



Palm Beach County
Board of County Commissioners
Public Safety Department
Division of Animal Care and Control
7100 Belvedere Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33411

FAQ's about

Commercial Establishment Permits

1. **Who needs a Commercial Permit?** Kennel (Commercial breeder)/Cattery, excess animal habitat, pet shop, grooming parlor, mobile grooming parlor, commercial stable.
2. **How much does a permit cost?** The fee varies depending on the business. Call (561) 233-0302 for more information.
3. **When can I expect an inspector to visit my place of business?** Inspectors generally visit your business prior to the issuance of a permit; however, unannounced visits can occur at any time during your business hours.
4. **Can I make an appointment for my inspection?** Appointments are only made for new business and mobile groomers.
5. **When do I need to renew my permit?** Permits are valid for 1 year from the date of issue and have an expiration date. You should submit your renewal application within (30) days prior to the expiration date.
6. **I've just purchased my business; can I use the old owner's permit?** No, permits are not transferable or assignable. New owners must obtain a new permit.
7. **I provide multiple services; do I need a permit for each?** No, you only need one permit, but you must inform ACC of the types of services you will be providing (not including mobile grooming, which requires its own permit).
8. **If I am a Commercial Breeder is there anything I need to know?** Yes, Florida State Statute 828.29 requires that any dog or cat offered for sale must be no younger than 8 weeks of age and have an "Official Certificate of Veterinary Inspection" (Health Certificate).
9. **As a Commercial Stable do I need current Coggins on all horses?** Yes, you must have current Coggins on all horses on the property (including your own). A copy of Coggins must stay on the property at all times.
10. **Are there guidelines I need to follow?** Yes, you can view the Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control Ordinance 98-22 Section 23 online at [Public Safety - Animal Care Ordinance \(pbcgov.org\)](http://Public Safety - Animal Care Ordinance (pbcgov.org))
11. **I still need more information, who can I call?** Our office is open Monday through Friday from 8am to 4:30pm. You can call us at (561)233-0302. You can also e-mail us with your questions at [Contact Animal Care & Control \(pbcgov.com\)](mailto:Contact Animal Care & Control (pbcgov.com)).

Definitions:

Excess animal habitat shall mean any property measuring two and one-half (2.5) acres or more on which the maximum number of thirty (30) dogs and cats has been exceeded and for which a permit has been issued by the division.

Grooming establishment shall mean any place of business (stationary or mobile) which accepts private pets for bathing, clipping, dipping, pedicuring or other related services (not to include breeding, dentistry or overnight boarding).

Kennel/cattery or pet dealer or commercial breeder shall mean any place of business at which dogs or cats are kept for sale, breeding, boarding, training, rental, or other use for hire or any person who engages in the breeding of more than two (2) litters of dogs or cats or twenty (20) dogs or cats, whichever is greater, per calendar year, whether or not such animals are made available for sale, adoption or other placement.

Stable, commercial shall mean those premises where:

- (1) More than four (4) equine are kept which do not belong to the owner or operator of the premises; or
- (2) Equine are kept for boarding, pasturing, breeding, riding, training, riding lessons, resale or rearing, and for which advertising is used to promote such activities. "Advertising" shall mean any written statement (excluding real property leasehold arrangements) made in connection with the solicitation of such businesses and includes without limitation, statements and representations made in a newspaper or other publication, or on radio or television or contained in any notice, handbill, business card, sign, catalog, billboard, brochure, poster or letter.