



**Private Kennel Standards and Guidelines**  
 SPOKANE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND PLANNING  
 1026 WEST BROADWAY AVENUE  
 SPOKANE, WA 99260  
 509-477-3675

This brochure is intended to help you in assuring your private kennel conforms to applicable Spokane County zoning requirements. A *Private Kennel* is defined by the Spokane County Zoning Code as “A place other than an animal shelter where **5 to 8 dogs or 5 to 10 cats** (over 6 months old) are kept for personal or **noncommercial purposes**. If **more than 8 dogs or 10 cats** (over 6 months old) are kept at a private kennel, then such establishment shall be deemed a “*commercial kennel*,” regardless of whether the owner or keeper receives compensation.” The following zoning requirements are not applicable to Commercial Kennels; Commercial Kennels must obtain a Conditional Use Permit from Spokane County Department of Building and Planning.

Private Kennels are allowed in the Rural Traditional (RT), Rural-5 (R-5), Rural Activity Center (RAC), Urban Reserve (UR), Large Tract Agricultural (LTA), Small Tract Agricultural (STA) and Forest Lands (F) zones. For the zoning of your property, contact the Spokane County Department of Building and Planning at the above address/telephone. *Private Kennels* must meet the following zoning requirements:

- a. The minimum lot area is 5 acres.
- b. No more than 8 dogs and/or 10 cats over 6 months of age are permitted on the subject site.
- c. Outside runs or areas shall be a minimum of 300 feet from any dwelling other than the dwelling of the owner and the run or yard area shall be enclosed with a 6-foot sight-obscuring fence, board-on-board or cyclone with slats.
- d. The structure(s) housing the animals shall be large enough to accommodate all animals and shall be adequately soundproofed to meet WAC 173-60\* as determined by the noise levels for the number of animals to be kept during a period of normal operation.

Should the County receive complaints regarding the noise levels of your private kennel, you may be required to retain the services of a qualified acoustical engineer to demonstrate compliance with these standards.

**\*WAC 173-60-040 Maximum permissible environmental noise levels.** (1) No person shall cause or permit noise to intrude into the property of another person which noise exceeds the maximum permissible noise levels set forth below in this section.

(2)(a) The noise limitations established are as set forth in the following table after any applicable adjustments provided for herein are applied.

NOISE SOURCE	RECEIVING PROPERTY		
	Class A EDNA Residential	Class B EDNA Commercial	Class C EDNA Industrial
Kennel	55 dBA	57 dBA	60 dBA

(b) Between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. the noise limitations of the foregoing table shall be reduced by 10 dBA for receiving property within Class A EDNAs.

(c) At any hour of the day or night the applicable noise limitations in (a) and (b) above may be exceeded for any receiving property by no more than:

(i) 5 dBA for a total of 15 minutes in any one-hour period; or

(ii) 10 dBA for a total of 5 minutes in any one-hour period; or

(iii) 15 dBA for a total of 1.5 minutes in any one-hour period.

e. All animals are to be housed within a structure between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.