**General Information**

**How old should my pet be before its first rabies vaccination?**
4 Months old

**How many animals can I have?**
It shall be unlawful for any person to keep or harbor more than three (3) adult dogs, six (6) cats, or six (6) adult ferrets, or any combination thereof in any residential district. A person shall be permitted to keep only one litter of dogs or cats per residence.

**How do I go about adopting a new pet?**
Adoptions are handled through City of Ferris Animal Shelter.

**What types of items can I donate for the animals?**
We accept all donations such as metal food and water bowls, unopened dog or cat food, and flea and tick medications for the animals. Preferred donations we are currently needing include: Laundry soap, bleach, paper towels, and Dawn brand dish soap. We are extremely grateful for all donations as every little bit helps tremendously.

**How do I surrender my pet?**
Owners who want to surrender their pet can contact Animal services during the following hours: Monday – Friday from 10am – 4pm (Appointments Only)

Please bring current medical records of the animal if available and proof of Hutchins residency (drivers license, utility bill, housing rental contract, etc.)

**Owner Surrender Fee:** The City of Hutchins charges a $20.00 owner surrender fee. The fee is utilized to offset the cost of housing and care for pets placed in our care, which can range between $28.00 - $41.00 per day. Sick, injured, aggressive animals are $40.00. Litter $65.00.

Hutchins Animal Services tries to find homes for every suitable animal entering our shelter, but we can never guarantee the placement of any animal. For this reason, we ask that you use Hutchins Animal Services as a last resort, after you have exhausted all other attempts to find your pet an alternative suitable permanent home. The transfer of ownership to the City of Hutchins is final and irrevocable once the animal has been surrendered.

**Important Animal Related Contact Information:**
Important City of Hutchins Ordinances to Know and Follow:

**Article 2.07 At Large Animal**

**Definition of an animal at large:** An animal not physically confined within the boundaries of the owners’ property, either by fencing that the animal cannot penetrate with any part of its body, go over or under, or by leash, tether or chain 6 feet or longer of sufficient strength to hold the animal, and prevent the trespass of any part of its body onto public or private property,
walkways or easements.

**Sec. 2.07.001 Violations; proof**
(a) It shall be unlawful for any person owning, possessing or keeping an animal within the city to allow such animal to run at large.
(b) Evidence that an animal has escaped from fence, enclosure or leash on two or more occasions, shall be sufficient proof that such fence, enclosure or leash is inadequate for the purpose of confining such animal and necessary changes may be ordered by the animal control division by written notice.

**Sec. 2.04.002 Rabies Vaccination required**
All animals for which rabies vaccinations are required by state law, located within the city, shall be currently vaccinated for rabies.