

BYLAW NO. 12-2005

Nuisance Abatement Bylaw

A BYLAW OF THE TOWN OF LUMSDEN, IN THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN, TO PROVIDE FOR THE ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES WITHIN THE TOWN OF LUMSDEN

THE COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF LUMSDEN 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 abatement of nuisances, including property, activities, or things that 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) "Designated Officer" means an employee or agent of the Municipality appointed by Council to act as a municipal inspector for the purposes of this Bylaw;
 - b) "building" means a building within the meaning of *The Municipalities Act*;
 - c) "Municipality" means the Town of Lumsden;
 - d) "Council" means the Council of the Town of Lumsden;
 - e) "junked vehicle" means any automobile, tractor, truck, trailer or other vehicle that
 - (1) either:
 - (a) has no valid license plates attached to it; or
 - (b) is in a rusted, wrecked, partly wrecked, dismantled, partly dismantled, inoperative or abandoned condition; and
 - (2) is located on private land, but that:
 - (a) is not within a structure erected in accordance with any Bylaw respecting the erection of buildings and structures in force within the Municipality; and
 - (b) does not form a part of a business enterprise lawfully being operated on that land;
 - f) "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:
 - i) a building in a ruinous or dilapidated state of repair;
 - ii) an unoccupied building that is damaged and is an imminent danger to public safety;
 - iii) land that is overgrown with grass and weeds;
 - iv) untidy and unsightly property;
 - v) junked vehicles; and
 - vi) open excavations on property;
 - g) "occupant" means an occupant as defined in *The Municipalities Act*;
 - h) "owner" means an owner as defined in *The Municipalities Act*;
 - i) "property" means land or buildings or both;
 - j) "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.

Responsibility

4. Unless otherwise specified, the owner 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 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 0.3048 metres (12 inches) in height.
10. This section shall not apply to any growth which forms part of a natural garden, water retention area, natural habitat or areas designated or agreed to be desirable for natural plant growth. Natural habitat may include areas deliberately planted to produce ground cover and may include one or more species of wildflowers, shrubs, perennials, grasses or combinations of them, whether native or non-native.

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.

Junked Vehicles

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

Open Excavations

13. 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.

Maintenance of Yards

14. Notwithstanding the generality of section 5, no person shall cause or permit on any property owned by that person:
 - a) an infestation of rodents, vermin or insects;
 - b) any dead or hazardous trees; or
 - c) 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.

Refrigerators and Freezers

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

Fences

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

Enforcement of Bylaw

18. The administration and enforcement of this Bylaw is hereby delegated to the Administrator for the Town of Lumsden.
19. The Administrator of the Town of Lumsden is hereby authorized to further delegate the administration and enforcement of this Bylaw to the Public Works Supervisor or a Bylaw Enforcement Officer appointed by Council.

Inspections

20. The inspection of property by the Municipality to determine if this Bylaw is being complied with is hereby authorized.
21. Inspections under this Bylaw shall be carried out in accordance with Section 362 of *The Municipalities Act*.
22. Council may appoint either an individual to act as a Designated Officer or Council Committee to act as a Designated Committee to fulfill the role and responsibilities of a Designated Officer.
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 to which the contravention relates to remedy the contravention.
25. The Administrator shall provide notice of the written order to the owner of the property, outlining the remedial work required in the nuisance declaration order and requesting compliance with this bylaw and *The Municipalities Act*.
26. Orders given under this Bylaw shall comply with Section 364 of *The Municipalities Act*.
27. Orders given under Bylaw shall be served in accordance with Section 390(1)(a), (b) or (c) of *The Municipalities Act*.

Registration of Notice of Order

28. 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

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

Municipality Remedying Contraventions

30. 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.

