

DOG LICENSING

Village of Belgium

State of Wisconsin Dog License Requirements

Per Wisconsin State Statute §174.05, the owner of a dog more than 5 months of age on January 1st of any year, or 5 months of age within the license year ("license year" is January 1st through December 31st), must obtain a dog license **annually by April 1st**.

A dog specially trained to lead the blind or deaf or to provide support for the mobility-impaired is exempt from the dog license fee. However, the owner of such a specially trained dog still must register for a dog license and collar tag from Village Hall.

Proof of current rabies vaccination from your vet clinic (rabies certificate) is required at the time of licensing for first-time licensing as well as for those whose dog's rabies vaccination has expired since you obtained your prior year's dog license.

If you are uncertain if your dog's rabies vaccination has expired since you obtained your prior year's dog license, please contact your dog's vet or Village Hall at (262)285-7931 to verify.

A \$5.00 late fee will be assessed to any license if:

- Owner of a dog 5 months of age or older fails to obtain a license prior to April 1st of each year
- Owner of a licensable dog fails to obtain a license within 30 days of acquiring ownership
- Owner of a dog fails to obtain a license on or before the dog reaches 5 months of age.

Any resident who wishes to own more than 3 dogs in a single dwelling unit in the



Licensing your dog is required by state law!

Village of Belgium, must first seek the approval of the Village Board in accordance with Ordinance § 93-12 Limitation on number of dogs or cats. There is a \$25.00 petition filing fee.

Current License Rates in the Village of Belgium

Neutered Male Dog: \$5.00

Spayed Female Dog: \$5.00

Multiple Dog License (*board approval required*): \$35.00

Unneutered Male Dog: \$10.00

Unspayed Female Dog: \$10.00

NOTE: The proof of alteration required at the time of licensing MUST be printed on the Rabies Certificate you receive from your vet clinic. Most veterinary clinics in the state of Wisconsin are aware of this requirement and automatically print this information on each certificate.

The Importance of Dog Licensing

A countywide dog licensing program benefits our community in several ways.

- Reuniting lost pets with their owners.

A dog license can be traced. Prior to the dog license, dog owners were only required to have a current rabies tag on their dog. Rabies tags could only be traced through the issuing veterinary clinic and only when the clinic was open.

- Ensuring that dogs are vaccinated against rabies, a fatal disease.
- Protecting pet owners and their animals by tracking dangerous and aggressive dogs and habitual offenders of animal laws.

- Reducing the number of unwanted animals by encouraging owners to spay and neuter pets by differential fees.
- Providing important information on pet populations in towns and municipalities, possibly affecting how government resources are allocated to fund animal related programs.
- Licensing benefits public Health

Rabies is a current threat to human and animal health. Dog licensing lowers the overall cost and health risk by making certain that dogs are vaccinated and by providing revenue for prevention programs.

A single rabies incident resulting from a dog whose vaccination has expired costs you, the taxpayer, thousands of dollars. This money could be saved and used elsewhere if the dog's vaccination had been current.



The owner of the dog is responsible for all expenses incurred in connection with a rabies quarantine should their dog bit another person.

Belgium's Dog Park, Pepi's Playground

Pepi's Playground is a 3 acre dog park located in the Village of Belgium, WI. When completed it will be a fenced, off leash park open to the public.

There are many ways to be an active part of bringing Pepi's Playground to life!

- Volunteer to be a member of the park's planning committee.
- Assist in fund raising while having a great time with family & friends by participating in the annual fall dog walk.
- Purchase an engraved brick for the park's patio to remember your favorite

family member, pet, or even to advertise your business or club, as proceeds from the sale will benefit the park. (See details on the following page!)

- Volunteer to help with the various park projects. Volunteer opportunities will be arising as building of the park continues to progress.



Follow the park's progress in any of the following ways:



Via the blog at:

<http://belgiumdogpark.blogspot.com/>



Via email by contacting:

belgiumdogpark@gmail.com



Via Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/PepisPlayground>

....Pepi's Playground Continued

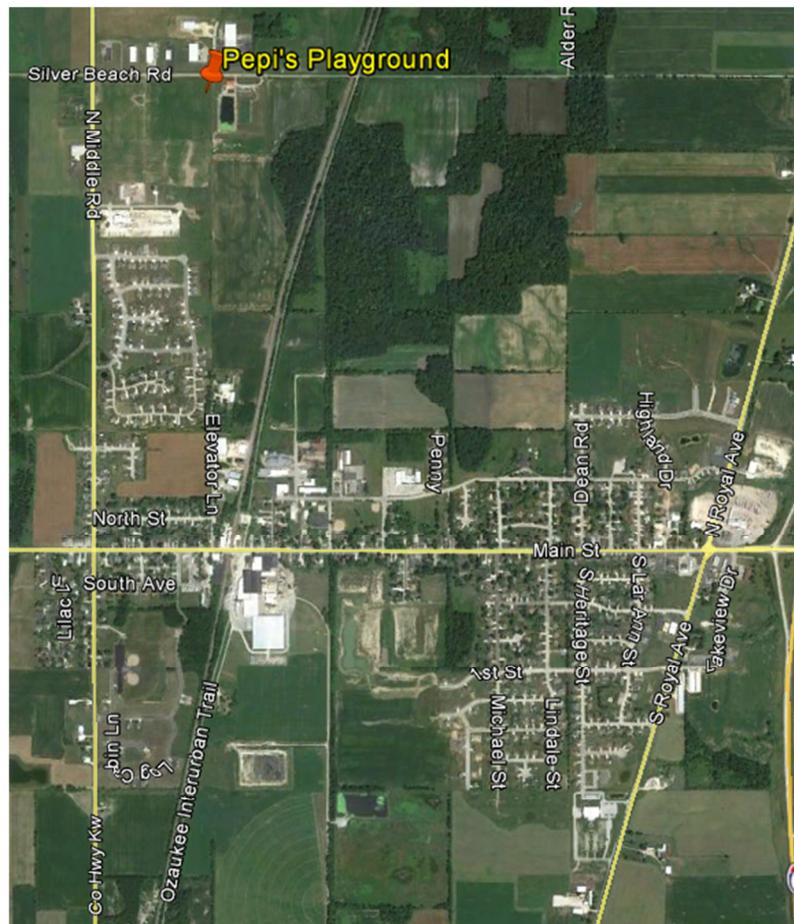
Bricks are available for ordering in three sizes: 8" x 4", 8" x 8" and 12" x 12". Each brick size comes with a specific number of lines of text as well as the ability to have your own clip art added. The bricks are also available in five different colors: brown, beige, red, yellow or gray. Order forms with pricing details are available at Village Hall as well as on the Village of Belgium website for download under "Dog Park Information" on the main page's menu.

Need ideas on what kind of brick you'd like? Check these samples out!



Where is Pepi's Playground located?

Pepi's Playground is located on Silver Beach Road approximately a quarter of a mile east of the intersection of County Road KW/N. Middle Road & Silver Beach Road on the south side of the road. (See the pin on the map to the right)



What You Need to Know If Your Dog Bites Someone

Wisconsin State Law §95.21 requires that any dog which bites a person be quarantined for a minimum of 10 days so that it can be observed for signs of rabies.

Why is the 10-day quarantine necessary?

Rabies is a fatal viral infection of the central nervous system. It is usually transmitted through the bite of an animal carrying the virus in its saliva, or more rarely by contamination of an open cut or mucous membrane with the saliva of a rabid animal.

When a healthy dog bites a person, there is a remote possibility that the dog could be in the infectious phase of the disease without showing signs of rabies. In these cases, the animal will develop recognizable signs of rabies in a few days allowing time to treat the bite victim preventively for rabies exposure.

The 10-day quarantine period ensures that the dog remains available so that it can be observed for signs of rabies. If the animal remains well during the 10 days, this indicates it did not have the rabies virus in its saliva at the time of the bite, and therefore the bite victim does not have to receive an expensive and painful series of shots to prevent rabies.

The 10-day confinement and observation period for dogs that bite humans has stood the test of time as a way to prevent human rabies. This quarantine period also avoids the need to destroy the biting dog in order to test its brain for the rabies virus.

What if I refuse to comply with quarantine requirements?

State statute provides for a fine of \$100 - \$1,000 or 60 days imprisonment or both for failure to comply with a quarantine order.

What if my dog is unvaccinated when it bites a person?

If an unvaccinated dog bites a person, an officer will order that animal quarantined for a period of at least 10 days after the bite. The "officer" can be a public health official, a law enforcement officer, a DNR warden, or a humane officer.

Within 24 hours after the quarantine order is issued, the unvaccinated dog MUST be delivered to an isolation facility for the 10-day observation period. During the observation period, the dog will be held under strict isolation at the facility and examined by a licensed veterinarian on the first day, the last day, and one intervening day of the observation period.

The quarantine may be released after the veterinarian certifies that

The dog has exhibited no signs of rabies during the 10-day quarantine period. The period may be extended if clinical signs warrant the extension. This rarely occurs.

After the quarantine is released, the dog should be vaccinated against rabies. Rabies vaccinations are not to be administered during the observation period.

In the event that the dog under quarantine does exhibit signs of rabies, state statute requires that the dog be humanely killed and the brain submitted for rabies testing.

The owner of the dog is responsible for all expenses incurred in connection with the quarantine.

What liability would I face if my dog bites?

The dog bite statutes of Wisconsin section 174.02(1) make a dog owner strictly liable for damages resulting from a bit or attack by the dog on another person, domestic animal or property. If the dog's owner knew that the dog previously caused injuries, the owner must pay double damages as outlined in sections 174.02(1)(a) and (b). The owner also faces a fine and other penalties. In addition to the statutory laws, Wisconsin holds dog owners, harborers and keepers liable for scienter and negligence.