



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON WIESBADEN  
UNIT 29623  
APO AE 09005-9623

IMWB-ZA

17 July 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR All Members of the United States Army Garrison (USAG)  
Wiesbaden Community

SUBJECT: USAG Wiesbaden Command Policy Letter #15, Control of Pets USAG  
Wiesbaden

1. References.

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 420-1, Army Facilities Management, 12 February 2008.
- b. Army in Europe (AE) Supplement 1 to AR 420-1, 20 November 2008.
- c. AR 40-905, Veterinary Health Services, 29 August 2006.
- d. AR 40-5, Preventive Medicine, 25 May 2007.
- e. Memorandum, Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management (ACSIM), subject: Stray Animal Control on Army Installations, 16 June 2014.
- f. Memorandum, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Installations, Energy and Environment, subject: Army Policy – Domestic Animals on Army Installations, August 2018.
- g. Operations Order 16-029: IMCOM Stray Animal Program Guidance, 7 January 2016.

2. Purpose.

- a. Define USAG Wiesbaden's policy and responsibilities for members of the USAG Wiesbaden community regarding pets.
- b. Establish policies and procedures, which will promote safe, secure, healthy, harmonious, and cooperative community living.

3. Applicability. This policy applies to all persons within the USAG Wiesbaden community who own or care for pets on military installations.

4. Policy. Installation residents have the right to be free from disease, menace, noise, and waste caused by animals. Violators of this policy are to be reported to the Military

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Police (MPs) at the time of discovery and are subject to administrative actions including eviction from their assigned government quarters. The MPs will respond to the incidents and determine what actions are required to immediately mitigate the situation and to issue citations, if required.

a. All personnel assigned to USAG Wiesbaden owning pets, regardless of the species or where they live, must register those pets at the Wiesbaden Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) within two (2) weeks of arrival to Germany, or within two (2) weeks of acquiring the animal, if acquired during the tour.

b. All members of USAG Wiesbaden are responsible for maintaining and controlling pets for which they are responsible. Personnel residing in Army Family Housing (AFH) are permitted to have no more than two pets, and must adhere to the requirements and responsibilities of ownership detailed in references above and Host Nation laws. If personnel or their dependents are unable to adhere to the requirements and responsibilities, they may lose their privilege to maintain an animal in AFH.

c. All residents of AFH owning or keeping animals are responsible for all damages to government or private property caused by their pets.

5. Prohibited Animals. Contact the Veterinary Treatment Facility for detailed information on prohibited dogs and Host Nation requirements. Animals not permitted in AFH include, but are not limited to, the following as these are not considered household pets: all rodents, ferrets, all snakes and lizards, potbellied pigs, chickens, tarantulas, scorpions, frogs, etc.

6. Public Nuisance. Owners whose animal(s) are found to be a public nuisance may be required to remove them from AFH, at the owner's expense. Public nuisance includes, but is not limited to: excessive barking/howling, an animal collected as a stray more than two (2) times in a six (6) month period, causes of destruction of government or other personal property, etc.

7. Animal bite/scratch incidents and revocation of pet privileges.

a. Pets that are known to bite will be muzzled and kept on a short leash, no longer than six (6) feet, to ensure proper control of the animal, when outdoors. An adult Family member will walk aggressive animals in order to better maintain control and better avoid an incident. Animals which habitually bite, scratch, attack or otherwise threaten people without provocation are a menace and will not be allowed in government facilities. A severe incident is cause for removal of the offending animal, regardless if there are no previous incidents.

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b. If an animal bites another animal, the owner(s) will notify the MPs immediately. Both owners will then contact the VTF within twenty-four (24) hours to schedule a bite quarantine examination. If the incident happens when the VTF is closed, the owners must contact the VTF the next duty day to schedule this exam.

c. If an animal bites or scratches a human, the human will go to the Medical Treatment Facility (MTF), if during business hours, or the local emergency room (ER), if after MTF hours. If seen at the ER, the person should notify the MTF the next duty day. The MTF will generate a bite-scratch report and notify the VTF of the incident per AR 40-905, paragraph 4-2c(5). The VTF will contact the owner of the animal, if possible, and schedule an appointment for a bite quarantine examination.

d. If at the bite quarantine examination it is determined a higher level of quarantine is necessary, the animal will be transported to a local German quarantine facility and will be quarantined at the owner's expense.

e. Where applicable, if the owner fails to report to the VTF, the Unit Commander/First Sergeant will be notified and will direct the owner to report to the VTF with the offending animal.

f. All animal bites will be entered on the daily blotter.

g. Any person or animal bitten by a stray animal should seek medical/veterinary attention immediately. Incidents involving strays will be reported to the MPs who will immediately attempt to locate the stray animal and will coordinate with the Directorate of Public Works (DPW), VTF, and local authorities for capture and quarantine.

#### 8. Control of Pets.

a. Leashes, including retractable leashes, will not be over 16 feet long. Pets will always be kept on a leash when outside the owner's quarters, unless in the fenced yard of the owners' quarters. No pet is permitted to run loose or off leash. A stray animal is an uncontrolled dog or cat, which is homeless, ownerless, or is a privately owned dog or cat allowed to roam without restriction.

b. Children under the age of 12 will be considered incapable of controlling the pet. No pets of any kind are allowed on playgrounds. Pets are not allowed on balconies, unless the owner or Family member is with the animal and able to control the animal.

c. Owners will pick up pet excrement immediately and dispose of it properly when out with the pet. Owners will ensure excrement does not accumulate in their yards.

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Pets will not be allowed to relieve themselves inside buildings, on balconies, on playgrounds, or on walkways.

d. At no time will pets be left unattended in government quarters for extended periods of time during a day. An extended period of time should be considered periods of time exceeding eight (8) to ten (10) hours per day, even when the pet has access to proper food and water. Owners are responsible for making arrangements for the care of the pet when gone for an extended period of time to include TDY, deployment, or leave.

e. The breeding of pets on government property is prohibited. More than one litter per year is considered a commercial enterprise. Offspring kept longer than six (6) months count against the two (2) pet limit. Construction and maintenance of kennels is prohibited.

f. Pets will be fed only in the resident's quarters or fenced-in yards and not on landings, balconies or stairwells. Pets must be kept indoors at night. Pets will not be locked in a spare room in any house or apartment, storage room, or building common areas. Outdoor housing for pets is prohibited. During any time when a pet is left unattended in a vehicle, the owner is responsible to ensure there is sufficient fresh air and that the air temperature is at a comfortable level.

g. Electronic shock collars (E-Collars) used to train/discipline or exercise a pet are prohibited.

h. Tail docking and ear cropping of pets for purely cosmetic purposes is prohibited. Declawing is restricted unless extreme circumstances exist, and the procedure is medically warranted. Some breeds of hunting dogs, which meet various requirements, may be allowed to have their tails docked.

9. Abandonment of pets is a violation of this policy. Owners that abandon their pets are responsible for all costs incurred by the government in relation to the transfer, care, custody, and final disposition of the animal. Additionally, those owners may be subject to action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

10. Report improper control of pets to the MPs. Where applicable, copies of formal complaints will be provided to the owner's commanding officer for necessary action.

11. Animal Welfare.

a. Pet owners are responsible for the humane treatment of pets in their care and shall provide adequate shelter, nutrition, medical care and companionship for their pets. This command prohibits the inhumane or abusive treatment of animals and shall take

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immediate action when owners are negligent in care or supervision to have the pet removed from the area.

b. A sanitation inspection (Health and Welfare) will be conducted on any house or apartment alleged to be substandard with cleanliness, odorous, or in which a pet has apparently been abandoned. Entry into the quarters will be in the presence of the sponsor or an adult Family member, unless immediate entry is required.

c. The feeding and/or sheltering of abandoned or stray animals is strictly forbidden. A stray animal is defined as any domestic animal that is not under the control of an owner. Personnel who provide food and/or shelter place themselves and the community to health and safety risks. Personnel should not approach stray or abandoned animals. Personnel should call the MPs and report any stray or abandoned animals located on the installation or in the housing areas.

12. Dead Animals. If a pet passes away in AFH, contact the VTF for disposal options. Depending on the method chosen by the owner, the VTF may charge for disposal of the animal. Burial of the animal on a military installation, to include housing areas, is prohibited. If organizations performing post cleanup find a dead animal, before touching the animal, contact DPW for disposal instructions. Dead wild/stray animals should never be picked up without gloves.

13. German law imposes liability on the animal owner or keeper for damages to public or private property and personal injury caused by the pet, whether the animal is in the owner's possession, lost, or abandoned. Liability insurance for pets may be purchased. It is recommended to have the insurance policy reviewed by the USAG Wiesbaden Legal Assistance Office.

14. The proponent for this memorandum is the USAG Wiesbaden DPW Housing Division, DSN 548-4402 or CIV 0611-143-548-4402.

  
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Commanding