

# Notification of Presence of Wild Animals

This Act directs that except for pet dealers, anyone who owns or possesses a wild animal must report the presence of the wild animal to the local city or county clerk. That information is then reported to various police, fire and emergency personnel in the area in order to make such people aware of the animal's presence in case such personnel are dispatched on a call to the address where the wild animal is located.

Submitted as:

New York

[Chapter 680 of 2002](#)

Status: Enacted into law in 2002.

## Suggested State Legislation

(Title, enacting clause, etc.)

1           Section 1. [*Short Title*.] This Act may be cited as "An Act Requiring Notification of  
2   Presence of Wild Animals."

3           1. The knowledge of the presence of dangerous wild animals, in the context of emergency  
4   services responses, is necessary to protect public safety and the safety of emergency services  
5   personnel.

6           2. As used in this section:

7                   (a) "Emergency services personnel" means fire, police, and ambulance  
8   personnel.

9                   (b) "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, or  
10   other entity.

11                  (c) "Wild animal" means any or all of the following orders and families:

12                           (1) Nonhuman primates and prosimians;

13                           (2) Felidae (with the exception of domesticated cats);

14                           (3) Canidae (with the exception of domesticated dogs);

15                           (4) Ursidae;

16                           (5) All venomous snakes and all constrictors and python snakes that are  
17   ten feet or greater in length; and

18                           (6) Crocodilia that are five feet or greater in length.

19           3. The [state fire administrator], in consultation with the [department of environmental  
20   conservation], shall develop and maintain a list of the common names of wild animals to be  
21   reported.

22           4. Except for pet dealers as defined in [insert citation], every person owning, possessing,  
23   or harboring a wild animal within this state shall report the presence thereof to the clerk of the  
24   city, town, or village in which such wild animal is owned, possessed, or harbored. Such report  
25   shall be filed annually on a date to be determined by the [state fire administrator] in the manner  
26   prescribed by the [state fire administrator]. A separate report shall be filed for each street address  
27   at which any such wild animal may be found.

28           5. Such clerk shall forward a copy of such report to each state police troop, county  
29   sheriff, and municipal police agency having jurisdiction over the location of such wild animal. A  
30   copy thereof shall also be forwarded to each fire department, fire corporation, or fire company  
31   serving such location and to each ambulance or emergency medical service department,  
32   ambulance corporation, or ambulance or emergency medical service company serving such

location. In lieu of forwarding a copy of each report, the clerk may compile the contents of the several reports, and forward the compilation.

6. Any person who fails to report the presence of a wild animal as required in this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than [two hundred fifty dollars] for the first offense, and upon being found guilty of a second or subsequent offense, by a civil penalty of not less than [two hundred fifty dollars] or more than [one thousand dollars]. Except as otherwise provided by law, such a violation shall not be a crime and the penalty or punishment imposed therefor shall not be deemed for any purpose a criminal penalty or punishment and shall not impose any disability upon or affect or impair the credibility as a witness, or otherwise, of a person found guilty thereof.

Section 2. [*Severability*.] [Insert severability clause.]

Section 3. [*Repealer*.] [Insert repealer clause.]

Section 4. [*Effective Date*.] [Insert effective date.]