

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 24, SECTION 2291, ~~SUBCHAPTER 14 &~~
~~15~~ VERMONT STATE STATUTES ANNOTATED IT IS HEREBY ORDERED BY THE
SELECTBOARD OF THE TOWN OF RICHFORD THAT THE FOLLOWING
ORDINANCE BY ENACTED.

TITLE 5
RELATING TO THE TOWN'S
ANIMAL CONTROL

EXOTIC ANIMAL AND PET CONTROL ORDNIANCE

Section 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this section is to preserve the public health, safety, and welfare by prohibiting the displaying and handling of LIVE ALLIGATORS, CROCODILES, SNAKES, and SPIDERS which are unsuitable for public places and which are detrimental to the peace and good order of the community. It is the goal of the ordinance to allow all residents to peacefully coexist in a manner which is mutually respectful of the interests and rights of others.

Section 2. PROHIBITED OFFENSES

a. GENERAL PROHIBITION.

It shall be unlawful for any person to make or cause another person or persons to be unreasonably uncomfortable by the displaying and/or handling of the reptiles and carnivorous anthropoids mentioned in (1) above, in or on public property and waters. These actions shall be deemed unreasonable when it disturbs, injures, or endangers the peace or health of another or when it endangers the health, safety, or welfare of the community. Any such action shall be considered to be a public disturbance and a public nuisance.

b. EXPRESS PROHIBITIONS.

The following acts, which enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive, are declared to be public disturbances:

1. Openly handling or displaying the reptiles and carnivorous anthropoids mentioned in (1) above on or in any public property within the special district limits.
2. Transport across Special Services District property: The reptile and carnivorous anthropoid mentioned in (1) above shall be kept in a locked container, cage, or otherwise contained and locked in such a manner as to prevent its escape at all times when on public property, including but not limited to, parks, private parking lots open to the public, paths, public parking lots, the river, roads, sidewalks, streets and trails.
3. Transport in/on vehicles: Regardless of the type of vehicle used, transportation of the reptiles and carnivorous anthropoids mentioned in (1) above must adhere to (2) above within the Special Services District limits.

Section 3. EXEMPTIONS.

The displaying and handling of the reptiles and carnivorous anthropoids mentioned in (1) above shall be exempt from the prohibitions specified herein:

- (a) Educational/recreational events conducted by and on the site of a school or in a park as a school sanctioned event.
- (b) Events conducted by or permitted by the Special Services District.

Section 4. NOTIFICATION BY PROPERTY OWNERS OF RENTAL HOUSING.

Owners of rental housing shall be required to provide a copy of this ordinance to a tenant at the start of the tenancy. However, the failure of an owner to provide a copy of the ordinance shall not be a defense to a violation of the section.

Section 5. ENFORCEMENT.

A violation of this ordinance shall be a civil matter enforced in accordance with the provisions of 24 V.S.A. s.1974a and s 1977 et seq.

A civil penalty of not more than \$500.00 may be imposed for a violation of this civil ordinance.

The waiver fee shall be set at

\$ 50.00 for the first offense,

\$100.00 for the second offense within a six month period, and

\$200.00 for all subsequent offenses within a six month period.

Each calendar day that the violation continues will constitute a separate violation of this ordinance.

Section 6. ENACTMENT.

This ordinance shall take effect October 22, 2001.