



AMERICAN HUMANE

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Animal Cruelty Statutes by State

Alabama

Felony Laws

Code of Ala. Section 13A-11-241(a): Cruelty in first degree

<http://alisdب.legislature.state.al.us/acas/CodeOfAlabama/1975/coatoc.htm>

Penalties: Class C Felony (imprisonment between 1 year and 1 day and 10 years, and a fine not to exceed \$15,000).

Misdemeanor Laws

Code of Ala. Section 13A-11-241(b): Cruelty in second degree

<http://alisdب.legislature.state.al.us/acas/CodeOfAlabama/1975/coatoc.htm>

Penalties: Class A Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, and a fine not to exceed \$6,000).

Code of Ala. Section 13A-11-14: Cruelty to Animals

<http://alisdب.legislature.state.al.us/acas/CodeOfAlabama/1975/coatoc.htm>

Penalties: Class B Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 6 months, and a fine not to exceed \$3,000).

Code of Ala. Section 2-15-110: Human treatment of livestock in transportation.

<http://alisdب.legislature.state.al.us/acas/CodeOfAlabama/1975/coatoc.htm>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (fine between \$10 and \$100, and may be sentenced to a maximum of 6 months imprisonment).

Alaska

Felony Laws

Alaska Stat. Sec. 11.61.140(g). Cruelty to animals

Penalties: Cruelty to animals is a class C felony if the person has been previously convicted on two or more separate occasions within 10 years of the date of

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the present offense of a crime under this section, AS 11.61.145(a)(1) or (2), or a law or ordinance of another jurisdiction having elements similar to those offenses.

Court may order forfeiture of the animals.

Court may order the defendant to pay for costs incurred from necessary shelter, care, veterinary attention, or medical treatment for any animal affected.

Court may prohibit or limit the defendant's ownership, possession, or custody of animals for up to 10 years.

Misdemeanor Laws

Alaska Stat. Section 11.61.140: Cruelty to animals.

http://www.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/stattx05/query=*/doc/%7Bt4448%7D

Penalties: Class A Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, and a fine not to exceed \$10,000).

Court may order forfeiture of the animal.

Court may order the defendant to pay for costs incurred from necessary shelter, care, veterinary attention, or medical treatment for any animal affected.

Court may prohibit or limit the defendant's ownership, possession, or custody of animals for up to 10 years.

Arizona

Felony Law

Ariz. Rev. Stat. Section 13-2910 subsection A, paragraph 8, 9, 10, 11 or 13 : Cruelty to Animals

<http://www.azleg.state.az.us/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/ars/13/02910.htm&Title=13&DocType=ARS>

Penalties: Class 6 Felony (6 months minimum to 1-1/2 years maximum)
\$150,000 maximum fine

Misdemeanor Laws

Ariz. Rev. State. Section 13-2910: Cruelty to Animals

<http://www.azleg.state.az.us/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/ars/13/02910.htm&Title=13&DocType=ARS>

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Penalties: Class 1 Misdemeanor (violating subsection A, paragraph 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 12) (6 month maximum)
\$2,500 maximum fine

Ariz. Rev. State. 13-2910.07: Cruel and inhumane confinement of a pig during pregnancy or a calf raise for veal

<http://www.azleg.state.az.us/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/ars/13/02910-07.htm&Title=13&DocType=ARS>

Penalties: Class 1 Misdemeanor (6 month maximum)
\$2,500 maximum fine

Arkansas

Misdemeanor Laws

A.C.A. Section 5-62-101: Cruelty to Animals.

<http://170.94.58.9/NXT/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&vid=blr:code>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not exceeding \$1,000, or both).

The court may also order a psychiatric or psychological evaluation, and if deemed appropriate psychiatric or psychological counseling.

The court may also order the abused animals turned over to a society which is incorporated for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

A.S.C. Section 5-62-118: Impounded animals (pounds are required to provide adequate food and water).

<http://170.94.58.9/NXT/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&vid=blr:code>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not exceeding \$1,000, or both).

Additionally no person who breaks in to feed the animal after 12 hours without feeding is liable.

A.S.C. Section 5-62-119: Cruelty in transportation.

<http://170.94.58.9/NXT/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&vid=blr:code>

Penalty: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not exceeding \$1,000, or both).

California

Felony Laws

Cal. Pen. Code Section 597: Cruelty to animals.

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<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=pen&group=00001-01000&file=594-625c>

Penalties: Felony (imprisonment not more than 1 year, or a fine not in excess of \$20,000, or both).

The court shall order counseling to evaluate a treat a defendant before they are allowed to receive parole.

Animals sized shall be forfeited, and the costs paid by the defendant.

The court may order all animals in the possession of the defendant to be forfeited, and prohibit the defendant from owning animals in the future.

Misdemeanor Laws

Cal. Pen. Code Section 597: Cruelty to animals.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=pen&group=00001-01000&file=594-625c>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 1 year, or a fine not in excess of \$20,000, or both).

The court shall order counseling to evaluate a treat a defendant before they are allowed to receive parole.

Animals sized shall be forfeited, and the costs paid by the defendant.

The court may order all animals in the possession of the defendant to be forfeited, and prohibit the defendant from owning animals in the future.

Cal. Pen. Code Section 596: Poison the animal of another.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=pen&group=00001-01000&file=594-625c>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year; additionally the court may order a fine not to exceed \$1,000).

Cal. Pen. Code Section 596.5: Mistreatment of an elephant.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=pen&group=00001-01000&file=594-625c>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year; additionally the court may order a fine not to exceed \$1,000).

Cal. Pen. Code Section 597.1: General neglect and abandonment.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=pen&group=00001-01000&file=594-625c>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year; additionally the court may order a fine not to exceed \$1,000).

Animals sized shall be forfeited, and the costs paid by the defendant.

The court may order all animals in the possession of the defendant to be forfeited, and prohibit the defendant from owning animals in the future.

Cal. Pen. Code Section 597.6: Declawing exotic cats.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=pen&group=00001-01000&file=594-625c>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 1 year, or a fine not in excess of \$10,000, or both).

Cal. Pen. Code Section 597.7: Leaving an animal unattended in a closed vehicle.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=pen&group=00001-01000&file=594-625c>

Penalties: A fine not exceeding \$100.

2nd offense, or a first offense that results in great bodily harm (imprisonment not to exceed 6 months, or a fine not to exceed \$500, or both).

Cal. Pen. Code Section 597.8: Transporting an animal.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=pen&group=00001-01000&file=594-625c>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year; additionally the court may order a fine not to exceed \$1,000).

Cal. Pen. Code Section 597s: Willfully abandons an animal.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=pen&group=00001-01000&file=594-625c>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year; additionally the court may order a fine not to exceed \$1,000).

Cal. Pen. Code Section 597t: Confines animal without proper exercise room.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=pen&group=00001-01000&file=594-625c>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year; additionally the court may order a fine not to exceed \$1,000).

Colorado

Felony Laws

C.R.S. Section 18-9-202 (1)(a): Cruelty to animals (subsequent offense).

<http://www.michie.com/colorado/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

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Penalties: Class 6 felony (imprisonment between 1 year and 18 months, and a fine between \$1,000 and \$100,000).

The court shall order anger management or any other appropriate treatment.

The court may order a forfeiture of the animal.

C.R.S. Section 18-9-202 (c): Aggravated cruelty to animals.

<http://www.michie.com/colorado/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Class 6 felony (imprisonment between 1 year and 18 months, additionally a fine between \$1,000 and \$100,000 can be imposed).

A subsequent offense is a class 5 felony (imprisonment between 1 and 3 years, and a fine between \$5,000 and \$500,000).

The court may order a forfeiture of the animal.

Misdemeanor Laws

C.R.S. Section 18-9-202 (1) and (1.5): Cruelty to animals

<http://www.michie.com/colorado/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Class 1 misdemeanor (imprisonment between 6 months and 18 months, or a fine between \$500 and \$5,000, or both).

The court shall order an evaluation, and then the court can order anger management, or any other appropriate treatment, as it sees fit.

The court may order a forfeiture of the animal.

Connecticut

Felony Laws

Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 53-247(b): Cruelty to animals (intentionally and maliciously maims, tortures, mutilates, wounds, or kills).

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2005/pub/Chap945.htm#Sec53-247.htm>

Penalties: Imprisoned not more than 5 years, or fined not more than \$5,000, or both.

Misdemeanor Laws

Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 53-247(a): Cruelty to animals.

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2005/pub/Chap945.htm#Sec53-247.htm>

Penalties: Imprisoned not more than a year, or fined not more than \$1,000, or both.

Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 53-249: Cruelty to poultry (transportation and housing).

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2005/pub/Chap945.htm#Sec53-248.htm>

Penalties: Imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, or a fine not to exceed \$100, or both.

Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 53-252: Transportation of animals on railroads.

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2005/pub/Chap945.htm#Sec53-251.htm>

Penalties: Fined not more than \$500.

Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 22-351: Theft, killing or injuring of companion animal (stealing/hiding an animal's identity from its owner, or unlawful killing of another's animal).

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2005/pub/Chap435.htm#Sec22-351.htm>

Penalties: Imprisoned not more than 6 months, or fined not more than \$1,000, or both.

For a subsequent offense, or an offense with more than one animal, imprisonment between 1 and 3 years, or fined not more than \$2,000, or both.

Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 22-350a: Tethering and confining of dog for unreasonable period of time.

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2005/pub/Chap435.htm#Sec22-350a.htm>

Penalties: Fined not more than \$100.

Second offense fined between \$100 and \$250.

Any subsequent offense fined more than \$500.

Delaware

Felony Laws

Del. Code Ann. Section 1325 (4) and (5): Cruelty to animals (intentionally kills or causes serious injury, or deceptively takes an animal to a shelter when it is known that the animal belongs to another).

http://delcode.delaware.gov/title11/c005/sc07/index.shtml#P309_20452

Penalties: Class F felony (imprisonment not to exceed 3 years, and a fine of \$5,000).

A person cannot own any animal for 15 years, with some exceptions.

Misdemeanor Laws

Del. Code Ann. Section 1325: Cruelty to animals.

http://delcode.delaware.gov/title11/c005/sc07/index.shtml#P309_20452

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not exceeding 1 year, and a fine of \$1,000).

A person cannot own any animal for 5 years, with some exceptions.

Florida

Felony Laws

Fla. Stat. Section 828.12 (2): Cruelty to animals (intentionally causes cruel death, or excessive pain and suffering).

http://www.flsenate.gov/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=Ch0828/SEC12.HTM&Title=->2007->Ch0828->Section%2012#0828.12

Penalties: 3rd degree felony (imprisonment not to exceed 5 years, or a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or both).

When the defendant is found to knowingly and intentionally torture or torment an animal that injures, mutilates, or kills the animal, the defendant must pay a mandatory minimum fine of \$2,500 and receive psychological counseling or complete an anger management program.

A subsequent violation results in a mandatory minimum fine of \$ 5,000, and a mandatory minimum prison sentence of 6 months.

Fla. Stat. Section 828.125: Killing or aggravated abuse of registered breed horses or cattle.

http://www.flsenate.gov/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=Ch0828/SEC125.HTM&Title=->2007->Ch0828->Section%20125#0828.125

Penalties: 2nd degree felony (imprisonment not to exceed 15 years, additionally a fine not to exceed \$10,000 may be imposed).

Misdemeanor Laws

Fla. Stat. Section 828.12 (1): Cruelty to animals.

http://www.flsenate.gov/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=Ch0828/SEC12.HTM&Title=->2007->Ch0828->Section%2012#0828.12

Penalties: 1st degree misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or both).

Fla. Stat. Section 828.13 (2): Confinement of animals without sufficient food, water, or exercise.

http://www.flsenate.gov/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=Ch0828/SEC13.HTM&Title=->2007->Ch0828->Section%2013#0828.13

Penalties: 1st degree misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or both).

Fla. Stat. Section 828.13 (3): Abandonment of animals.

http://www.flsenate.gov/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=Ch0828/SEC13.HTM&Title=->2007->Ch0828->Section%2013#0828.13

Penalties: 1st degree misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or both).

Fla. Stat. Section 828.14: Water and food for stock on trains, vessels, etc.

http://www.flsenate.gov/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=Ch0828/SEC14.HTM&Title=->2007->Ch0828->Section%2014#0828.14

Penalties: 2nd degree misdemeanor (a fine not to exceed \$500).

Georgia

Felony Laws

Official Code of Georgia Ann. Section 16-12-4(c): Aggravated cruelty to animals.

<http://www.lawskills.com/code/ga/16/12/4/>

Penalties: Imprisonment between 1 and 5 years, or a fine not to exceed \$15,000, or both.

The court may order a psychological evaluation.

Misdemeanor Laws

Official Code of Georgia Ann. Section 16-12-4(b): Cruelty to animals.

<http://www.lawskills.com/code/ga/16/12/4/>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 12 months, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

Subsequent offenses- imprisonment not to exceed 12 months, or a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or both.

Subsequent offenses that result in the death of an animal- misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature (imprisonment between 3 and 12 months, or a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or both).

The court may order a psychological evaluation.

Official Code of Georgia Ann. Section 4-8-5: Cruelty to dogs.

<http://www.lawskills.com/code/ga/4/8/5/>

Penalties: misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 12 months, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

<http://www.lawskills.com/code/ga/4/8/3/>

Penalties: misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 12 months, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

<http://www.lawskills.com/code/ga/4/11/15.1/>

Penalties: misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 12 months, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

Penalties: Class C felony (imprisonment not exceeding 5 years, and a fine not exceeding \$10,000).

The court may order the forfeiture of the animal that was the basis of the conviction, or any animals if there are signs of neglect or abuse.

The court shall order the defendant to pay the reasonable costs of the forfeited animal.

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, and a fine not exceeding \$2,000).

The court may order the forfeiture of the animal that was the basis of the conviction, or any animals if there are signs of neglect or abuse.

The court shall order the defendant to pay the reasonable costs of the forfeited animal.

Idaho

Misdemeanor laws

Idaho Code Section 25-3504: Committing cruelty to animals.

<http://www3.state.id.us/cgi-bin/newidst?sctid=250350004.K>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, or a fine between \$100 and \$5,000, or both).

A second offense within 10 years results in imprisonment of less than 9 months, or a fine between \$200 and \$7,000, or both.

A third or subsequent offense within 15 years of the first conviction results in imprisonment not more than 1 year, or a fine of between \$500 and \$9,000, or both.

Idaho Code Section 25-3503: Poisoning animals.

<http://www3.state.id.us/cgi-bin/newidst?sctid=250350003.K>

Penalties: (imprisonment in state prison not exceeding three years, or in the county jail not exceeding one year, and a fine between \$100 and \$5,000).

Idaho Code Section 25-3505: Carrying in a cruel manner (transporting).

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<http://www3.state.id.us/cgi-bin/newidst?sctid=250350005.K>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, or a fine between \$100 and \$5,000, or both).

A second offense within 10 years results in imprisonment of less than 9 months, or a fine between \$200 and \$7,000, or both.

A third or subsequent offense within 15 years of the first conviction results in imprisonment not more than 1 year, or a fine of between \$500 and \$9,000, or both.

Idaho Code Section 25-3510: Impounding without food or water.

<http://www3.state.id.us/cgi-bin/newidst?sctid=250350010.K>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, or a fine between \$100 and \$5,000, or both).

A second offense within 10 years results in imprisonment of less than 9 months, or a fine between \$200 and \$7,000, or both.

A third or subsequent offense within 15 years of the first conviction results in imprisonment not more than 1 year, or a fine of between \$500 and \$9,000, or both.

Idaho Code Section 25-3511: Permitting animals to go without care.

<http://www3.state.id.us/cgi-bin/newidst?sctid=250350011.K>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, or a fine between \$100 and \$5,000, or both).

A second offense within 10 years results in imprisonment of less than 9 months, or a fine between \$200 and \$7,000, or both.

A third or subsequent offense within 15 years of the first conviction results in imprisonment not more than 1 year, or a fine of between \$500 and \$9,000, or both.

Idaho Code Section 25-3518: Beating and harassing animals.

<http://www3.state.id.us/cgi-bin/newidst?sctid=250350018.K>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, or a fine between \$100 and \$5,000, or both).

A second offense within 10 years results in imprisonment of less than 9 months, or a fine between \$200 and \$7,000, or both.

A third or subsequent offense within 15 years of the first conviction results in imprisonment not more than 1 year, or a fine of between \$500 and \$9,000, or both.

Illinois

Felony Laws

Illinois Compiled Statutes Ann. Section 510 ILCS 70/3.02: Aggravated cruelty.
<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1717&ChapAct=510%26nbsp%3BILCS%26nbsp%3B70%2F&ChapterID=41&ChapterName=ANIMALS&ActName=Humane+Care+for+Animals+Act%2E>

Penalty: Class 4 felony (imprisonment between 1 and 3 years, a fine of not more than \$25,000 can be imposed).

Second offense is a class 3 felony (imprisonment between 2 and 5 years, a fine of not more than \$25,000 can be imposed).

The court may order a psychological or psychiatric evaluation, and any subsequent treatment found to be needed.

If the convicted individual is a juvenile or an animal hoarder must receive a psychological or psychiatric evaluation, and any subsequent treatment found to be needed.

Illinois Compiled Statutes Ann. Section 510 ILCS 70/3: Owner's duties (provide food, water, shelter, and veterinarian care) (2nd offense).

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1717&ChapAct=510%26nbsp%3BILCS%26nbsp%3B70%2F&ChapterID=41&ChapterName=ANIMALS&ActName=Humane+Care+for+Animals+Act%2E>

Penalties: Class 4 felony (imprisonment between 1 and 3 years, a fine of not more than \$25,000 can be imposed).

The court may order a psychological or psychiatric evaluation, and any subsequent treatment found to be needed.

If the convicted individual is a juvenile or an animal hoarder must receive a psychological or psychiatric evaluation, and any subsequent treatment found to be needed.

Illinois Compiled Statutes Ann. Section 510 ILCS 70/3.01: Cruel treatment (2nd offense).

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1717&ChapAct=510%26nbsp%3BILCS%26nbsp%3B70%2F&ChapterID=41&ChapterName=ANIMALS&ActName=Humane+Care+for+Animals+Act%2E>

Penalties: Class 4 felony (imprisonment between 1 and 3 years, a fine of not more than \$25,000 can be imposed).

The court may order a psychological or psychiatric evaluation, and any subsequent treatment found to be needed.

If the convicted individual is a juvenile or an animal hoarder must receive a psychological or psychiatric evaluation, and any subsequent treatment found to be needed.

Illinois Compiled Statutes Ann. Section 510 ILCS 70/3.03: Animal torture.

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1717&ChapAct=510%26nbsp%3BI LCS%26nbsp%3B70%2F&ChapterID=41&ChapterName=ANIMALS&ActName=Humane+Care+for+Animals+Act%2E>

Penalties: Class 3 felony (imprisonment between 2 and 5 years, a fine of not more than \$25,000 can be imposed).

The court shall order a psychological or psychiatric evaluation, and any subsequent treatment found to be needed.

Illinois Compiled Statutes Ann. Section 510 ILCS 70/6: Poisoning prohibited (2nd offense).

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1717&ChapAct=510%26nbsp%3BI LCS%26nbsp%3B70%2F&ChapterID=41&ChapterName=ANIMALS&ActName=Humane+Care+for+Animals+Act%2E>

Penalties: Class 4 felony (imprisonment between 1 and 3 years, a fine of not more than \$25,000 can be imposed).

Illinois Compiled Statutes Ann. Section 510 ILCS 70/7: Confinement or detention during transportation (2nd offense).

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1717&ChapAct=510%26nbsp%3BI LCS%26nbsp%3B70%2F&ChapterID=41&ChapterName=ANIMALS&ActName=Humane+Care+for+Animals+Act%2E>

Penalties: Class 4 felony (imprisonment between 1 and 3 years, a fine of not more than \$25,000 can be imposed).

Misdemeanor Laws

Illinois Compiled Statutes Ann. Section 510 ILCS 70/3: Owner's duties (provide food, water, shelter, and veterinarian care).

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1717&ChapAct=510%26nbsp%3BI LCS%26nbsp%3B70%2F&ChapterID=41&ChapterName=ANIMALS&ActName=Humane+Care+for+Animals+Act%2E>

Penalties: Class B misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, imprisonment between 2 and 5 years, a fine of not more than \$1,500 can be imposed).

The court may order a psychological or psychiatric evaluation, and any subsequent treatment found to be needed.

If the convicted individual is a juvenile or an animal hoarder must receive a psychological or psychiatric evaluation, and any subsequent treatment found to be needed.

Illinois Compiled Statutes Ann. Section 510 ILCS 70/3.01: Cruel treatment (1st offense).
<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1717&ChapAct=510%26nbsp%3BILCS%26nbsp%3B70%2F&ChapterID=41&ChapterName=ANIMALS&ActName=Humane+Care+for+Animals+Act%2E>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 1 year, a fine of not more than \$2,500 can be imposed).

The court may order a psychological or psychiatric evaluation, and any subsequent treatment found to be needed.

If the convicted individual is a juvenile or an animal hoarder must receive a psychological or psychiatric evaluation, and any subsequent treatment found to be needed.

Illinois Compiled Statutes Ann. Section 510 ILCS 70/6: Poisoning prohibited.
<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1717&ChapAct=510%26nbsp%3BILCS%26nbsp%3B70%2F&ChapterID=41&ChapterName=ANIMALS&ActName=Humane+Care+for+Animals+Act%2E>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 1 year, a fine of not more than \$2,500 can be imposed).

Illinois Compiled Statutes Ann. Section 510 ILCS 70/7: Confinement or detention during transportation (1st offense).
<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1717&ChapAct=510%26nbsp%3BILCS%26nbsp%3B70%2F&ChapterID=41&ChapterName=ANIMALS&ActName=Humane+Care+for+Animals+Act%2E>

Penalties: Class B misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, a fine of not more than \$1,500 can be imposed).

Illinois Compiled Statutes Ann. Section 510 ILCS 70/7.1: Confinement in motor vehicle.
<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1717&ChapAct=510%26nbsp%3BILCS%26nbsp%3B70%2F&ChapterID=41&ChapterName=ANIMALS&ActName=Humane+Care+for+Animals+Act%2E>

Penalties: Class C misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 30 days, a fine of not more than \$1,500 can be imposed).

A subsequent offense is a class B misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, a fine of not more than \$1,500 can be imposed).

Indiana

Felony Laws

Ind. Code Ann. Section 35-46-3-12: Cruelty to an animal -- Intentionally beating a vertebrate animal (subsequent offense, torture, or done with the intent to harass/terrorize another household member).

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title35/ar46/ch3.html>

Penalties: Class D felony (imprisonment between 6 months and 3 years, additionally a fine not exceeding \$10,000 may be imposed).

The court can require psychological, behavioral, or other counseling.

Ind. Code Ann. Section 35-46-3-14: Bestiality.

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title35/ar46/ch3.html>

Penalties: Class D felony (imprisonment between 6 months and 3 years, additionally a fine not exceeding \$10,000 may be imposed).

Ind. Code Ann. Section 35-46-3-12.5: Domestic violence animal cruelty (kills an animal with the intent to threaten, intimidate, coerce, harass, or terrorize a family or household member).

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title35/ar46/ch3.html>

Penalties: This is domestic violence, a class D felony (imprisonment between 6 months and 3 years, additionally a fine not exceeding \$10,000 may be imposed).

Misdemeanor Laws

Ind. Code Ann. Section 35-46-3-12: Cruelty to an animal -- Intentionally beating a vertebrate animal.

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title35/ar46/ch3.html>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, additionally a fine not more than \$5,000 may be ordered).

The court can require psychological, behavioral, or other counseling.

Ind. Code Ann. Section 35-46-3-13: Removal of attack dog's vocal cords.

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title35/ar46/ch3.html>

Penalties: This is animal cruelty, a class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, additionally a fine not more than \$5,000 may be ordered).

Ind. Code Ann. Section 35-46-3-7: Abandonment or neglect of vertebrate animals.

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title35/ar46/ch3.html>

Penalties: Class B misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 180 days, additionally a fine not more than \$1,000 may be ordered).

Iowa

Felony Laws

Iowa Code Section 717B.3A: Animal torture (2nd and subsequent offenses).

<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/IACODE/2003SUPPLEMENT/717B/3A.html>

Penalties: Class D felony (imprisoned no more than 5 years, and fined between \$750 and \$7,500).

The court shall order a psychological evaluation and then treatment.

Misdemeanor Laws

Iowa Code Section 717B.2: Animal abuse (killing, maiming, or injuring an animal owned by another person).

<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/IACODE/2003SUPPLEMENT/717B/2.html>

Penalties: Aggravated misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 2 years, and a fine between \$500 and \$5,000).

Iowa Code Section 717B.3A: Animal torture.

<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/IACODE/2003SUPPLEMENT/717B/3A.html>

Penalties: Aggravated misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 2 years, and a fine between \$500 and \$5,000).

The court shall order a psychological evaluation and then treatment.

The court shall order community work, some of which can take place at an animal shelter or pound.

Iowa Code Section 717B.3: Animal neglect (failing to provide a confined animal with proper food, water, shelter, ect.)

<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/IACODE/2003SUPPLEMENT/717B/3.html>

Penalties: If the act does not result in serious injury or death then it is a simple misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, or a fine between \$50 and \$500, or both).

If the act results in serious injury or death then it is a serious misdemeanor (a fine between \$250 and \$1,500, additionally the court can order imprisonment not to exceed 1 year).

Iowa Code Section 717B.8: Abandonment of cats and dogs.

<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/IACODE/2003SUPPLEMENT/717B/8.html>

Penalties: Simple misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, or a fine between \$50 and \$500, or both).

Iowa Code Section 717.1A: Livestock abuse (intentionally injuring or destroying the livestock of another).

<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/IACODE/2003SUPPLEMENT/717/1A.html>

Penalties: Aggravated misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 2 years, and a fine between \$500 and \$5,000).

Iowa Code Section 717.2: Livestock neglect.

<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/IACODE/2003SUPPLEMENT/717/2.html>

Penalties: If the act does not result in serious injury or death then it is a simple misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, or a fine between \$50 and \$500, or both).

If the act results in serious injury or death then it is a serious misdemeanor (a fine between \$250 and \$1,500, additionally the court can order imprisonment not to exceed 1 year).

Iowa Code Section 717C.1: Bestiality.

<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/IACODE/2003SUPPLEMENT/717C/1.html>

Penalties: aggravated misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 2 years, and a fine between \$500 and \$5,000).

The court shall order a psychological evaluation and then treatment.

Kansas

Felony Laws

Kansas Statutes Ann. Section 21-4310 (a)(1): Cruelty to animals (intentionally and maliciously killing, injuring, torturing, or mutilating an animal).

<http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-statutes/getStatuteInfo.do>

Penalties: Nonperson felony (imprisonment between 30 days and 1 year, and fined between \$500 and \$5,000).

The person shall have a psychological evaluation.

The court may impose anger management courses.

Kansas Statutes Ann. Section 21-4310 (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4) and (a)(5): Cruelty to animals (subsequent offenses).

<http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-statutes/getStatuteInfo.do>

Penalties: Nonperson felony (imprisonment between 30 days and 1 year, and fined between \$500 and \$5,000).

Misdemeanor Laws

Kansas Statutes Ann. Section 21-4310 (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4) and (a)(5): Cruelty to animals.

<http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-statutes/getStatuteInfo.do>

Penalties: Class A nonperson misdemeanor (imprisonment between 5 days and 1 year).

Kansas Statutes Ann. Section 21-3727: Injury to a domestic animal.

<http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-statutes/getStatuteInfo.do>

Penalties: Class A nonperson misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year).

Kentucky

Felony Laws

Kentucky Revised Statutes Section 525.135: Torture of dog or cat (subsequent offenses).

<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/KRS/525-00/135.PDF>

Penalties: Class D felony (imprisonment between 1 and 5 years and a fine between \$1,000 and \$10,000).

Misdemeanor Laws

Kentucky Revised Statutes Section 525.130: Cruelty to animals in the second degree.

<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/KRS/525-00/130.PDF>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 12 months, and a fine not to exceed \$500).

Kentucky Revised Statutes Section 525.135: Torture of dog or cat.

<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/KRS/525-00/135.PDF>

Penalties: First offense-class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 12 months, and a fine not to exceed \$500).

Louisiana

Felony Laws

Louisiana Revised Statutes Section 14:102.1: Cruelty to animals; aggravated.

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=78236>

Penalties: Imprisonment between 1 and 10 years (with or without hard labor), or fine between \$5,000 and \$25,000, or both.

The court may order an animal cruelty treated to be forfeited.

The court may also order for the payment by the defendant of the costs of the forfeited animal.

Compiled by American Humane Association, Public Policy Office

Last updated January 2009

Misdemeanor Laws

Louisiana Revised Statutes Section 14:102.1: Cruelty to animals; simple.

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=78236>

Penalties: Imprisonment not more than 6 months, or fine not more than \$1,000, or both.

The court may order an animal cruelty treated to be forfeited.

The court may also order for the payment by the defendant of the costs of the forfeited animal.

Louisiana Revised Statutes Section 102.20: Sport killing of zoo or circus animals prohibited.

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=285168>

Penalties: Imprisonment not to exceed 6 months, or a fine not to exceed \$500, or both.

Louisiana Revised Statutes Section 102.4: Confined animals; necessary food and water.

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=78247>

A law enforcement officer can enter anyplace an animal is impounded or confined to give it proper food and water if that animal has been confined from more than 24 hours without food and water.

Maine

Maine Revised Statutes 17 §10311-B: Aggravated cruelty to animals.

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/17/title17ch42.pdf>

Penalties: Class C crime (imprisonment not to exceed 5 years, and a fine between \$1,000 and \$10,000).

The court may order a psychiatric or psychological evaluation and, if it is determined appropriate by the court, to receive psychiatric or psychological counseling.

The court can prohibit the defendant from owning animals for any period of time.

The court may order the defendant to pay for the future care of animal.

Maine Revised Statutes Section 17 §1031: Cruelty to animals.

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/17/title17ch42.pdf>

Penalties: Class D crime (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, and a fine between \$500 and \$2,000).

The court may order a psychiatric or psychological evaluation and, if it is determined appropriate by the court, to receive psychiatric or psychological counseling.

The court can prohibit the defendant from owning animals for any period of time.

The court may order the defendant to pay for the future care of animal.

Maine Revised Statutes 17 §1031: Cruelty to animals (violates 1031 while at the same time having 2 or more convictions of 1031 or 1032).

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/17/title17ch42.pdf>

Penalties: Class C crime (imprisonment not to exceed 5 years, and a fine between \$500 and \$5,000).

The court may order a psychiatric or psychological evaluation and, if it is determined appropriate by the court, to receive psychiatric or psychological counseling.

The court can prohibit the defendant from owning animals for any period of time.

The court may order the defendant to pay for the future care of animal.

Maine Revised Statutes 17 §1032: Cruelty to birds.

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/17/title17ch42.pdf>

Penalties: Class D crime (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, and a fine between \$100 and \$2,000).

Maine Revised Statutes 17 §1031: Cruelty to animals (violates 1032 while at the same time having 2 or more convictions of 1031 or 1032).

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/17/title17ch42.pdf>

Penalties: Class C crime (imprisonment not to exceed 5 years, and a fine between \$100 and \$5,000).

Maine Revised Statutes Section 4011: Cruelty to animals.

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/7/title7sec4011.html>

Penalties: Civil violation that results in a fine of between \$500 and \$2,500 for the first violation, and between \$1,000 and \$5,000 for the second violation.

The court can prohibit the defendant from owning animals for any period of time.

The court may order the defendant to receive a psychological evaluation.

The court may order the defendant to pay for the future care of animal.

Maine Revised Statutes Section 4012: Cruelty to birds.

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/7/title7sec4012.html>

Penalties: Civil violation that results in a fine of between \$500 and \$2,500 for the first violation, and between \$1,000 and \$5,000 for the second violation.

The court can prohibit the defendant from owning animals for any period of time.

The court may order the defendant to receive a psychological evaluation.

The court may order the defendant to pay for the future care of animal.

Maine Revised Statutes Section 4013: Necessary sustenance (provide food and water).

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/7/title7sec4013.html>

Penalties: Civil violation that results in a fine of between \$500 and \$2,500 for the first violation, and between \$1,000 and \$5,000 for the second violation.

The court can prohibit the defendant from owning animals for any period of time.

The court may order the defendant to receive a psychological evaluation.

The court may order the defendant to pay for the future care of animal.

Maine Revised Statutes Section 4014: Necessary medical attention.

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/7/title7sec4014.html>

Penalties: Civil violation that results in a fine of between \$500 and \$2,500 for the first violation, and between \$1,000 and \$5,000 for the second violation.

The court can prohibit the defendant from owning animals for any period of time.

The court may order the defendant to receive a psychological evaluation.

The court may order the defendant to pay for the future care of animal.

Maine Revised Statutes Section 4015: Proper shelter, protection from the weather and humanely clean conditions.

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/7/title7sec4015.html>

Penalties: Civil violation that results in a fine of between \$500 and \$2,500 for the first violation, and between \$1,000 and \$5,000 for the second violation.

The court can prohibit the defendant from owning animals for any period of time.

The court may order the defendant to receive a psychological evaluation.

The court may order the defendant to pay for the future care of animal.

Maryland

Felony Laws

Maryland Code Ann. Section 10-606: Aggravated cruelty to animals.

http://mlis.state.md.us/asp/web_statutes.asp?gcr&10-606

Penalties: Felony (imprisonment not to exceed 3 years, or a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or both).

The court may order defendant to receive psychological counseling.

The court may remove any animal from the defendant's control.

Misdemeanor Laws

Maryland Code Ann. Section 10-604. Abuse or neglect of animal: Aggravated cruelty to animals.

http://mlis.state.md.us/asp/web_statutes.asp?gcr&10-604

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

The court may order defendant to receive psychological counseling.

The court may remove any animal from the defendant's control.

Maryland Code Ann. Section 10-605: Attending dogfights or cockfights

<http://www.michie.com/maryland/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year and/or \$2,500 fine, or both)

The court may order defendant to receive psychological counseling.

Maryland Code Ann. Section 10-612: Abandoning domestic animal.

http://mlis.state.md.us/asp/web_statutes.asp?gcr&10-612

Penalties: Misdemeanor (a fine not exceeding \$100).

The court may remove any animal from the defendant's control.

Maryland Code Ann. Section 10-618: Poisoning dog.

http://mlis.state.md.us/asp/web_statutes.asp?gcr&10-618

Penalties: Misdemeanor (a fine not exceeding \$100).

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Maryland Code Ann. Section 10-623: Leaving dogs outside and unattended by use of restraints.

http://mlis.state.md.us/asp/web_statutes.asp?gcr&10-623

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

Maryland Code Ann. Section 21-1004.1: Cats or dogs left in standing or parked vehicle.

http://mlis.state.md.us/asp/statutes_respond.asp?article=gtr§ion=21-1004.1&Extension=HTML

Penalties: No liability for the person who rescues the animal from the vehicle.

Massachusetts

Felony Laws

Ann. Laws of Massachusetts ch. 272, Section 77: Cruelty to animals.

<http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/272-77.htm>

Penalties: Imprisonment in the state prison for not more than 5 years or imprisonment in the house of correction for not more than 2 1/2 years, or by a fine of not more than \$2,500, or both

The defendant shall forfeit the animal upon which the conviction was based.

Misdemeanor Laws

Ann. Laws of Massachusetts ch. 272, Section 80C. Taking cat, dog or bird to exhibit it, subject it to experimentation or mutilation, or to sell it for such purposes.

<http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/272-80c.htm>

Penalties: A fine not less than \$100, nor more than the maximum fine permitted by law for the larceny of an article of the same value as such cat, dog or bird.

Ann. Laws of Massachusetts Ch. 272, Section 81: Rest, water and feed for transported animals.

<http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/272-81.htm>

Penalties: A fine between \$100 and \$500.

Ann. Laws of Massachusetts Ch. 272, Section 87: Keeping or using birds to be shot at.

<http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/272-87.htm>

Penalties: Imprisonment not to exceed 1 month, or a fine not more than \$50, or both.

Ann. Laws of Massachusetts Ch. 272, Section 80G: Experiments on vertebrates (public schools).

<http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/272-80g.htm>

Compiled by American Humane Association, Public Policy Office

Last updated January 2009

Penalties: Fine not more than \$100.

Michigan

Felony Laws

Michigan Compiled Laws Service Section 750.50(2): Animal Cruelty.

[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(ekbu4h45gipjii3sblry0w45\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectname=mcl-750-50](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(ekbu4h45gipjii3sblry0w45))/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectname=mcl-750-50)

Penalties: 4 to 9 animals or a prior conviction felony (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$2,000, or community service not more than 300 hours, or any combination).

10 or more animals or a 2 prior convictions felony (imprisonment not to exceed 4 year, or a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or community service not more than 500 hours, or any combination).

The court may order a psychiatric or psychological evaluation, and as needed, the court may order psychiatric or psychological counseling.

The court may order the defendant to pay the costs of the care, housing, and veterinary medical care for the animal.

For a first offense, the court may order the defendant not to own any animal for the duration of probation. For a second offense the court may order the defendant to never own any animal.

Michigan Compiled Laws Service Section 750.50b: Willfully, maliciously and without just cause or excuse kills, tortures, mutilates, maims, or disfigures an animal; or poisons an animal.

[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(0t4qlzucbm1ysc55moxtt saz\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-750-50b](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(0t4qlzucbm1ysc55moxtt saz))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-750-50b)

Penalty: Felony (imprisonment not to exceed 4 year, or a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or community service not more than 500 hours, or any combination).

As part of probation the court may order a psychiatric or psychological evaluation, and as needed, the court may order psychiatric or psychological counseling.

The court may order the defendant to pay the costs of the care, housing, and veterinary medical care for the animal.

The court may order the defendant to never own any animal.

As of January 1, 2009, general intent as the standard is clearer.

Misdemeanor Laws

Michigan Compiled Laws Service Section 750.50(2): Animal Cruelty.

[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(ekbu4h45gipjii3sblry0w45\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectname=mcl-750-50](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(ekbu4h45gipjii3sblry0w45))/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectname=mcl-750-50)

Penalties: 1 animal misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 93 days, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

2 to 3 animals or the death of any animal misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$2,000, or community service not more than 300 hours, or any combination).

The court may order a psychiatric or psychological evaluation, and as needed, the court may order psychiatric or psychological counseling.

The court may order the defendant to pay the costs of the care, housing, and veterinary medical care for the animal.

For a first offense, the court may order the defendant not to own any animal for the duration of probation. For a second offense the court may order the defendant to never own any animal.

Michigan Compiled Laws Service Section 750.51: Confining on railroad cars.

[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(1cgpcv45e3d24r45cb4xcj55\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectname=mcl-750-51](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(1cgpcv45e3d24r45cb4xcj55))/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectname=mcl-750-51)

Penalties: A fine between \$100 and \$500.

Minnesota

Felony Laws

Minnesota Statutes Section 343.21: Overworking or mistreating animals (Caging animals resulting in death or great bodily harm).

<https://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/statutes/?id=343.21>

Penalties: Imprisonment not to exceed 4 years, or a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or both.

The court shall order all animals forfeited.

Minnesota Statutes Section 343.21: Overworking or mistreating animals (also cruelty).

<https://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/statutes/?id=343.21>

Penalties: Violation of (b) within 5 years of a prior felony of gross misdemeanor conviction (imprisonment not to exceed 2 years, or a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or both).

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Violation results in death of animal or great bodily harm (imprisonment not to exceed 2 years, or a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or both).

The court shall order all animals forfeited.

The court may order the defendant to receive psychological, behavioral, or other counseling.

The court may order the defendant to not own animals for any period of time.

Misdemeanor Laws

Minnesota Statutes Section 343.21: Overworking or mistreating animals (also cruelty).

<https://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/statutes/?id=343.21>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment of not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than \$1,000, or both).

Second conviction within 5 years is a gross misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$3,000, or both).

Violation results in substantial bodily harm (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$3,000, or both).

The court shall order all animals forfeited.

The court may order the defendant to receive psychological, behavioral, or other counseling.

The court may order the defendant to not own animals for any period of time.

Minnesota Statutes Section 343.24: Cruelty in transportation.

<https://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/statutes/?id=343.24>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment of not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than \$1,000, or both).

Minnesota Statutes Section 343.27: Poisoning Animals.

<https://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/statutes/?id=343.27>

Penalties: Gross misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$3,000, or both).

Mississippi

Felony laws

Miss. Code Ann. Section 97-41-15: Malicious or mischievous injury to livestock.

<http://www.michie.com/mississippi/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Felony (imprisonment between 1 and 5 years, and fined between \$1,500 and \$10,000).

Misdemeanor Laws

Miss. Code Ann. Section 97-41-1: Living creatures not to be cruelly treated.

<http://www.michie.com/mississippi/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisoned between 10 and 100 days, or fined between \$10 and \$100, or both).

Miss. Code Ann. Section 97-41-16: Malicious or mischievous injury to dog or cat.

<http://www.michie.com/mississippi/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Imprisonment not to exceed 6 months, or fined not more than \$1,000.

Miss. Code Ann. Section 97-41-17: Poisons (using them on animals).

<http://www.michie.com/mississippi/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Imprisonment in the penitentiary not exceeding 3 years, or in the county jail not exceeding 1 year, and a fine not exceeding \$500.

Miss. Code Ann. Section 97-41-5: Carrying creature in a cruel manner.

<http://www.michie.com/mississippi/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisoned between 10 and 100 days, or fined between \$10 and \$100, or both).

Miss. Code Ann. Section 97-41-7: Confining creatures without food or water.

<http://www.michie.com/mississippi/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisoned between 10 and 100 days, or fined between \$10 and \$100, or both).

Miss. Code Ann. Section 97 97-41-9: Failure of owner or custodian to provide sustenance.

<http://www.michie.com/mississippi/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisoned between 10 and 100 days, or fined between \$10 and \$100, or both).

Missouri

Felony Laws

Mo. Rev. St. Section 578.012: Animal abuse (torture or mutilation consciously inflicted).

<http://www.moga.mo.gov/statutes/C500-599/5780000012.HTM>

Compiled by American Humane Association, Public Policy Office

Last updated January 2009

Penalties: Class D felony (imprisonment not to exceed 4 years, or a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or both).

Misdemeanor Laws

Mo. Rev. St. Section 578.012: Animal abuse
<http://www.moga.mo.gov/statutes/C500-599/5780000012.HTM>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

A second offense is a class D felony (imprisonment not to exceed 4 years, or a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or both).

Montana

Misdemeanor Laws

Mont. Code Ann. Section 45-8-211: Cruelty to animals.
<http://data.opi.state.mt.us/bills/mca/45/8/45-8-211.htm>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

A second offense (imprisonment not to exceed 2 years, or a fine not to exceed \$2,500, or both).

The court may require the owner to forfeit the animal.

The court shall require the defendant to pay reasonable costs of veterinary care.

The court shall prohibit, or limit, the defendant's future ownership of animals during the term of the sentence.

The court may require the defendant to pay necessary care to the agency that the owner forfeits the animal to.

Mont. Code Ann. 45-8-217: Aggravated animal cruelty.
<http://data.opi.state.mt.us/bills/mca/45/8/45-8-217.htm>

Penalties: (imprisonment not to exceed 2 years, or a fine not to exceed \$2,500, or both).

The court may require the owner to forfeit the animal.

The court shall require the defendant to pay reasonable costs of veterinary care.

The court shall prohibit, or limit, the defendant's future ownership of animals during the term of the sentence.

The court may require the defendant to pay necessary care to the agency that the owner forfeits the animal to.

Nebraska

Felony Laws

Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 28-1009: Abandonment; cruelty; harassment of police animal
<http://uniweb.legislature.ne.gov/legaldocs/view.php?page=s2810009000>

Penalties: Class IV felony:
First offense (if cruel mistreatment involves the knowing and intentional torture, repeated beating, or mutilation)
Any subsequent offense
Harassment of police animal ensuing in animal's death
5 year maximum imprisonment and/or \$10,000 maximum fine.

Misdemeanor Laws

Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 28-1009: Abandonment; cruelty; harassment of a police animal.
<http://uniweb.legislature.ne.gov/legaldocs/view.php?page=s2810009000>

Penalties: Class I misdemeanor for the first offense
1 year maximum imprisonment and/or \$1,000 fine.

Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 28-1009.01: Violence on a service dog; interference with a service dog

<http://uniweb.legislature.ne.gov/legaldocs/view.php?page=s2810009001>

Penalties: Class III misdemeanor
3 month maximum imprisonment and/or \$500 fine.

Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 28-1010: Indecency with an animal/sexual penetration

<http://uniweb.legislature.ne.gov/legaldocs/view.php?page=s2810010000>

Penalties: Class III misdemeanor
3 month maximum imprisonment and/or \$500 fine.

Nevada

Felony Law

Nev. Rev. Stat 574.100 Overdriving, torturing, injuring or abandoning animals; failure to provide proper sustenance; penalties; exceptions.

Compiled by American Humane Association, Public Policy Office

Last updated January 2009

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: Category C Felony for Third and Any Subsequent Offense
5 year maximum imprisonment and \$5,000 fine

Nev.Rev. Stat 574.105 Mistreatment of police animal and interference with duties of police animal or handler unlawful; penalties; exception.

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: Category D Felony (Taunt, torment, tease, beat, strike or administer a desensitizing drug, chemical or substance to a police animal; Interfere with a police animal or a handler thereof in the performance of duties assigned to the police animal or handler)
4 year maximum imprisonment and maximum \$5,000 fine.

Category D Felony (Torture, mutilate, injure, poison, disable or kill a police animal).

4 year maximum imprisonment and maximum \$10,000 fine (if a police animal is not totally disabled/killed from the abuse)

Category C Felony (if police animal is totally disabled/killed).
5 year maximum imprisonment and \$5,000 fine

Nev. Rev. Stat 574.120: Failure to provide proper air, food, shelter or water to impounded animal unlawful; penalties.

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: Category C Felony for Third and Any Subsequent Offense
5 year maximum imprisonment and \$5,000 fine

Nev. Rev. Stat 574.150: Poisoning or attempting to poison animals unlawful

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: Category C felony (exposing horse/mule/domestic cattle to poison)
5 year maximum imprisonment and \$5,000 fine

Misdemeanor Law

Nev. Rev. Stat. 574.070 Instigating or witnessing fights between birds or other animals unlawful; penalties; exceptions

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: Gross Misdemeanor for first offense
1 year maximum imprisonment in county jail and/or
\$2,000 maximum fine

Misdemeanor First offense (witnessing an animal fight)
6 month maximum imprisonment in county jail and/or
\$1,000 maximum fine

Gross Misdemeanor for Second offense (witnessing animal fight)
1 year maximum imprisonment in county jail and/or
\$2,000 maximum fine

Nev. Rev. Stat. 574.060 Commission of certain acts concerning place kept or used for baiting or fighting birds or other animals unlawful; penalties.

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec060>

Penalties: Gross misdemeanor for first offense
Maximum 1 year imprisonment and/or \$2,000 fine.

Nev. Rev. Stat 574.100 Overdriving, torturing, injuring or abandoning animals; failure to provide proper sustenance; penalties; exceptions.

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: First Offense Misdemeanor
6 month maximum imprisonment, maximum 120 hours community service, and maximum \$1,000 fine.

Second Offense Misdemeanor

6 month maximum imprisonment, 6 month maximum imprisonment, maximum 200 hours community service, and maximum \$1,000 fine.

Nev. Rev. Stat 574.110 Abandonment of disabled animal unlawful; penalty.

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: Misdemeanor: Knowing abandonment in a public place
6 month maximum imprisonment and/or \$1,000 maximum fine

Nev. Rev. Stat 574.120 Failure to provide proper air, food, shelter or water to impounded animal unlawful; penalties.

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: First Offense Misdemeanor
6 month maximum imprisonment, maximum 120 hours community service, and \$1,000 maximum fine.

Second Offense Misdemeanor

6 month maximum imprisonment, 6 month maximum imprisonment, maximum 200 hours community service, and maximum \$1,000 fine.

Nev. Rev. Stat 574.150 Poisoning or attempting to poison animals unlawful

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: Gross Misdemeanor (unjustifiably administers or exposes animals to poisonous or noxious drugs with the intent that it be taken by an animal other than a horse, mule or domestic cattle)

1 year maximum imprisonment in county jail and/or
\$2,000 maximum fine

Nev. Rev. Stat. 574.160 Throwing substance injurious to animals in public places.
<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: Misdemeanor
6 month maximum imprisonment and/or \$1,000 maximum fine

Nev. Rev. Stat 574.170 Keeping cow or other milk-producing animal in unhealthy place
or diseased condition; feeding resulting in impure milk; penalty.

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: Misdemeanor
6 month maximum imprisonment and/or \$1,000 maximum fine

Nev. Rev. Stat 574.180: Running horses on highway; penalty.

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: Misdemeanor
6 month maximum imprisonment and/or \$1,000 maximum fine

NRS 574.190: Carrying animal in cruel manner; penalty.

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-574.html#NRS574Sec070>

Penalties: Misdemeanor
6 month maximum imprisonment and/or \$1,000 maximum fine

New Hampshire

Felony Laws

N.H. Rev. Stat. Section 644:8 (III, IIIa): Cruelty to Animals.

<http://gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/lxii/644/644-8.htm>

Penalties: Class B Felony First Offense (purposeful beating, whipping, torturing,
mutilating)
7 year maximum imprisonment

Class B Felony for Second or Subsequent Offense
(negligent cruelty, abandonment, maltreatment)
7 year maximum imprisonment

Misdemeanor Law

N.H. Rev. Stat. Section 644:8 (III): Cruelty to Animals.

<http://gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/lxii/644/644-8.htm>

Penalties: First Offense Misdemeanor (negligent cruelty, abandonment,
maltreatment)
1 year maximum imprisonment

Compiled by American Humane Association, Public Policy Office

Last updated January 2009

New Jersey

Felony Law

New Jersey Statutes Section 4:22-17: Cruelty (torture, beating, ect.).

http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/dawson/cruelty/nj_cruel.htm

Penalties: Crime of the fourth degree (imprisonment not to exceed 18 months, the court may impose a fine not to exceed \$10,000).

A second offense or a first offense that results in the death of the animal is a crime of the third degree (imprisonment between 3 and 5 years, the court may impose a fine not to exceed \$15,000).

The court shall order community service of up to 30 days.

The court may also order the defendant to reimburse the costs of caring for the animal.

Misdemeanor Laws

New Jersey Statutes Section 4:22-26: Acts constituting cruelty in general.

http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/dawson/cruelty/nj_cruel.htm

Penalties: A fine not to exceed \$250, or if the violation occurs near a roadway a fine between \$500 and \$1,000.

New Jersey Statutes Section 4:22-18: Carrying animal in cruel manner.

http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/dawson/cruelty/nj_cruel.htm

Penalties: imprisonment not to exceed 6 months, or a fine between \$250 and \$1,000, or both.

The court shall order community service of up to 30 days.

The court may also order the defendant to reimburse the costs of caring for the animal.

New Jersey Statutes Section 22-17: Cruelty in general.

http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/dawson/cruelty/nj_cruel.htm

Penalties: Imprisonment not to exceed 6 months, or a fine between \$250 and \$1,000, or both.

The court shall order community service of up to 30 days.

The court may also order the defendant to reimburse the costs of caring for the animal.

New Jersey Statutes Section 22-19: Failure to care for or destruction of impounded animals.

http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/dawson/cruelty/nj_cruel.htm

Penalties: Imprisonment not to exceed 6 months, or a fine between \$250 and \$1,000, or both.

The court shall order community service of up to 30 days.

The court may also order the defendant to reimburse the costs of caring for the animal.

New Jersey Statutes Section 22-20: Abandoning disabled animal to die in public place.

http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/dawson/cruelty/nj_cruel.htm

Penalties: A maximum fine of \$1,000.

New Mexico

Felony laws

New Mexico Statutes Ann. Section 30-18-1 (E): Extreme cruelty to animals.

<http://www.nmlaws.org/NXT/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&vid=nm:all>

Penalties: 4th degree felony (imprisonment of 18 months, additionally the court may impose a fine not to exceed \$5,000).

New Mexico Statutes Ann. Section 30-18-1 (B): Cruelty to animals (4th and subsequent offense).

<http://www.nmlaws.org/NXT/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&vid=nm:all>

Penalties: 4th degree felony (imprisonment of 18 months, additionally the court may impose a fine not to exceed \$5,000).

The court may order participation in an animal cruelty prevention program or an animal cruelty education program.

The court may order psychological counseling.

Misdemeanor Laws

New Mexico Statutes Ann. Section 30-18-1 (B): Cruelty to animals.

<http://www.nmlaws.org/NXT/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&vid=nm:all>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

The court may order participation in an animal cruelty prevention program or an animal cruelty education program.

The court may order psychological counseling.

New York

Felony Laws

New York Consolidated Law Service, Agriculture and Market Laws Article 26, Section 353-a: Aggravated cruelty to animals.

<http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUERY=LAWS>

Penalties: Felony (imprisonment between 1 and 2 years, and a fine not exceeding \$5,000).

Misdemeanor Laws

New York Consolidated Law Service, Agriculture and Market Laws Article 26, Section 353: Overdriving, torturing and injuring animals; failure to provide proper sustenance.

<http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUERY=LAWS>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

New York Consolidated Law Service, Agriculture and Market Laws Article 26, Section 353-c: Electrocuting of fur-bearing animals prohibited.

<http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUERY=LAWS>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

New York Consolidated Law Service, Agriculture and Market Laws Article 26, Section 355: Abandonment of animals.

<http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUERY=LAWS>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

New York Consolidated Law Service, Agriculture and Market Laws Article 26, Section 356: Failure to provide proper food and drink to impounded animal.

<http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUERY=LAWS>

Penalties: After 12 hours it is lawful for any person to enter the pound where an animal is kept to provide it with food and drink. They are not liable for the damage they cause.

New York Consolidated Law Service, Agriculture and Market Laws Article 26, Section 359: Carrying animals in a cruel manner.

<http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUERY=LAWS>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

New York Consolidated Law Service, Agriculture and Market Laws Article 26, Section 360: Poisoning or attempting to poison animals.

<http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUERY=LAWS>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both).

North Carolina

Felony Laws

North Carolina General Statutes Section 14-360(b): Cruelty to animals (maliciously torture, mutilate, maim, cruelly beat, disfigure, poison, or kill an animal).

http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/BySection/Chapter_14/GS_14-360.html

Penalties: Class I felony (imprisonment between 3 and 4 years, additionally a fine at the discretion of the court).

The court may order the forfeiture of curly treated animals.

Misdemeanor Laws

North Carolina General Statutes Section 14-360(a): Cruelty to animals.

http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/BySection/Chapter_14/GS_14-360.html

Penalties: Class 1 misdemeanor (imprisonment between 1 and 45 days, and a fine at the discretion of the court).

The court may order the forfeiture of curly treated animals.

North Carolina General Statutes Section 14-360(a1): Cruelty to animals (kill animal by deprivation of sustenance).

http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/BySection/Chapter_14/GS_14-360.html

Penalties: Class A1 misdemeanor (imprisonment between 1 and 60 days, and a fine at the discretion of the court).

The court may order the forfeiture of curly treated animals.

North Carolina General Statutes Section 14-361: Instigating or promoting cruelty to animals.

http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/BySection/Chapter_14/GS_14-361.html

Penalties: Class 1 misdemeanor (imprisonment between 1 and 45 days, and a fine at the discretion of the court).

The court may order the forfeiture of curly treated animals.

North Carolina General Statutes Section 14-361.1: Abandonment of animals.

http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/BySection/Chapter_14/GS_14-361.1.html

Penalties: Class 2 misdemeanor (imprisonment between 1 and 30 days, and a fine not exceeding \$1,000).

The court may order the forfeiture of curly treated animals.

North Carolina General Statutes Section 14-362.3: Restraining dogs in a cruel manner.

http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/BySection/Chapter_14/GS_14-362.3.html

Penalties: Class 1 misdemeanor (imprisonment between 1 and 45 days, and a fine at the discretion of the court).

The court may order the forfeiture of curly treated animals.

North Carolina General Statutes Section 14-363: Conveying animals in a cruel manner.

http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/BySection/Chapter_14/GS_14-363.html

Penalties: Class 1 misdemeanor (imprisonment between 1 and 45 days, and a fine at the discretion of the court).

The court may order the forfeiture of curly treated animals.

North Dakota

Misdemeanor Laws

North Dakota Century Code Section 36-21.1-02: Overworking, mistreating, or abandoning animals.

<http://www.legis.nd.gov/cencode/t36c211.pdf>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$2,000, or both).

North Dakota Century Code Section 36-21.1-03: Cruelty in transportation.

<http://www.legis.nd.gov/cencode/t36c211.pdf>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$2,000, or both).

North Dakota Century Code Section 36-21.1-03.1: Unattended dog or cat in motor vehicle.

<http://www.legis.nd.gov/cencode/t36c211.pdf>

Penalties: Infraction (a fine not to exceed \$500).

North Dakota Century Code Section 36-21.1-04: Poisoning animals.

<http://www.legis.nd.gov/cencode/t36c211.pdf>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$2,000, or both).

Ohio

Felony Laws

Ohio Revised Code Ann. Section 959.131(B): Prohibitions concerning companion animals (knowingly torture, mutilate, beat, ect.) (2nd and subsequent offenses).

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/959.131>

Penalties: Felony of the 5th degree (imprisonment between 6 and 12 months, and a fine not exceeding \$2,500).

The court may order a psychological evaluation or counseling.

The court may order the forfeiture of any animals owned or cared for by the defendant.

Misdemeanor Laws

Ohio Revised Code Ann. Section 959.13: Cruelty to animals.

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/959.13>

Penalties: Misdemeanor of the 2nd degree (imprisonment not more than 90 days, and a fine not exceeding \$750).

The court may order the forfeiture of the animal.

Ohio Revised Code Ann. Section 959.01: Abandoning animals (subsequent offense).

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/959.01>

Penalties: Misdemeanor of the 1st degree (imprisonment not more than 6 months, and not more than \$1,000).

Ohio Revised Code Ann. Section 959.01: Abandoning animals (1st offense).

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/959.01>

Penalties: Misdemeanor of the 2nd degree (imprisonment not more than 90 days, and a fine not exceeding \$750).

Ohio Revised Code Ann. Section 959.02: Injuring animals (value more than \$300).

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/959.02>

Penalties: Misdemeanor of the 1st degree (imprisonment not more than 6 months, and not more than \$1,000).

Ohio Revised Code Ann. Section 959.02: Injuring animals (value less than \$300).

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/959.02>

Penalties: Misdemeanor of the 2nd degree (imprisonment not more than 90 days, and a fine not exceeding \$750).

Ohio Revised Code Ann. Section 959.03: Poisoning animals.

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/959.03>

Penalties: Misdemeanor of the 4th degree (imprisonment not more than 30 days, and a fine not more than \$250).

Ohio Revised Code Ann. Section 959.131(B): Prohibitions concerning companion animals (knowingly torture, mutilate, beat, ect.) (1st offense).

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/959.131>

Penalties: Misdemeanor of the 1st degree (imprisonment not more than 6 months, and not more than \$1,000).

The court may order a psychological evaluation or counseling.

The court may order the forfeiture of any animals owned or cared for by the defendant.

Ohio Revised Code Ann. Section 959.131(C): Prohibitions concerning companion animals (knowingly torture, mutilate, beat, ect.) (subsequent offense).

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/959.131>

Penalties: Misdemeanor of the 1st degree (imprisonment not more than 6 months, and not more than \$1,000).

The court may order a psychological evaluation or counseling.

The court may order the forfeiture of any animals owned or cared for by the defendant.

Ohio Revised Code Ann. Section 959.131(C): Prohibitions concerning companion animals (knowingly torture, mutilate, beat, ect.) (1st offense).

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/959.131>

Penalties: Misdemeanor of the 2nd degree (imprisonment not more than 90 days, and a fine not exceeding \$750).

The court may order a psychological evaluation or counseling.

The court may order the forfeiture of any animals owned or cared for by the defendant.

Oklahoma

Felony Laws

Title 21 Oklahoma Statutes Section 1685: Cruelty to animals.

<http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/DeliverDocument.asp?CiteID=437246>

Penalties: Felony (imprisonment in the county jail not more than 1 year, or imprisonment in the state penitentiary not exceeding 5 years, or a fine not exceeding \$5,000).

Title 21 Oklahoma Statutes Section 1681: Poisoning Animals.

<http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/DeliverDocument.asp?CiteID=70038>

Penalties: Felony (imprisonment in the county jail not more than 1 year, or imprisonment in the state penitentiary not exceeding 3 years, or a fine not exceeding \$250).

Misdemeanor Laws

Title 21 Oklahoma Statutes Section 1688: Carrying Animals in Cruel Manner.

<http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/DeliverDocument.asp?CiteID=70045>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, or a fine not more than \$ 500, or both).

Title 21 Oklahoma Statutes Section 1691 - Abandoning Animals along Streets or Highways Unlawful.

<http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/DeliverDocument.asp?CiteID=70047>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, or a fine not more than \$ 500, or both).

Oregon

Felony Laws

Oregon Revised Statutes Section 167.320: Animal abuse in the first degree (committed in front of a child, or 2 prior convictions under ORS 163.160, 163.165, 163.175, 163.185 or 163.187, or 2 prior convictions under this section).

<http://landru.leg.state.or.us/ors/167.html>

Penalties: Class C felony (imprisonment not more than 5 years, and a fine not to exceed \$125,000).

Compiled by American Humane Association, Public Policy Office

Last updated January 2009

A convicted individual cannot possess a domestic animal for 15 years.

Oregon Revised Statutes Section 167.322: Aggravated animal abuse in the first degree.
<http://landru.leg.state.or.us/ors/167.html>

Penalties: Class C felony (imprisonment not more than 5 years, and a fine not to exceed \$125,000).

A convicted individual cannot possess a domestic animal for 15 years.

Misdemeanor Laws

Oregon Revised Statutes Section 167.320: Animal abuse in the first degree.
<http://landru.leg.state.or.us/ors/167.html>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 1 year, and a fine not exceeding \$6,250).

A convicted individual cannot possess a domestic animal for 5 years.

Oregon Revised Statutes Section 167.315: Animal abuse in the second degree.
<http://landru.leg.state.or.us/ors/167.html>

Penalties: Class B misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, and a fine not to exceed \$2,500).

A convicted individual cannot possess a domestic animal for 5 years.

The court may order the forfeiture of the animal that caused the conviction. The court may also require the defendant to pay for reasonable costs associated with care for the animal.

The court may order the defendant to participate in available animal cruelty prevention programs or education programs, or both, or to obtain psychological counseling for treatment of mental health disorders that, in the court's judgment, contributed to the commission of the crime.

Oregon Revised Statutes Section 167.325: Animal neglect in the second degree.
<http://landru.leg.state.or.us/ors/167.html>

Penalties: Class B misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, and a fine not to exceed \$2,500).

A convicted individual cannot possess a domestic animal for 5 years.

Oregon Revised Statutes Section 167.330: Animal neglect in the first degree.
<http://landru.leg.state.or.us/ors/167.html>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 1 year, and a fine not exceeding \$6,250).

A convicted individual cannot possess a domestic animal for 5 years.

Oregon Revised Statutes Section 167.333: Sexual assault of animal.

<http://landru.leg.state.or.us/ors/167.html>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 1 year, and a fine not exceeding \$6,250).

The court may order a psychiatric or psychological evaluation.

The court may order the forfeiture of the animal that caused the conviction. The court may also require the defendant to pay for reasonable costs associated with care for the animal.

The court may order the defendant to participate in available animal cruelty prevention programs or education programs, or both, or to obtain psychological counseling for treatment of mental health disorders that, in the court's judgment, contributed to the commission of the crime.

Oregon Revised Statutes Section 167.340: Animal abandonment.

<http://landru.leg.state.or.us/ors/167.html>

Penalties: Class B misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 6 months, and a fine not to exceed \$2,500).

The court may order the forfeiture of the animal that caused the conviction. The court may also require the defendant to pay for reasonable costs associated with care for the animal.

The court may order the defendant to participate in available animal cruelty prevention programs or education programs, or both, or to obtain psychological counseling for treatment of mental health disorders that, in the court's judgment, contributed to the commission of the crime.

Pennsylvania

Felony Laws

Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes Section 5511(a)(2): Killing, maiming or poisoning zoo animals of another person.

<http://weblinks.westlaw.com/find/default.wl?spa=pac-1000&rs=WEBL8.05&fn=top&findtype=VQ&sr=TC&db=1000262&vr=2.0&rp=%2ffind%2fdefault.wl&cite=IDBF7701034-2D11DA8A989-F4EECDB8638>

Penalties: Felony in the third degree (imprisonment not exceeding 7 years, or a fine between \$500 and \$15,000, or both).

In addition to any other penalty, a subsequent offense will result in a fine of between \$50 and \$750, or imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or both.

The court may order the forfeiture of all abused animals.

The court may prevent the defendant from owning any animal for a time not to exceed the statutory maximum term of imprisonment applicable to the offense for which sentence is being imposed.

Misdemeanor Laws

Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes Section 5511(a)(1): Killing, maiming or poisoning zoo animals of another person.

<http://weblinks.westlaw.com/find/default.wl?spa=pac-1000&rs=WEBL8.05&fn=top&findtype=VQ&sr=TC&db=1000262&vr=2.0&rp=%2ffind%2fdefault.wl&cite=IDBF7701034-2D11DA8A989-F4EECDB8638>

Penalties: Misdemeanor in the second degree (imprisonment not to exceed 2 years, or a fine between \$500 and \$5,000, or both).

In addition to any other penalty, a subsequent offense will result in a fine of between \$50 and \$750, or imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or both.

The court may order the forfeiture of all abused animals.

The court may prevent the defendant from owning any animal for a time not to exceed the statutory maximum term of imprisonment applicable to the offense for which sentence is being imposed.

Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes Section 5511(a)(2.1)(i): Willfully and maliciously kills, maims or poisons own domestic animals.

<http://weblinks.westlaw.com/find/default.wl?spa=pac-1000&rs=WEBL8.05&fn=top&findtype=VQ&sr=TC&db=1000262&vr=2.0&rp=%2ffind%2fdefault.wl&cite=IDBF7701034-2D11DA8A989-F4EECDB8638>

Penalties: Misdemeanor in the first degree (imprisonment not to exceed 2 years, or a fine not below \$1,000, or both).

In addition to any other penalty, a subsequent offense will result in a fine of between \$50 and \$750, or imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or both.

The court may order the forfeiture of all abused animals.

The court may prevent the defendant from owning any animal for a time not to exceed the statutory maximum term of imprisonment applicable to the offense for which sentence is being imposed.

Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes Section 5511(c): Cruelty to animals.

http://weblinks.westlaw.com/find/default.wl?spa=pac-1000&rs=WEBL8.06&fn=_top&findtype=VQ&sr=TC&db=1000262&vr=2.0&rp=%2ffind%2fdefault.wl&cite=IDBF7701034-2D11DA8A989-F4EECDB8638

Penalties: Summary offense (imprisonment not exceeding 90 days, or a fine not exceeding \$200).

In addition to any other penalty, a subsequent offense will result in a fine of between \$50 and \$750, or imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or both.

The court may order the forfeiture of all abused animals.

The court may prevent the defendant from owning any animal for a time not to exceed the statutory maximum term of imprisonment applicable to the offense for which sentence is being imposed.

Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes Section 5511(c): Cruelty to animals (subsequent offense).

http://weblinks.westlaw.com/find/default.wl?spa=pac-1000&rs=WEBL8.06&fn=_top&findtype=VQ&sr=TC&db=1000262&vr=2.0&rp=%2ffind%2fdefault.wl&cite=IDBF7701034-2D11DA8A989-F4EECDB8638

Penalties: Misdemeanor in the third degree (imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or a fine between \$250 and \$5,000, or both).

In addition to any other penalty, a subsequent offense will result in a fine of between \$50 and \$750, or imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or both.

The court may order the forfeiture of all abused animals.

The court may prevent the defendant from owning any animal for a time not to exceed the statutory maximum term of imprisonment applicable to the offense for which sentence is being imposed.

Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes Section 5511(f): Hours of labor of animals.

http://weblinks.westlaw.com/find/default.wl?spa=pac-1000&rs=WEBL8.06&fn=_top&findtype=VQ&sr=TC&db=1000262&vr=2.0&rp=%2ffind%2fdefault.wl&cite=IDBF7701034-2D11DA8A989-F4EECDB8638

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The court may order the forfeiture of all abused animals.

The court may prevent the defendant from owning any animal for a time not to exceed the statutory maximum term of imprisonment applicable to the offense for which sentence is being imposed.

Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes Section 5511(e): Transporting animals in cruel manner.

http://weblinks.westlaw.com/find/default.wl?spa=pac-1000&rs=WEBL8.06&fn=_top&findtype=VQ&sr=TC&db=1000262&vr=2.0&rp=%2ffind%2fdefault.wl&cite=IDBF7701034-2D11DA8A989-F4EECDB8638

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Penalties: Misdemeanor in the third degree (imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or a fine between \$250 and \$5,000, or both).

In addition to any other penalty, a subsequent offense will result in a fine of between \$50 and \$750, or imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or both.

The court may order the forfeiture of all abused animals.

The court may prevent the defendant from owning any animal for a time not to exceed the statutory maximum term of imprisonment applicable to the offense for which sentence is being imposed.

Rhode Island

Felony Laws

Rhode Island General Laws Section 4-1-5: Malicious injury to or killing of animals.

<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE4/4-1/4-1-5.HTM>

Penalties: Imprisonment not to exceed 2 years, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000.

They must serve 10 hours of community restitution.

Rhode Island General Laws Section 4-1-26: Abandonment of animals (animal dies).

<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE4/4-1/4-1-26.HTM>

Penalties: Imprisonment not to exceed 2 years, or a fine not to exceed \$1,000

They must serve 10 hours of community restitution.

Misdemeanor Laws

Rhode Island General Laws Section 4-1-2: Overwork, mistreatment, or failure to feed animals.

<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE4/4-1/4-1-2.HTM>

Penalties: Imprisonment not exceeding 11 months, or a fine between \$50 and \$500, or both.

The court may order the defendant to forfeit the animal that was the basis of the conviction.

Rhode Island General Laws Section 4-1-3: Unnecessary cruelty.

<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE4/4-1/4-1-3.HTM>

Penalties: Imprisonment not exceeding 11 months, or a fine between \$50 and \$500, or both.

The court may order the defendant to forfeit the animal that was the basis of the conviction.

Rhode Island General Laws Section 4-1-4: Abandonment of infirm animals.

<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE4/4-1/4-1-4.HTM>

Penalties: Imprisonment not exceeding 11 months, or a fine between \$50 and \$500, or both.

The court may order the defendant to forfeit the animal that was the basis of the conviction.

Rhode Island General Laws Section 4-1-26: Abandonment of animals (animal lives).

<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE4/4-1/4-1-26.HTM>

Penalties: Imprisonment not exceeding 11 months, or a fine between \$50 and \$500, or both.

The court may order the defendant to forfeit the animal that was the basis of the conviction.

South Carolina

Compiled by American Humane Association, Public Policy Office

Last updated January 2009

Felony Laws

S.C. Code Ann. Section 47-1-40 (B): Ill-treatment of animals generally (tortures, torments, needlessly mutilates, cruelly kills, or inflicts excessive or repeated unnecessary pain or suffering).

<http://www.scstatehouse.net/code/t47c001.htm>

Penalties: Felony (imprisonment between 180 days and 5 years and a fine of \$5,000).

Misdemeanor Laws

S.C. Code Ann. Section 47-1-40 (A): Ill-treatment of animals generally

<http://www.scstatehouse.net/code/t47c001.htm>

Penalties: 1st offense misdemeanor (imprisonment not exceeding 60 days, or a fine between \$100 and \$500, or both).

2nd offense misdemeanor (imprisonment not exceeding 90 days, or a fine not exceeding \$ 800, or both).

3rd offense misdemeanor (imprisonment not exceeding 2 years, or a fine not exceeding \$2,000, or both).

S.C. Code Ann. Section 47-1-50: Cruel work; carriage in vehicles; penalties.

<http://www.scstatehouse.net/code/t47c001.htm>

Penalties: 1st offense misdemeanor (imprisonment not exceeding 60 days, or a fine between \$100 and \$500, or both).

2nd offense misdemeanor (imprisonment not exceeding 90 days, or a fine not exceeding \$ 800, or both).

3rd offense misdemeanor (imprisonment not exceeding 2 years, or a fine not exceeding \$2,000, or both).

S.C. Code Ann. Section 47-1-70 (A): Abandonment of animals.

<http://www.scstatehouse.net/code/t47c001.htm>

Penalties: Misdemeanor(imprisonment not more than 30 day, or fined between \$200 and \$500, or both).

S.C. Code Ann. Section 47-1-90: Overloading and length of confinement of animals in railroad cars.

<http://www.scstatehouse.net/code/t47c001.htm>

Penalty: Fined between \$50 and \$500.

S.C. Code Ann. Section 47-1-100: Care of animals unloaded during transit.

<http://www.scstatehouse.net/code/t47c001.htm>

Penalty: Fined between \$50 and \$500.

South Dakota

Misdemeanor Laws

S.D. Codified Laws. 40-1-12: Allowing fatally injured or diseased animal to suffer needlessly prohibited.

<http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=Statute&Statute=40-1-12>

Penalties: Class 1 misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not more than \$2,000, or both).

S.D. Codified Laws. 40-1-20: Poisoning animal of another.

<http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=Statute&Statute=40-1-20>

Penalties: Class 1 misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not more than \$2,000, or both).

S.D. Codified Laws. 40-1-21: Killing or injuring animal of another.

<http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=Statute&Statute=40-1-21>

Penalties: Class 1 misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not more than \$2,000, or both).

S.D. Codified Laws. 40-1-27: Inhumane treatment.

<http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=Statute&Statute=40-1-27>

Penalties: Class 1 misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not more than \$2,000, or both).

The animal shall be impounded and cared for. The animal may be recovered by the owner after they have paid for the costs of care.

S.D. Codified Laws. 40-1-36: Unattended animals in standing or parked vehicles-- Authority to remove--Liability for removal.

<http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=Statute&Statute=40-1-36>

Penalties: A law enforcement or humane society agent may use force to get the animal out of a parked vehicle when being in the vehicle endangers the animal's health or safety. There is no liability for damages caused in this effort.

S.D. Codified Laws. 40-1-38: Harassment of service animal accompanying disabled person prohibited.

<http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=Statute&Statute=40-1-38>

Penalties: Class 2 misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, or a fine not more than \$500, or both).

S.D. Codified Laws. 9-29-11: Prohibit cruelty to animals

<http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=Statute&Statute=9-29-11>

State municipalities have the authority to prohibit animal cruelty even though the state defines it at 40-1-2.2.

<http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=Statute&Statute=40-1-2.2>

Tennessee

Felony Laws

Tenn. Code Ann. 39-14-202: Cruelty to Animals (2nd violation)

<http://www.michie.com/tennessee/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Class E felony (Imprisonment between 1 and 6 years, additionally a fine may be imposed no greater than \$3,000)

The court shall order the defendant to forfeit the abused animal.

The court may prohibit the defendant from having custody of any animals.

Tenn. Code Ann. 39-14-212: Aggravated cruelty to animals.

<http://www.michie.com/tennessee/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Class E felony (Imprisonment between 1 and 6 years, additionally a fine may be imposed no greater than \$3,000).

The court may order the defendant to forfeit all companion animals, and may also prohibit the defendant from having custody over any animal for a court determined amount of time.

The court may order the defendant to get a psychological evaluation and counseling.

Misdemeanor Laws

Tenn. Code Ann. 39-14-202: Cruelty to Animals

<http://www.michie.com/tennessee/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (Imprisonment not to exceed 11 months and 29 days, or a fine not to exceed \$2,500, or both)

The court shall order the defendant to forfeit the abused animal.

The court may prohibit the defendant from having custody of any animals.

Tenn. Code Ann. 39-14-205: Intentional killing of animal

<http://www.michie.com/tennessee/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=>

Intentionally killing someone's animal is considered theft, and the value of the animal (market value) is determined to see which category of theft the crime falls under.

Although emotional/companionship is not considered, the training certain animals receive is considered.

Penalties: Value less than 500\$ is a class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 11 months and 29 days, or a fine not to exceed \$2,500, or both).

Value more than \$500, but less than \$1,000 is a class E felony (imprisonment between 1 and 6 years, additionally a fine may be imposed no greater than \$3,000).

Value more than \$1,000 but less than \$10,000 is a class D felony (imprisonment between 2 and 12 years, additionally a fine may be imposed no greater than \$5,000).

Texas

Felony Laws

Texas Penal Code 42.092: Cruelty to Nonlivestock Animals. Subsection (b)(1) (tortures, or kills, or seriously injures, in a cruel manner, (2) (kills/seriously injures, or poisons), (7) (causing non-dogs to fight), or (8) (uses a live animal as a lure in a dog race).

<http://tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/statutes/docs/PE/content/htm/pe.009.00.000042.00.htm#42.092.00>

Penalties: State jail felony (imprisonment between 180 days and 2 years, additionally they may be fined up to \$10,000).

The offense is a third degree felony (imprisonment between 2 and 10 years, additionally they may be fined up to \$10,000) if the person has previously been convicted two times under this section, two times under Section 42.09, or one time each under both.

The court shall order the owner to forfeit the abused animal.

Texas Penal Code 42.09: Cruelty to Livestock Animals. Subsection (a)(1) (torture) , (5) (administers poison to another's animal without consent), (6) (causes livestock animal to fight), (7) (uses an animal as a lure in a dog race), or (8) (trips a horse).

<http://tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/statutes/docs/PE/content/htm/pe.009.00.000042.00.htm#42.092.00>

Penalties: State jail felony (imprisonment between 180 days and 2 years, additionally they may be fined up to \$10,000).

The offense is a third degree felony (imprisonment between 2 and 10 years, additionally they may be fined up to \$10,000) if the person has previously been convicted two times under this section, two times under Section 42.092, or one time each under both.

The court shall order the owner to forfeit the abused animal.

Misdemeanor Laws

Texas Penal Code 42.092: Cruelty to Nonlivestock Animals. Subsection (b)(3)(failure to provide shelter/proper care), (4) (abandon's animal), (5) (transports or confines the animal in a cruel manner), (6) (causes bodily injury to the animal), or (9) (seriously overworks animal).

<http://tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/statutes/docs/PE/content/htm/pe.009.00.000042.00.htm#42.092.00>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$4,000, or both).

The offense is a state jail felony (imprisonment between 180 days and 2 years, additionally they may be fined up to \$10,000) if the person has previously been convicted two times under this section, two times under Section 42.09, or one time each under both.

The court shall order the owner to forfeit the abused animal.

Texas Penal Code 42.09: Cruelty to Livestock Animals. Subsection (a)(2) (failure to provide proper shelter/care), (3) (abandons the animal), (4) (transports or confines in a cruel manner), or (9) (severely overworks the animal).

<http://tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/statutes/docs/PE/content/htm/pe.009.00.000042.00.htm#42.092.00>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$4,000, or both).

The offense is a state jail felony (imprisonment between 180 days and 2 years, additionally they may be fined up to \$10,000) if the person has previously been convicted two times under this section, two times under Section 42.092, or one time each under both.

The court shall order the owner to forfeit the abused animal.

Utah

Felony Laws

Utah Code Ann. Section 76-9-301.1: Dog fighting -- Training dogs for fighting -- Dog fighting exhibitions.

http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE76/htm/76_09_030101.htm

Penalties: Third degree felony (Imprisonment not exceeding 5 years, or a fine not to exceed \$25,000, or both).

Defendant shall forfeit all dogs and equipment used in dog fighting.

Utah Code Ann. Section 76-9-301 (6): intentionally or knowingly torturing a companion animal http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE76/htm/76_09_030100.htm

Penalties: Third degree felony (Imprisonment not exceeding 5 years, or a fine not to exceed \$25,000, or both).

The court may order psychiatric or psychological counseling for the defendant.

The court may order the animal the defendant abused to be forfeited, and the court may order the defendant to pay for the future costs of care.

The court may order the defendant to no longer possess any animal for a certain period of time.

Misdemeanor Laws

Utah Code Ann. Section 76-9-301: Cruelty to animals (Committed intentionally or knowingly).

http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE76/htm/76_09_030100.htm

Penalties: Class B misdemeanor (Imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or a fine not exceeding \$1,000).

The court may order psychiatric or psychological counseling for the defendant.

The court may order the animal the defendant abused to be forfeited, and the court may order the defendant to pay for the future costs of care.

The court may order the defendant to no longer possess any animal for a certain period of time.

Utah Code Ann. Section 76-9-301: Cruelty to animals (Committed recklessly or with criminal negligence).

http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE76/htm/76_09_030100.htm

Penalties: Class C misdemeanor (Imprisonment not exceeding 90 days, or a fine not exceeding \$750, or both).

The court may order psychiatric or psychological counseling for the defendant.

The court may order the animal the defendant abused to be forfeited, and the court may order the defendant to pay for the future costs of care.

The court may order the defendant to no longer possess any animal for a certain period of time.

Utah Code Ann. Section 76-9-301 (4): Aggravated cruelty to animals (Committed intentionally or knowingly).

http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE76/htm/76_09_030100.htm

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (Imprisonment not exceeding 1 year, or a fine not exceeding \$2,500, or both).

The court may order psychiatric or psychological counseling for the defendant.

The court may order the animal the defendant abused to be forfeited, and the court may order the defendant to pay for the future costs of care.

The court may order the defendant to no longer possess any animal for a certain period of time.

Utah Code Ann. Section 76-9-301 (4): Aggravated cruelty to animals (Committed recklessly).

http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE76/htm/76_09_030100.htm

Penalties: Class B misdemeanor (Imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or a fine not exceeding \$1,000).

The court may order psychiatric or psychological counseling for the defendant.

The court may order the animal the defendant abused to be forfeited, and the court may order the defendant to pay for the future costs of care.

The court may order the defendant to no longer possess any animal for a certain period of time.

Utah Code Ann. Section 76-9-301 (4): Aggravated cruelty to animals (Committed with criminal negligence).

http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE76/htm/76_09_030100.htm

Penalties: Class C misdemeanor (Imprisonment not exceeding 90 days, or a fine not exceeding \$750, or both).

The court may order psychiatric or psychological counseling for the defendant.

The court may order the animal the defendant abused to be forfeited, and the court may order the defendant to pay for the future costs of care.

The court may order the defendant to no longer possess any animal for a certain period of time.

Utah Code Ann. Section 76-9-301.5.: Spectator at organized animal fighting exhibitions (intentionally present at a dog fight).

http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE76/htm/76_09_030105.htm

Penalties: Class B misdemeanor (Imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or a fine not exceeding \$1,000).

Section 76-9-301.7: Cruelty to animals -- Enhanced penalties.

http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE76/htm/76_09_030107.htm

Should a defendant have previously been convicted of anything in Section 76-9-301, excluding a conviction under 76-9-301(6) (destroying a suffering animal without permission or necessity), or convicted because of presence at a dog fight (76-9-301.5), then that defendant will have enhanced penalties if convicted of one of these violations a second time.

Penalties: Class C misdemeanor (Imprisonment not exceeding 90 days, or a fine not exceeding \$750, or both) to a class B misdemeanor (Imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or a fine not exceeding \$1,000).

Class B misdemeanor to a class A misdemeanor (Imprisonment not exceeding 1 year, or a fine not exceeding \$2,500, or both).

Utah Code Ann. Section 76-9-301.8: Bestiality -- Definitions -- Penalty

http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE76/htm/76_09_030108.htm

Penalty: Class B misdemeanor (Imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or a fine not exceeding \$1,000).

Vermont

Felony Laws

V.S.A. Title 13 Section 352a: Aggravated cruelty to animals.

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=13&Chapter=008&Section=00352a>

Penalties: Imprisonment of not more than three years, or a fine of not more than \$7,500, or both.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any rights to the animal, and to any other animal not poultry or livestock.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any future right to own, possess, or care for any animal for a period of time determined by the court.

The court may order the defendant to attend animal cruelty prevention programs or educational programs, or to get psychiatric or psychological counseling.

Misdemeanor Laws

V.S.A. Title 13 Section 352 (1), (2), (7), and (8): Cruelty to animals.

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=13&Chapter=008&Section=00352>

Penalties: Imprisonment of not more than a year, or a fine of not more than \$2,000, or both.

Subsequent violations will result in imprisonment of not more than 2 years, or a fine of not more than \$5,000, or both.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any rights to the animal, and to any other animal not poultry or livestock.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any future right to own, possess, or care for any animal for a period of time determined by the court.

The court may order the defendant to attend animal cruelty prevention programs or educational programs, or to get psychiatric or psychological counseling.

V.S.A. Title 13 Section 352 (3), (4), and (9): Cruelty to animals.

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=13&Chapter=008&Section=00352>

Penalties: A law enforcement officer shall issue a civil citation of not more than \$500 if the person has not previously violated (3), (4), or (9). Before this is paid, the state's attorney general office may withdraw the complaint and file an information charging a violation of subdivision 352(3), (4), or (9) of this title in district court.

Imprisonment of not more than one year, or a fine of not more than \$2,000, or both.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any rights to the animal, and to any other animal not poultry or livestock.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any future right to own, possess, or care for any animal for a period of time determined by the court.

The court may order the defendant to attend animal cruelty prevention programs or educational programs, or to get psychiatric or psychological counseling.

V.S.A. Title 13 Section 361: Interference with domestic animals (confining an animal to prevent the owner from knowing its location).

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=13&Chapter=008&Section=003>

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Penalties: Imprisonment of not more than one year, or a fine of not more than \$2,000, or both.

V.S.A. Title 13 Section 363: Shooting birds for amusement.

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=13&Chapter=008&Section=003>

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Penalties: Imprisonment of not more than a year, or a fine of not more than \$2,000, or both.

Subsequent violations will result in imprisonment of not more than 2 years, or a fine of not more than \$5,000, or both.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any rights to the animal, and to any other animal not poultry or livestock.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any future right to own, possess, or care for any animal for a period of time determined by the court.

The court may order the defendant to attend animal cruelty prevention programs or educational programs, or to get psychiatric or psychological counseling.

V.S.A. Title 13 Section 365: Shelter of animals.

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=13&Chapter=008&Section=003>

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Penalties: A law enforcement officer shall issue a civil citation of not more than \$500 if the person has not previously violated (3), (4), or (9). Before this is paid, the state's attorney general office may withdraw the complaint and file an information charging a violation of subdivision 352(3), (4), or (9) of this title in district court.

Imprisonment of not more than one year, or a fine of not more than \$2,000, or both.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any rights to the animal, and to any other animal not poultry or livestock.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any future right to own, possess, or care for any animal for a period of time determined by the court.

The court may order the defendant to attend animal cruelty prevention programs or educational programs, or to get psychiatric or psychological counseling.

V.S.A. Title 13 Section 366: Prohibited use of animals (use of animals for sales purposes, selling animals on the side of the highway, age limits on selling animals).
<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=13&Chapter=008&Section=00366>

Penalties: Fined not more than \$250

V.S.A. Title 13 Section 381 and 382: Transportation by railroad/truck; rest and feeding.
<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=13&Chapter=008&Section=00381>
<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=13&Chapter=008&Section=00382>

Penalties: A law enforcement officer shall issue a civil citation of not more than \$500 if the person has not previously violated (3), (4), or (9). Before this is paid, the state's attorney general office may withdraw the complaint and file an information charging a violation of subdivision 352(3), (4), or (9) of this title in district court.

Imprisonment of not more than one year, or a fine of not more than \$2,000, or both.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any rights to the animal, and to any other animal not poultry or livestock.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any future right to own, possess, or care for any animal for a period of time determined by the court.

The court may order the defendant to attend animal cruelty prevention programs or educational programs, or to get psychiatric or psychological counseling.

V.S.A. Title 13 Section 386: Confinement of animals in vehicles.
<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=13&Chapter=008&Section=00386>

Penalties: A law enforcement officer shall issue a civil citation of not more than \$500 if the person has not previously violated (3), (4), or (9). Before this is paid, the state's attorney general office may withdraw the complaint and

file an information charging a violation of subdivision 352(3), (4), or (9) of this title in district court.

Imprisonment of not more than one year, or a fine of not more than \$2,000, or both.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any rights to the animal, and to any other animal not poultry or livestock.

The court may also order the defendant to forfeit any future right to own, possess, or care for any animal for a period of time determined by the court.

The court may order the defendant to attend animal cruelty prevention programs or educational programs, or to get psychiatric or psychological counseling.

V.S.A. 6-201-3132: Humane Slaughter of Livestock.

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=06&Chapter=201&Section=03132>

Penalties: Imprisoned for not more than 90 days, or fined between \$50 and \$100, or both.

An injunction can be sought against the plant/stockyard that violates this provision.

Virginia

Felony Laws

Va. Code Ann. Section 3.1-796.122 B: Cruelty to animals.

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+3.1-796.122>

Penalties: Class 6 felony (imprisonment between 1 and 5 years and, or at the discretion of the jury or the court imprisonment not more than 1 year, or a fine not more than \$2,500, or both).

The court may prohibit the defendant from owning any companion animal in the future.

Va. Code Ann. Section 3.1-796.122 H: Killing an animal by torture, unnecessary beating, or intentionally inflicting injury.

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+3.1-796.122>

Penalties: Class 6 felony (imprisonment between 1 and 5 years and, or at the discretion of the jury or the court imprisonment not more than 1 year, or a fine not more than \$2,500, or both).

The court may prohibit the defendant from owning any companion animal in the future.

Va. Code Ann. Section 18.2-144: Maiming, killing or poisoning animals, fowl, etc. (horse, mule, pony, cattle, swine, or other livestock).

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+18.2-144>

Penalties: Class 5 felony (imprisonment between 1 and 10 years, or at the discretion of the jury or the court imprisonment not more than 1 year, or a fine not more than \$2,500, or both).

Misdemeanor Laws

Va. Code Ann. Section 3.1-796.122 A: Cruelty to animals.

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+3.1-796.122>

Penalties: Class 1 misdemeanor (imprisonment of not more than 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$2,500, or both).

The court may order the defendant to take anger management classes or receive psychiatric or psychological counseling.

The court may prohibit the defendant from owning any companion animal in the future.

Va. Code Ann. Section 3.1-796.126: Shooting pigeons, etc., for amusement.

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+3.1-796.126>

Penalties: Class 4 misdemeanor (a fine not more than \$250).

Va. Code Ann. Section 3.1-796.73: Abandonment of animal.

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+3.1-796.73>

Penalties: Class 3 misdemeanor (a fine not more than \$500).

Va. Code Ann. Section 3.1-796.69: Transporting animals.

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+3.1-796.69>

Penalties: Class 1 misdemeanor (imprisonment of not more than 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$2,500, or both).

Va. Code Ann. Section 3.1-796.68. Care of animals by owner (adequate food, water, shelter, exercise, ect.).

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+3.1-796.68>

Penalties: Class 4 misdemeanor (a fine not more than \$250).

Va. Code Ann. Section 18.2-144: Maiming, killing or poisoning animals, fowl, etc. (fowl or companion animal).

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+18.2-144>

Penalties: Class 1 misdemeanor (imprisonment of not more than 1 year, or a fine not to exceed \$2,500, or both).

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Subsequent offense, if the prior offense or the current offense resulted in the death of the animal, is a class 6 felony ((imprisonment between 1 and 5 years and, or at the discretion of the jury or the court imprisonment not more than 1 year, or a fine not more than \$2,500, or both).

Washington

Felony Laws

Rev. Code Wash. Section 16.52.205: Animal cruelty in the first degree.

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=16.52.205>

Penalties: Class C felony (imprisonment not more than 5 years, or a fine not exceeding \$10,000, or both).

A civil penalty of \$1,000 to go to animal cruelty prevention.

The court may order the defendant to never own animals again.

The court may order the defendant to receive appropriate counseling.

The court may order the forfeiture of all animals.

The court may order the defendant to pay for the reasonable costs of care for the animal.

Misdemeanor Laws

Rev. Code Wash. Section 16.52.207 (1), (2)(a), or (2)(b): Animal cruelty in the 2nd degree.

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=16.52.207>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or a fine not more than \$1,000, or both).

A civil penalty of \$1,000 to go to animal cruelty prevention.

The court may order the defendant to receive appropriate counseling.

The court may order the forfeiture of all animals.

The court may order the defendant to pay for the reasonable costs of care for the animal.

Rev. Code Wash. Section 16.52.207 (2)(c): Animal cruelty in the 2nd degree (abandons the animal causing severe bodily harm).

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=16.52.207>

Penalties: Gross misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or a fine not more than \$1,000, or both).

A civil penalty of \$1,000 to go to animal cruelty prevention.

The court may order the defendant to receive appropriate counseling.

The court may order the forfeiture of all animals.

The court may order the defendant to pay for the reasonable costs of care for the animal.

Rev. Code Wash. Section 16.52.080: Transporting or confining in unsafe manner.

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=16.52.080>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (imprisonment not more than 60 days, or by a fine not more than \$150, or both).

The animals may be taken, and necessary expenses will be placed in a lien on the animal, that the owner must pay before recovering the animal.

Rev. Code Wash. Section 16.52.190: Poisoning animals.

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=16.52.190>

Penalties: Gross misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 1 year, or a fine not more than \$5,000, or both).

West Virginia

Felony Laws

W. Va. Code Section 61-8-19 (b): Cruelty to animals (Intentionally tortures or maliciously kills an animal).

<http://www.legis.state.wv.us/WVCODE/code.cfm?chap=61&art=8§ion=WVC%2061%20%20-%20%208%20%20-%20%2019%20%20.htm#01>.

Penalties: Felony (between 1 and five years imprisonment and a fine between \$1,000 and \$5,000).

Defendant must forfeit any interest in any animal to the human society or the local county. They are then liable for any costs incurred by these organizations.

No probation until the defendant undergoes a complete psychiatric or psychological evaluation under the court's supervision.

The court must prohibit the defendant from possessing, owning or residing with any animal or type of animal for a period of fifteen years. Violation of this is a misdemeanor resulting in a fine not more than \$2,000 and forfeiture of the animal.

The court may order defendant to complete a program of anger management intervention for perpetrators of animal cruelty.

Misdemeanor Laws

W. Va. Code Section 61-8-19 (a): Cruelty to animals (Cruelly mistreats the animal).
<http://www.legis.state.wv.us/WVCODE/code.cfm?chap=61&art=8§ion=WVC%2061%20%20-%20%208%20%20-%20%2019%20%20.htm#01>.

Penalties: Misdemeanor (6 months maximum imprisonment, or a fine between \$300 and \$2,000, or both).

A subsequent violation is a misdemeanor (between 90 days and 1 year incarceration, or a fine between \$500 and \$3,000, or both).

Defendant must forfeit any interest in any animal to the human society or the local county. They are then liable for any costs incurred by these organizations.

No probation until the defendant undergoes a complete psychiatric or psychological evaluation under the court's supervision.

The court must prohibit the defendant from possessing, owning or residing with any animal or type of animal for a period of five years. Violation of this is a misdemeanor resulting in a fine not more than \$2,000 and forfeiture of the animal.

The court may order defendant to complete a program of anger management intervention for perpetrators of animal cruelty.

W. Va. Code Section 61-8-19 (c): Cruelty to animals (A non-veterinarian, or someone without a veterinarian's permission, is not allowed to give drugs to increase performance of contest animals).

[.http://www.legis.state.wv.us/WVCODE/code.cfm?chap=61&art=8§ion=WVC%2061%20%20-%20%208%20%20-%20%2019%20%20.htm#01](http://www.legis.state.wv.us/WVCODE/code.cfm?chap=61&art=8§ion=WVC%2061%20%20-%20%208%20%20-%20%2019%20%20.htm#01).

Penalties: Misdemeanor (fine between \$500 and \$2,000).

Defendant must forfeit any interest in any animal to the human society or the local county. They are then liable for any costs incurred by these organizations.

W. Va. Code Section 49-5-13f: Animal Cruelty Early Intervention Program

<http://www.legis.state.wv.us/WVCODE/code.cfm?chap=49&art=5>

Any juvenile who is alleged to have caused a crime in which they were cruel to animals may, with the permission of the court, enter the Animal Cruelty Early Intervention Program. There they will be given services that will try and develop skills and supports within the family that correct the problem. These services can include, but are not limited to, referral of juveniles and parents, guardians or custodians and other family members to services for psychiatric or other medical care, or psychological, welfare, legal, educational or other social services.

Wisconsin

Felony Laws

Wisconsin Statutes Section 951.02: Mistreating animals (mutilation, disfigurement or death of an animal).

<http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&d=stats&jd=top>

Penalties: Class I felony (imprisonment not to exceed 3 years and 6 months, or a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or both).

A court may order the defendant not to own any animal for up to 5 years.

Misdemeanor Laws

Wisconsin Statutes Section 951.02: Mistreating animals

<http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&d=stats&jd=top>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 9 months, or a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or both).

A court may order the defendant not to own any animal for up to 5 years.

Wisconsin Statutes Section 951.04: Leading animal from motor vehicle.

<http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&d=stats&jd=top>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 9 months, or a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or both).

A court may order the defendant not to own any animal for up to 5 years.

Wisconsin Statutes Section 951.05: Transportation of animals.

<http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&d=stats&jd=top>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 9 months, or a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or both).

A court may order the defendant not to own any animal for up to 5 years.

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Wisconsin Statutes Section 951.06: Use of poisonous and controlled substances.

<http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&d=stats&jd=top>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 9 months, or a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or both).

A court may order the defendant not to own any animal for up to 5 years.

Wisconsin Statutes Section 951.13: Providing proper food and drink to confined animals.

<http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&d=stats&jd=top>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 9 months, or a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or both).

A court may order the defendant not to own any animal for up to 5 years.

Wisconsin Statutes Section 951.14: Providing proper shelter.

<http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&d=stats&jd=top>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 9 months, or a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or both).

A court may order the defendant not to own any animal for up to 5 years.

Wisconsin Statutes Section 951.15: Abandoning animals.

<http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&d=stats&jd=top>

Penalties: Class A misdemeanor (imprisonment not to exceed 9 months, or a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or both).

A court may order the defendant not to own any animal for up to 5 years.

Wyoming

Felony Laws

Wyoming St. Ann. Section 6-3-203 (n): Cruelty to animals (knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury, or undue suffering causes death or forces euthanasia).

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/statutes/statutes.aspx?file=titles/Title6/T6CH3AR2.htm>

Penalties: Felony (2 years maximum prison or a fine of not more than \$5,000, or both).

A subsequent offense is a high misdemeanor (1 year maximum prison or a maximum fine of \$5,000, or both).

The court may make the owner forfeit ownership to the county

The court may make the defendant pay for food and water, veterinary attention and treatment for any animal affected.

The court may also limit the defendant's ownership, possession or custody of animals.

Misdemeanor Laws

Wyoming St. Ann. Section 6-3-203 (a) and (b): Cruelty to animals

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/statutes/statutes.aspx?file=titles/Title6/T6CH3AR2.htm>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (6 months maximum prison or a fine of not more than \$750.00 or both).

A subsequent offense is a high misdemeanor (1 year maximum prison or a maximum fine of \$5,000, or both).

The court may make the owner forfeit ownership to the county

The court may make the defendant pay for food and water, veterinary attention and treatment for any animal affected.

The court may also limit the defendant's ownership, possession or custody of animals.

Wyoming St. Ann. Section 6-3-203 (c): Aggravated cruelty to animals.

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/statutes/statutes.aspx?file=titles/Title6/T6CH3AR2.htm>

Penalties: Misdemeanor (6 months maximum prison or a fine of not more than \$750.00 or both).

A subsequent offense is a high misdemeanor (1 year maximum prison or a maximum fine of \$5,000, or both).

The court may make the owner forfeit ownership to the county

The court may make the defendant pay for food and water, veterinary attention and treatment for any animal affected.

The court may also limit the defendant's ownership, possession or custody of animals.