be inspected by a Dog Control Officer.
 6. Fill out an application (attached) for a kennel license with the RDCO Corporate Services Department at 1450 KLO Road, or Dog Control at 890 Weddell Place. For more information, please contact Dog Control at 250-469-6284.
 7. Contact your local government (municipality or regional district) to investigate whether you require a business license. This requirement is in addition to the kennel license required in Bylaw No. 1343, where the kennel is a business operation, as the keeping of more than 3 dogs may be for business purposes.
 8. If you are planning to move to a new property, repeat steps 1-7 above because kennel licenses are not always transferable to a new property.



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN
KENNEL LICENSE APPLICATION FORM

Regional District of Central Okanagan Responsible Dog Ownership Bylaw No. 1343

Name(s) of Applicant: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ Email: _____

Location/Address of the Kennel: _____

Legal Description: Lot: _____ Plan: _____ Zoning: _____ Lot Size: _____

Number of Dogs to be kept: Hobby Kennel: _____ Service Kennel: _____

The following information must be provided by the applicant in support of this application:

- A site plan showing the location of all the kennel buildings to be used for the kennel operation.
- A detailed plan showing the layout of all the pens within the kennel buildings (1/4 inch per foot scale).
- Proof of building permit (RDCO only)
- A detailed plan showing the layout and details of all outside runs.
- Where the applicant is not the owner of the property, authorization of the property owner to allow a kennel operating to occur.
- Letter indicating that dogs will be kept inside the home and a fenced or penned area is designated outside (show on plan).

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

For Regional District of Central Okanagan Use Only

- Application Approved Application Denied
- Inspected by Dog Control Officer

Dog Control Officer Comments: _____

Approved by: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Name)

Staff Comments: _____