

**Thank you for your email or call about barking dogs.
The following information may be helpful.**

We believe this may be helpful. This plan starts neighborly, but can lead to potential warnings and/or fines for offenders by Animal Control. Dogs can be man's best friend and short periods of barking or barking at wildlife are understandable; they also could be in danger of predators, or have been abandoned by their owner, so we would suggest that all these things be taken into consideration. We also believe that after 20 minutes, it does become a nuisance to others and should be reported and/or investigated for whatever reason. Save these steps to refer to later.

1) Talk to the neighbor as it could be that they are not aware, and if this is the case, would appreciate it coming from you rather than law enforcement. Call early on and it, hopefully, will be received by the neighbor as a solvable problem. If they are not concerned or do not accept this approach, you could mention you preferred talking with them first before calling Animal Control.

2) If talking with the neighbor does not solve the issue, contact Animal Control. Based on the information we have, they require 20 minutes of barking before it is considered a nuisance.

3) Useful tools:

a) Fill out a complaint online or in person. Animal Control folks are busy but they can be your best ally. Be specific as well as they will need the property address & the 20 minutes or recorded barking.

b) If possible, you can use your smart phone to record the barking. Upload the 20 minute recording to YouTube and email the link of recording to Animal Control. You may be able to pause recording in the middle to use less memory. Ask your kids how to do this.

c) When calling Animal Control, they will require your contact info, address of property owner with the barking dog. They may ask for evidence such as a recording.

d) What helps? Multiple complaints from several neighbors on the same dog.

4) Animal Control will most likely visit if you have given them the info they need. First time they typically will issue a warning. Follow-up visits for barking may incur a fine.

If you can nurture a friendship with your neighbor, of course, that can be helpful in many ways.

Animal Control 719-836-4121 ext 5 (use this for 1st call)

Use this when returning calls from Animal Control: 719) 836-4380 (Deputy Priestly)

Email: Llombardi@park.co (tell us if this changes)

<http://www.parkco.us/142/Animal-Control> (website – if link is not active, copy & paste to your browser)

<http://www.parkco.us/DocumentCenter/Home/View/184> (ordinance)

<http://www.parkco.us/DocumentCenter/Home/View/185> (fines)

<http://www.parkco.us/Faq.aspx?QID=133> (FAQ My neighbor's dog barks, what can I do) agenda