

FAQs for Dog Breeders in Unincorporated Greenville County

Based on County Ordinances §§ 4-11, 4-14, 4-16, and 4-17

1. AM I REQUIRED TO REGISTER AS A PET BREEDER?

Yes. If you breed and sell dogs for profit in unincorporated Greenville County, you must register your business under the county's Business Registration Program (§ 4-16).

2. WHERE DO I REGISTER MY BREEDER BUSINESS?

Registration can be completed online [HERE](#). If you need help, contact Animal Control at animalcontrol@greenvillecounty.org or call **864-467-7595**.

3. IS THERE A COST TO REGISTER?

No. Registration is free, but it is required by law.

4. HOW OFTEN MUST I RENEW MY BREEDER REGISTRATION?

Annually. You must also keep your business and contact information accurate and up to date (§ 4-16(c)).

5. WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR KENNEL OR CRATE SIZE?

Kennels must provide:

- Dogs under 25 lbs: 24 sq ft
- Dogs 25–50 lbs: 64 sq ft
- Dogs over 50 lbs: 100 sq ft
- Minimum width: 4 ft (≤ 50 lbs), 6 ft (> 50 lbs)
- Height: At least 12 inches taller than the standing dog
- Crates are for **temporary confinement only**—not to exceed 12 hours in a 24-hour period—and must allow full movement.

6. WHAT ARE THE SANITATION AND VENTILATION REQUIREMENTS?

Housing and all contact surfaces must be **cleaned and sanitized daily**. Spaces must be **well-lit during the day** and **adequately ventilated** to promote health and minimize odors (§ 4-17(a)(1)).

7. WHAT VETERINARY CARE IS REQUIRED FOR BREEDING DOGS?

You must maintain a written **vet care plan** approved by a licensed veterinarian, and provide:

- Annual hands-on vet exams
- Core vaccinations per AVMA guidelines
- Parasite prevention
- Prompt treatment of illness/injury
- Surgeries/euthanasia performed only by vets
- Detailed vet records for inspection (§ 4-17(a)(4))



8. DO I NEED TO PROVIDE MY DOGS WITH SOCIALIZATION OR EXERCISE?

Yes. Dogs must have access to an **exercise area at least twice the size** of their primary enclosure and a **vet-approved socialization/enrichment plan** (§ 4-17(a)(3)).

9. HOW OFTEN MUST FOOD AND WATER BE PROVIDED?

At least **twice every 24 hours** (unless directed by a vet), with fresh, uncontaminated food suited to the dog's needs. **Clean water must be available at all times**, and all containers cleaned daily (§ 4-11 & § 4-17(a)(2)).

10. ARE RABIES VACCINATIONS AND TAGS REQUIRED?

Yes. Dogs must be **vaccinated for rabies** and **wear the issued rabies tag at all times outdoors** (§ 4-14(a-b)).

11. IS ADDITIONAL IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR MY DOGS?

Yes. All dogs over 3 months must wear:

- A tag with current owner contact info, **or**
- A registered microchip with up-to-date info

*Rabies tags alone **do not meet** this requirement (§ 4-14(d)).*

12. WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T FOLLOW THESE RULES?

Each violation is a **separate offense** and can result in fines or other penalties, determined by magistrate court guidelines (§ 4-17(b)).

UPDATED JULY 2025

