

**162.19 Abandoned animals destroyed.**

1. Whenever any animal is left with a veterinarian, boarding kennel or commercial kennel pursuant to a written agreement and the owner does not claim the animal by the agreed date, the animal shall be deemed abandoned, and a notice of abandonment and its consequences shall be sent within seven days by certified mail to the last known address of the owner. For fourteen days after mailing of the notice the owner shall have the right to reclaim the animal upon payment of all reasonable charges, and after the fourteen days the owner shall be deemed to have waived all rights to the abandoned animal. If despite diligent effort an owner cannot be found for the abandoned animal within another seven days, the veterinarian, boarding kennel, or commercial kennel may humanely destroy the abandoned animal.

2. Each veterinarian, boarding kennel or commercial kennel shall warn its patrons of the provisions of [this section](#) by a conspicuously posted notice or by conspicuous type in a written receipt.

[C77, 79, 81, §162.19]

[2021 Acts, ch 76, §150](#)