# How does the City handle barking complaints?

- Animal Care & Control investigates barking complaints case-by-case.
- Specific dates, times and durations of barking are required to file a complaint.
- A warning and short time period is given to the pet owner to resolve the problem.
- Animal Care & Control Officers discuss options with the pet owner to help prevent further barking complaints.
- Fine for a barking dog is a \$100.



#### **Contact Us**

Animal Care & Control Centre 13550 - 163 Street Edmonton, AB T5V 0B2

Phone: 311 or if outside Edmonton 780-442-5311







Dog Bark

**Prevention** 



www.edmonton.ca/bylaws





### How does barking affect others?

While dog owners are seldom bothered by their dog's bark, neighbours and peers are affected a number of ways. The sound of a barking dog can:

- Create stress.
- Disturb sleep.
- · Affect concentration.
- · Affect moods and relaxation.
- Interfere with enjoyment of personal space.

# What is nuisance barking?

- Barking is a nuisance when the sound annoys or disturbs the peace of others.
- Barking is considered excessive when it is routine, occurs late at night, lasts longer than a few minutes, and is in close proximity to other people.

#### Why does my dog bark too much?

- Dogs bark when doorbells ring, when strangers or other animals come into sight, to seek attention, from boredom or from stress and fear.
- Nuisance barking results from improper training and lack of mental stimulation.
- As a pet owner you are responsible for controling your dog's barking and preventing him from disturbing others.

## Need our help?

#### If excessive dog barking is a nuisance:

- Let your neighbour know the barking disturbs you.
- To register concerns and for information, visit www.edmonton.ca/pets or contact 311.

#### What can I do?

Use training or control techniques to prevent your dog from barking too much.

- Register with a qualified training centre to learn simple commands to stop your dog's barking when it starts.
- Dogs are den animals. Provide your dog with a crate to stay in when you are away to ease his stress.
- Teach your dog to remain quiet when the doorbell rings.
- Reward good behaviour through positive words, treats and touch.
- Control your own behaviour. Stay calm, and do not strike out at the dog.
- Use a barking control device available from your local pet store.

