

clothing of any person, the owner or keeper, or if the owner or keeper be a minor, the parents or guardian of such minor, shall be liable for such damages, unless such damage shall have been occasioned to the body or clothing of a person who, at the time such was sustained, was committing a trespass or other tort, or was teasing, tormenting or abusing such dog. A person is lawfully upon the private property of such owner within the meaning of this Act when he is on such property in the performance of any duty imposed upon him by the laws of the State of Maryland, Acts relating to Anne Arundel County or postal regulations of the United States of America, or when he is on such property upon the invitation, expressed or implied, of the owner thereof.

The owner of any livestock or poultry injured or killed by any dog may recover as liquidated damages from the owner of such dog, devoid of proper legal defenses, twice the actual value of the animals killed or twice the value of damages sustained by reason of said injuries as the case may be. If two or more dogs kept by two or more owners or keepers injure or kill any livestock or poultry at the same time, the owners or keepers of such dogs are jointly and severally liable for such damage.

**256L. DAMAGED PARTY CHOICE OF REMEDIES.** The owner of livestock or poultry which has been maimed or killed by a dog shall have his election to proceed under Section 256J or under Section 256K, but having signified his election by starting proceedings in either mode, he shall not have the other remedy.

**256M. PREDATORY DOGS AND DOGS UNDER SUSPICION.** The Board of County Commissioners and any justice of the peace of the County shall have the power to order the Warden of any district or other county police officer to kill any dog known to be a confirmed poultry killer, and any dog killing fowl on three different occasions shall be considered a confirmed poultry killer.

Any Warden or other person who has reason to believe that any dog has been worrying, wounding or killing livestock but which has not been found in the act, may apply to a justice of the peace of the district in which such dog may be, who shall issue a warrant requiring the owner or custodian, if known, to appear before him at a time and place named therein, at which time evidence shall be heard, and if it shall appear that such dog is a livestock or poultry killer, or has committed any of the depredations mentioned in this section, the dog shall be ordered surrendered to such Warden or other officer designated by the justice of the peace to be destroyed in the most humane manner possible.