

**VILLAGE OF VISCOUNT
BYLAW NO. 2021-002**

A BYLAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

The council for the Village of Viscount in the Province of Saskatchewan enacts as follows:

Short Title

1. This Bylaw may be cited as The Nuisance Abatement Bylaw.

Purpose

2. The purpose of this Bylaw is to provide for the proper maintenance of property and the abatement of nuisances, including property, activities or things that adversely affects or may adversely affect:
 - a) the safety, health or welfare of people in the neighbourhood;
 - b) people's use and enjoyment of their property; or
 - c) the amenity of a neighbourhood.

Definitions

3. In this Bylaw:
 - a) **"at large"** means when a pet is beyond the boundaries of land occupied by the owner, possessor, harbinger or keeper of the said pet, or beyond the boundaries of any lands where it may be with the permission of the owner or occupant of the said land and is not under control by being:
 - i) on a leash or harness and in direct and continuous charge of a person competent to control it; or
 - ii) securely confined within an enclosure; or
 - iii) securely fastened so that it cannot roam at will.
 - b) **"building"** means a building within the meaning of *The Municipalities Act*;
 - c) **"Municipality"** means the Village of Viscount;
 - d) **"Council"** means the Council of the Village of Viscount;
 - e) **"Designated Officer"** means an employee or agent of the Municipality including the Administrator and Foreman or any other person or contracted vendor appointed by Council to act as a municipal inspector for the purposes of this Bylaw;
 - f) **"Farm Machinery"** means machinery that is used or intended for the use in farming operations, including any combine, tractor implement, engine, motor or attachments, but not including a motor vehicle within the meaning of the *Highway Traffic Act*.
 - g) **"junked vehicle"** means any automobile, tractor, truck, trailer or other vehicle that
 - i) either:
 - (1) has no valid license plates attached to it; or
 - (2) is in a rusted, wrecked, partly wrecked, dismantled, partly dismantled, inoperative or abandoned condition; and
 - ii) is located on private land, but that:

- (1) is not within a structure erected in accordance with any Bylaw respecting the erection of buildings and structures in force within the Municipality; and
 - (2) does not form a part of a business enterprise lawfully being operated on that land;
- h) **“nuisance”** means a condition of property, or a thing, or an activity, that adversely affects or may adversely affect:
- i) the safety, health or welfare of people in the neighbourhood;
 - ii) people’s use and enjoyment of their property; or
 - iii) the amenity of a neighbourhood
- and includes:
- (1) a building in a ruinous or dilapidated state of repair;
 - (2) an unoccupied building that is damaged and is an imminent danger to public safety;
 - (3) land that is overgrown with grass and weeds;
 - (4) untidy and unsightly property;
 - (5) junked vehicles; and
 - (6) open excavations on property;
 - (7) defecation of dogs or cats on public or private property;
 - (8) pets running at large.
- g) **“occupant”** means an occupant as defined in *The Municipalities Act*;
- h) **“owner”** in general terms means an owner as defined in *The Municipalities Act*; and in terms of a pet means a person who feeds or cares for a pet or permits a pet to live in or on a premises or occupy a property or any portion thereof.
- i) **“pet”** means a dog, cat or other animal that is owned as a domesticated pet; this includes any animal that is fed or cared for by a person or is found to be permitted to live on a property whether the animal is domesticated or not and whether a person claims ownership or not.
- j) **“property”** means land or buildings or both;
- k) **“occupant”** is a person who occupies a property but may or may not be the registered owner of a property.
- l) **“stored”** means a place where farm machinery or junked vehicle are put away for future use.
- m) **“structure”** means anything erected or constructed, the use of which requires temporary or permanent location on, or support of, the soil, or attached to something having permanent location on the ground or soil; but not including pavements, curbs, walks or open air surfaced areas.
- n) the term **“Administrator/Clerk”** means the person appointed as the Administrator/Clerk for the Village of Viscount or his/her duly authorized representative or designate.
- o) **“untidy and unsightly”** means lands, buildings or structures that are in disorderly, slovelly, or littered condition; are not kept in generally good order; and/or are unpleasant to look at or are aesthetically objectionable, and includes lands that are overgrown with grass and weeds.

Responsibility

4. Unless otherwise specified, the owner or occupant of a property, including land, buildings and structures, shall be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this Bylaw.

Nuisances Prohibited Generally

5. No person shall cause or permit a nuisance to occur on any property owned or occupied by that person.

Dilapidated Buildings

6. Notwithstanding the generality of Section 5, no person shall cause or permit a building or structure to deteriorate into a ruinous or dilapidated state such that the building or structure:
 - a) is dangerous to the public health or safety;
 - b) substantially depreciates the value of other land or improvements in the neighbourhood; or
 - c) is substantially detrimental to the amenities of the neighbourhood.

Unoccupied Buildings

7. Notwithstanding the generality of Section 5, no person shall cause or permit an unoccupied building to become damaged or to deteriorate into a state of disrepair such that the building is an imminent danger to public safety.

Overgrown Grass and Weeds

8. Notwithstanding the generality of Section 5, no owner or occupant of land shall cause or permit the land to be overgrown with grass or weeds.
9. For the purposes of this section, “**overgrown**” means in excess of 20 centimeters in height.
10. This section shall not apply to any growth which forms part of a natural garden that has been deliberately planted to produce ground cover, including one or more species of wildflowers, shrubs, perennials, grasses or combinations of them, whether native or non-native, consistent with a managed and natural landscape other than regularly mown grass.

Untidy and Unsightly Property

11. Notwithstanding the generality of Section 5, no person shall cause or permit any land or buildings to become untidy and unsightly.

Farm Machinery

12. Notwithstanding the generality of Section 5, no person shall cause or permit any farm machinery to be stored, serviced or repaired on any land owned or occupied by that person.

Junked Vehicles

13. Notwithstanding the generality of Section 5, no person shall cause or permit any junked vehicle to be kept on any land owned or occupied by that person.

Open Excavations

14. Notwithstanding the generality of Section 5, no person shall cause or permit any basement, excavation, drain, ditch, watercourse, pond, surface water, swimming pool or other structure to exist in or on any private land or in or about any building or structure which is dangerous to the public safety or health.

Defecation of Dogs or Cats

15. If a pet defecates on any public or private property other than the property of the owner, possessor or harbinger of the said pet, the owner, possessor or harbinger of the pet shall cause such defecation to be removed immediately and disposed of in a sanitary fashion.
16. Defecations deposited on the private property of the owner, possessor or harbinger of a pet shall be removed and disposed of in a sanitary manner on a weekly basis.

Pets at Large

17. The owner of a pet shall not at any time allow the pet to be at large within the village.
18. When a pet is found to be at large, its owner is deemed to have failed or refused to comply with the provisions of this section. An exception may be made if the owner is actively looking for a lost dog or cat.
19. Where a dog or cat is found to be running at large, the owner or occupant of that property on which the dog or cat is running at large may make a written complaint to the Village of Viscount.

Maintenance of Yards

20. Notwithstanding the generality of section 5, no person shall cause or permit on any property owned or occupied by that person:
 - a) an infestation of rodents, vermin or insects;
 - b) any dead or hazardous trees;
 - c) undue buildup of animal feces;
 - d) outdoor feeding area that may attract animals and pests; or
 - e) any sharp or dangerous objects.

Outdoor Storage of Materials

15. Any building materials, lumber, scrap metal, boxes or similar items stored in a yard shall be neatly stacked in piles and elevated off the ground so as not to constitute a nuisance or harborage for rodents, vermin and insects.
16. Materials referred to in Section 15 shall be elevated at least 0.15 metres off the ground and shall be stacked at least 3.0 metres from the exterior walls of any building and at least 1.0 metre from the property line.

Refrigerators and Freezers

17. Any refrigerator or freezer left in a yard shall first have its hinges, latches, lid, door or doors removed.

Fences

18. Fences shall be maintained in a safe and reasonable state of repair.

Enforcement of Bylaw

19. The administration and enforcement of this Bylaw is hereby delegated to the Administrator for the Village of Viscount.
20. The Administrator of the Village of Viscount is hereby authorized to further delegate the administration and enforcement of this Bylaw to the Village Foreman.

Inspections

21. The inspection of property by the Municipality to determine if this Bylaw is being complied with is hereby authorized.

22. Inspections under this Bylaw shall be carried out in accordance with Section 362 of *The Municipalities Act*.

23. No person shall obstruct a Designated Officer who is authorized to conduct an inspection under this section, or a person who is assisting a Designated Officer.

Order to Remedy Contraventions

24. If a Designated Officer finds that a person is contravening this Bylaw, the Designated Officer may, by written order, require the owner or occupant of the property or pet to which the contravention relates to remedy the contravention.

25. Orders given under this Bylaw shall comply with Section 364 of *The Municipalities Act*.

26. Orders given under Bylaw shall be served in accordance with Section 390 of *The Municipalities Act*.

Registration of Notice of Order

27. If an order is issued pursuant to Section 24, the Municipality may, in accordance with Section 364 of *The Municipalities Act*, give notice of the existence of the order by registering an interest against the title to the land that is the subject of the order.

Appeal of Order to Remedy

28. A person may appeal an order made pursuant to Section 24 in accordance with Section 365 of *The Municipalities Act*.

Municipality Remediating Contraventions

29. The Municipality may, in accordance with Section 366 of *The Municipalities Act*, take whatever actions or measures are necessary to remedy a contravention of this Bylaw.

30. In an emergency, the Municipality may take whatever actions or measures are necessary to eliminate the emergency in accordance with the provisions of Section 367 of *The Municipalities Act*.

Recovery of Unpaid Expenses and Costs

31. Any unpaid expenses and costs incurred by the Municipality in remediating a contravention of this Bylaw may be recovered either:

- a) by civil action for debt in a court of competent jurisdiction in accordance with Section 368 of *The Municipalities Act*; or
- b) by adding the amount to the taxes on the property on which the work is done in accordance with Section 369 of *The Municipalities Act*.

Offences and Penalties

32. No person shall:

- a) fail to comply with an order made pursuant to this Bylaw;
- b) obstruct or interfere with any Designated Officer or any other person acting under the authority of this Bylaw; or
- c) fail to comply with any other provision of this Bylaw.

33. A Designated Officer who has reason to believe that a person has contravened any provision of this Bylaw may serve on that person a Notice of Violation, which Notice of Violation shall indicate that the Municipality will accept voluntary payment in the sum of \$250.00 (two hundred and fifty dollars) to be paid to the Municipality within 10 (ten) days.

34. Where the Municipality receives voluntary payment of the amount prescribed under Section 33 within the time specified, the person receiving the Notice of Violation shall not be liable to prosecution for the alleged contravention.

35. Payment of any Notice of Violation does not exempt the person from enforcement of an order pursuant to Section 24 of this Bylaw.

36. Every person who contravenes any provision of Section 32 is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction:

- a) in the case of an individual, to a fine of not more than \$10,000;
- b) in the case of a corporation, to a fine of not more than \$25,000; and
- c) in the case of a continuing offence, to a maximum daily fine of not more than \$2,500 per day.

Repeal of Former Bylaw

37. Bylaw # 2018-051 The Nuisance Abatement Bylaw; and all amendments thereto are hereby repealed.

Coming Into Force

38. This Bylaw shall come into force on the day of its final passing.

Sections 8(1)(b) & 8(1)(d) *The Municipalities Act*





Mayor – Melissa Dieno



Administrator- Ferne Hebig

READ a first time this 11th day of May, 2021
READ a second time this 11th day of May, 2021
READ a third time and adopted this 11th day of May, 2021

Certified a true copy of
Bylaw No. 2021-002 adopted
By resolution of Council
On the 11th day of May, 2021



Administrator