

**CITY OF NOTHFIELD, NJ
ORDINANCE 13-2015**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 97 OF THE CODE OF THE
CITY OF NORTHFIELD, ENTITLED ANIMALS**

WHEREAS, animals suffer because of varying interpretations of “access to adequate protection from the weather”,

WHEREAS, the Council for the City of Northfield believe it would be in the best interests of the public safety and general welfare, consistent with and in accordance with N.J.S.A. 4:22 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, it is the purpose and intent of this Ordinance to ensure that animals receive necessary care, including, but not limited to “access to adequate protection from the weather”,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Northfield, Atlantic County, New Jersey, that Chapter 97 be amended as follows:

Article I, § 97-1 Definitions

ADD the following:

TETHER - Tether means to restrain an animal by tying to any stationary object or structure, including but not limited to a house, tree, fence, post, garage or shed, by any means, including but not limited to, a chain, rope, cord, leash or pulley/running line, but shall NOT include the use of a leash when walking an animal.

Article III, § 97-20 Domesticated Pets

ADD the following:

D. Chaining or tethering of dogs.

- 1) Dogs must be able to move freely when chained or tethered and shall be so confined for a period no greater than nine hours within a twenty-four hour period. The size of the tether or chain must be a minimum of 15 linear feet and shall remain tangle free. Dogs must be equipped with properly fitted harness or buckle-type collars. The tether or chain shall be constructed of lightweight cable not weighing more than 1/16 of the animal's weight. A doghouse shall be accessible to dogs that are chained or tethered. Tethered animal shall have access to potable water, food, shelter and dry ground at all times.
- 2) No animal shall remain outdoors, tethered, untethered or penned during a period of extreme weather, including but not limited to, extreme heat (above 90

degrees), extreme cold (below 32 degrees), thunderstorms, tornadoes, tropical storms, or hurricanes.

- 3) In no instance shall an animal remain outdoors, tethered, untethered or penned under the age of six months old, or while sick, injured or in distress.

If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged by the courts to be invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provisions so adjudicated, and the remainder of the Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

Any ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

This Ordinance shall take effect according to law after final passage and publication.

Mary Canesi, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Erland Chau
Mayor

The above Ordinance was introduced and passed on its first reading at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Northfield, New Jersey held on April 28, 2015 and was taken up for a second reading, public hearing and final passage at a meeting of said Council held May 12, 2015 in Council Chambers, City Hall, Northfield, New Jersey.

FIRST READING:	April 28, 2015
PUBLICATION:	May 2, 2015
SECOND READING:	May 12, 2015
PUBLICATION:	May 16, 2015