

# How You Can Help

- **JOIN MAPBD**

**MAPBD** members are located throughout Michigan. Any organization interested in promoting responsible dog ownership is invited to join. Additionally, individuals who wish to become involved in working for effective canine legislation are needed. A membership application is available at our website or from the **MAPBD** Membership Chairperson.

- **DONATE TO MAPBD**

**MAPBD** has no paid staff members and all monies spent are directly related to the general business of the club and other important legislative expenses. Because the majority of **MAPBD** work involves lobbying activities, it is not possible for the organization to form as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3), which would permit donors to take a tax deduction. Nevertheless, your financial help and support are essential to the work of protecting Michigan dogs and **YOUR** right to keep and enjoy **YOUR** dogs.

- **BECOME INFORMED**

Visit the **MAPBD** website for important information. Please contact **MAPBD** if you have questions or concerns about dog laws in your community.

# Contact MAPBD

## **MAPBD Director of Legislative Affairs**

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## **MAPBD Membership Chairperson**

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## **MAPBD Website:**

**<http://www.mapbd.org>**

**MICHIGAN  
ASSOCIATION**  
for  
**PURE BRED DOGS**



**WHO WE ARE,  
WHAT WE DO,  
and  
HOW YOU CAN HELP**

**[mapbd.org](http://www.mapbd.org)**

# What is MAPBD?

**Michigan Association for Pure Bred Dogs (MAPBD)** was incorporated in 1965 and is a non-profit corporation.

**MAPBD** is a federation of dozens of Michigan dog clubs. These include all-breed kennel clubs, specialty clubs, obedience clubs, agility clubs, herding clubs, and lure coursing clubs. Many of the specialty breed clubs also hold field trials and hunt tests.

Additionally, **MAPBD** has numerous individual members. Any person who is interested in working for responsible and fair canine legislation is welcome to apply for **MAPBD** membership. There are no paid staff members. All work is accomplished by volunteer efforts.

For 45 years, **MAPBD** has promoted responsible dog ownership in Michigan. However, with each passing year, due to increased pressure from well-funded national animal rights groups, **MAPBD** has had to dramatically increase its effective volunteer lobbying efforts.

**MAPBD** consistently lobbies at state and municipal levels to keep Michigan a dog-friendly state.

**MAPBD** strives to keep **YOU**, the concerned Michigan dog owner, informed of any attempts to limit your right to own, breed, exhibit, train, and enjoy your dogs.

# What MAPBD Does

**MAPBD** has a designated Director of Legislative Affairs responsible for the coordination of activities, including:

- 1) Tracking and monitoring all Michigan legislation related to dogs and hunting with dogs.
- 2) Attending and testifying at various Michigan House and Senate Committee meetings.
- 3) Meeting regularly with State Senators and Representatives on various bills before each chamber.
- 4) Preparing **MAPBD** Position Papers on key bills.
- 5) Maintaining **MAPBD** dedicated lines for phone and FAX to answer questions on Michigan dog laws.
- 6) Operating an **MAPBD** booth at numerous events and dog shows to distribute literature and discuss current dog law with the public.
- 7) Providing significant expert resources to dog owners in various municipalities that are faced with restrictive dog laws in their communities. **MAPBD** attends numerous local government meetings to negotiate reasonable alternatives to onerous dog ordinance proposals.

# MAPBD Effectiveness

To date, radical animal rights groups have been largely unsuccessful advancing their agendas in Michigan. Much of that failure is due to the work of **MAPBD** building strong relationships with our legislators.

Thus, many restrictive laws die on the floor, get killed in committee, or have punitive language removed. In the 2008-2009 session, **MAPBD** effectively:

- 1) Removed language from a law that would have required all hobby breeders to refund money to buyers of any "defective" dog for any reason without a second opinion of the breeder's veterinarian, as well as requiring the hobby breeder to pay for all veterinary services of the buyer, even if the treatment would have no probability of success.
- 2) Killed a bill that would have required all dog breeders to have an FBI criminal background check and be fingerprinted.
- 3) Killed a bill that would have prohibited all "dog racing" in Michigan. This law was so poorly written that it would have encompassed such activities as timed Agility competitions, sled-dog races, and lure coursing events.