



Dog Kennel Operating Permit FAQ

This question/answer sheet covers **key permit requirements**. For complete requirements, see Lewis County Code (LCC) 6.15.

Q: Do I need a Kennel Operating Permit?

A: If you have more than 10 dogs with intact sexual organs or more than 20 dogs total (both intact and spayed/neutered), then YES.

Q: Which Permit do I apply for?

A: Your permit tier depends on the maximum number of dogs you anticipate keeping on the property at any one point in time, and whether you are considered a commercial or hobby kennel. There is a flowchart on the back of this page to assist in your determination.

Q: How long is my Permit valid for?

A: Your permit is valid for one year from the date your kennel inspection finds your operation in compliance.

Q: When will my inspection take place?

A: Your inspection will be scheduled for a mutually agreed upon date and time upon submittal of your completed kennel application & payment of your permit fee.

Q: What happens if my operation is found out of compliance?

A: After payment of a re-inspection fee (cost dependent on number of dogs & commercial status, please see fee schedule), an unscheduled re-inspection will occur within 30 days from the inspection date.

Q: Can I operate until I receive an annual operation permit?

A: If you have submitted your permit application & paid the associated fee, then yes, you may operate while you are going through the inspection process. Operating without a submitted application or continuing to operate after the denial of a permit will result in enforcement action.

Q: Can my Permit application be denied?

A: Permits can be denied if the kennel is out of compliance with any applicable state or county codes. If the non-compliance issues are minimal, staff will work with the owner/operator to come into compliance as quickly as possible.