

## Chapter 1 : New Animal Health and Welfare Act ISPCA

*an act to revise the law relating to the health and welfare of animals and their protection and identification; to provide for the regulation of certain activities relating to animals; to prevent cruelty to animals; to make provision for the licensing of animal marts and for levies for the purposes of animal health and the control of animal.*

Read some of the great experiences some of our pets and their new owners have had! The Animal Health and Welfare Act: One year on, what impact has the new legislation had and are animal owners aware of their legal responsibilities? What does the AHWA mean to you as a pet owner? Full details of the AHWA can be found at <http://www.ispcainfo.ie>: According to the AHWA a protected animal is any animal that is: Kept for farming, recreational, domestic or sporting purposes in the State, When it is in the possession or under the control of a human being whether permanently or on a temporary basis or, That is not living in a wild state. All pet or companion animals are protected under the Act, including dogs, cats, small furries such as guinea pigs and exotic pets such as raccoons and reptiles including snakes and lizards. What are your responsibilities under the Animal Health and Welfare Act ? Duty to protect animal welfare If you own an animal you are responsible for it. You have a duty to protect its welfare. You must take all necessary steps to ensure that an animal is kept and treated in a manner which safeguards its health and welfare. You also have a responsibility to ensure the animal is kept in an environment that does not threaten its health and welfare. Prohibition on animal cruelty Any act, or failure to act, that causes unnecessary suffering or endangers the health and welfare of an animal is an offence. It is also an offence to allow or cause someone else to cause unnecessary suffering to an animal. So if your animal is in the care of someone else, you still have responsibility for it as the owner. Any neglectful or reckless act that causes suffering may also be an offence. Unfortunately, this does not extend to legal hare coursing or fox hunting unless an animal is released in an injured, mutilated or exhausted state. Feeding of animals All animal owners have a legal responsibility to provide appropriate food and drink for their animals. In fact the Act goes a bit further than just having to provide food and water. The AHWA says that all animal owners must in accordance with established experience and scientific knowledge: Provide sufficient, wholesome, uncontaminated drinking water Provide suitable and wholesome food sufficient to satisfy reasonable requirements of the animal Provide any other necessary nourishment In addition the legislation also says that an animal owner shall not: In other words, not only do you have to provide food and water, but you have to provide the right type of food and water that is clean and drinkable. Abandonment If you abandon an animal you are not relieved of responsibility for it. Abandoning an animal is an offence under the AHWA. If the person who abandons the animal is not the owner, the owner will also have committed an offence. You also have a responsibility to ensure that you do not leave an animal unattended without making adequate provisions for its welfare. It is legal for a veterinary surgeon to dock the tail of certain working breeds only. That effectively means that no puppy born after 6th March should have its tail docked. Tail docking is an unnecessary and painful mutilation, often carried out with no anaesthetic when the puppy is a few days old. Dogs need their tails for communication and socialisation purposes and it is simply not acceptable for this practice to occur. The tail is often docked without anaesthetic and regularly becomes infected right. Prohibition on animal fighting The AHWA makes it an offence to organise, cause or permit any form of wrestling struggling or fighting with an animal, dog fighting, cock fighting or animal baiting, such as badger baiting. It is also an offence to take part in or even to attend a dog fight as a spectator. It is also an offence for any person to supply, train or keep an animal for the purpose of fighting or to be in possession of any equipment that might be used. It is also an offence to publicise or promote such a fight or to bet on the outcome. However, dog and cock fighting and also badger baiting are still occurring in Ireland. What are the penalties if you fail to comply with the AHWA? Offenders may also be banned from keeping animals for any period up to and including life. Court costs and costs associated with veterinary treatment may also be awarded against anybody convicted of offences under the AHWA. Responsibility If you have an animal, whether it is a dog, cat, horse, exotic pet or any other protected animal, YOU are responsible for providing it with its needs. If you fail to do so you may be prosecuted under the AHWA. Be a responsible owner. If you

are going to get a dog consider adopting one from the ISPCA or other reputable rehoming organisation. If you are going to get a puppy make sure you get it from a responsible breeder and ask to see it with its mother. Never buy a sick puppy because you feel sorry for it – this encourages puppy farmers to breed more unwanted puppies. If you have a dog, make sure you have a dog license, that you microchip, vaccinate and neuter your pet. Also, get your pet insured. Vet bills can be costly if you have not budgeted for them and your pet will need veterinary treatment at some point. In , they investigated over allegations of cruelty. Authorisation gives ISPCA Inspectors certain statutory powers including the power of entry on to land where they suspect an animal may be present, powers to seize animals that are suffering and the power to issue enforceable welfare improvement notices. ISPCA Inspectors now have the power of entry onto any land where they suspect a protected animal may be kept. There are exceptions to this. For example they are not authorised to enter a farm which keeps cows, sheep or goats for food production purposes or to inspect horses on such a farm. They can however enter a farm in relation to companion animals such as dogs. In , our six Inspectors investigated over 4, allegations of animal cruelty resulting in 25 prosecutions being initiated and over animals being seized or surrendered. Over the next few years the ISPCA will be expanding its Inspectorate and will be able to investigate and bring more animal abusers to justice, but above all we will be able to PREVENT cruelty by being able to deal with issues before suffering occurs. Perhaps one day we can eliminate cruelty to animals in Ireland.

**Chapter 2 : Animal Health and Welfare Act (No. 15 of ).**

*This Revised Act is an administrative consolidation of the Animal Health and Welfare Act It is prepared by the Law Reform Commission in accordance with its function under the Law Reform Commission Act (3/) to keep the law under review and to undertake revision and consolidation of statute law.*

If your browser does not support JavaScript, please read the page content below: Short title and commencement. Laying of regulations and orders. Disposal of moneys received by Minister. Application of Act to disease. Prohibition on farm animals straying. Prohibition on spreading disease. Duty to protect animal welfare. Prohibition on animal cruelty. Prohibition on abandonment of animals. Prohibition on animal fighting, etc. Prohibited operations and procedures. Use of anaesthetics, etc. Protection of animals from poison. Inspection of protected animals and equipment. Records as regards intensive units. Welfare of animals during sale. Regulation of sale of animals to minors. Humane destruction of animal. Measures relating to animals in distress. Duty to pay levy before export of live animals. Animal health levy due and payable. Duty to keep records. Animal health and welfare regulations. PART 8 Enforcement Appointment of authorised officer. Functions of authorised officer. Search of suspects and stopping vehicles. Assistance to authorised officer. Animal health and welfare notice. Appeal against animal health and welfare notice. Seizure and detention for non-compliance with notice. Obstruction and false statements. Functions of local authorities. Default of local authority. Evidence of laboratory analysis on certificate, etc. Service of notice, etc. Offence " body corporate. Presumption of ownership in relation to animals. Forfeiture " equipment, animal product, etc. Seizure of animals in connection with disqualification. Person incapable of taking care of animals. Proof and authentication of certain documents. Prohibition of unlicensed animal marts, etc. Grant of licences for animal marts, etc. Power of Minister to revoke or refuse licence. Appeal against refusal or revocation of licence. Regulations in relation to animal marts. PART 13 Miscellaneous Continuance of certain instruments. Amendment of Animal Remedies Act Amendment of section 17 of Dog Breeding Establishments Act Amendment of sections 12 and 15 of Welfare of Greyhounds Act II where the killing or destruction related to a particular disease or diseases, III for particular activities, including dealing in animals or agistment, or IV for particular methods of husbandry specified in the regulations, or ii for the limitation of the eligibility of a person for compen- sation in whole or in part in respect of an animal, animal product, animal feed or other thing relating to a farm animal to which the regulations relate.

## Chapter 3 : IE - Welfare - Animal Health and Welfare Act | Animal Legal & Historical Center

*This Act provides both for animal health and animal welfare. They renew legislation in this field, notably the Protection of Animals Acts and the Diseases of Animals Acts to*

The code provides game farmers with information on how to meet the welfare needs of their animals, as required under the Animal Welfare Act. It can also be used in courts as evidence in cases brought before them relating to poor welfare of gamebirds. We will use the findings to support our objective to ensure high standards of fish welfare. Ducks and geese The welfare of ducks and geese is protected by the general requirements of the Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Regulations. Schedule 9 of these regulations contains specific conditions that apply to the keeping of rabbits. As there is no longer an industry body for commercial rabbit keepers, we would welcome commercial farmers contacting us via: Code of Recommendations for the Welfare of Turkeys (Ratites) emu, ostrich, rhea The farming of emu, ostrich and rhea caters for a niche market in the UK. The welfare of ratites are protected by the general requirements in the Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Regulations. There are also Council of Europe recommendations on the welfare of farmed ratites which offer guidance on the standards that should apply. Council of Europe recommendations on the welfare of farmed ratites The existing Codes of Recommendations for the welfare of livestock continue to apply, however, with the introduction of the Act and the Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Regulations, the references to the legislation throughout the code are now out of date. Whilst the vast majority of the regulations are replicated by the regulations, you should check the legislation as it currently stands. Legislation The Animal Welfare Act makes owners and keepers responsible for ensuring that the welfare needs of their animals are met. These include the need: The Animal Welfare Act contains the general laws relating to animal welfare. It is an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to any animal. Unlike previous legislation, the Act applies to all animals on common land. The welfare of all farmed animals is protected by the Animal Welfare Act which makes it an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to any animal. The new regulations are made under the Animal Welfare Act and are very similar to the previous regulations. Guidance to the Regulations PDF, They also set out detailed arrangements in respect of penning, food and water and the care of young animals. Responsibility for enforcing WAMO rests with local councils. The welfare of farmed animals is additionally protected by the Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Regulations as amended S. Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Amendment Regulations These regulations continue to implement EU directives on the welfare of calves, pigs, laying hens, conventionally reared meat chickens and a general welfare framework directive, which sets down minimum standards for the protection of all farmed livestock. The regulations cover all farmed animals. Schedule 1 which does not apply to fish, reptiles or amphibians contains specific requirements such as inspections, record keeping, freedom of movement, buildings and equipment and the feeding and watering of animals. Some species, however, are subject to additional provisions, which are set out in Schedules. Guidance has been prepared to accompany the regulations and includes information on the application of the legislation to common land. Interim guidance whilst the relevant code of recommendations is under review, is available on the rules on conventionally reared meat chicken.

## Chapter 4 : Animal Health Act

*(a) a contravention of this Act, an EU measure or animal health and welfare regulations may have taken place or may be taking place, (b) an animal, animal product or animal feed, land or premises is, or may be, affected with disease or a disease agent.*

## Chapter 5 : ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE ACT

*Animal Health and Welfare Act (1) Without prejudice to an appeal under section 43, if (a) the owner, occupier or person in charge of land or premises, or the owner or person in possession or control of a protected animal, an animal*

*product, animal feed or other thing fails to comply with an animal health and welfare notice.*

## Chapter 6 : Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act

*Summary: This Ireland act deals with the health and welfare of animals by providing a number of regulations that help to protect animals. The regulations cover areas such as disease control, animal cruelty, animal health levies, and disposal of animals.*

## Chapter 7 : Karen Walsh: Animal Health and Welfare Act | Irish Examiner

*The Animal Health and Welfare Act was introduced in March and replaces the and Acts. While in the past animal welfare and animal health may have been seen as separate issues, the Act recognises that they are closely related and in many cases inter-dependent.*

## Chapter 8 : Animal Health and Welfare Act

*Act to revise the law relating to the health and welfare of animals and their protection and identification; to provide for the regulation of certain activities relating to animals; to prevent cruelty to animals; to make provision for the licensing of animal marts and for levies for the purposes of animal health and the control of animal diseases; to repeal various enactments relating to.*

## Chapter 9 : Animal Welfare Legislation - DSPCA

*To amend the Dog Breeding Establishments Act , The Animal Remedies Act and the Welfare of Greyhounds Act To provide for related matters Where to find the Animal Health and Welfare Act*