

CONSEQUENCES AND PENALTIES

If in the opinion of a Municipal Enforcement Peace Officer, a premise is in violation of the Community Standards Bylaw, the individual(s) responsible for the violation or the property in question may be issued with:

- A violation ticket
- A remedial order
- A violation ticket AND a remedial order.

Fines for failure to comply with the Community Standards Bylaw range from \$200-\$1000. For significant breaches and/or failure to comply with a remedial order, the Courts have the ability to assess penalties of up to \$10,000.

Section 547 of the Municipal Government Act requires municipalities to establish an appeals process for any person(s) affected by an Order issued by the municipality. Foothills County has created the Community Standards Appeal Board to adjudicate appeals, that relate to Orders issued by the Municipal Enforcement Peace Officers, that are consistent with the Municipal Government Act.

The determination of whether a property or

SECTION / OFFENCE	MIN. PENALTY
5 Nuisance/Unsightly property.....	\$500
16 Operating motorized device in residential area at night.....	\$500
24 Littering/Dumping.....	\$500
26 Illegal signage.....	\$500
30 Failure to comply with remedial order	\$1000

an activity is compliant with the Community Standards Bylaw is at the sole discretion of a Municipal Enforcement Peace Officer. If a property requires a clean-up or remediation process to bring it into compliance with the bylaw, it is the responsibility of the landowner to ensure that this work is completed. If a landowner does not comply in this regard, the County may enter onto the lands to conduct the clean-up or remediation, and all costs associated to this would be an amount owing to the County and may be applied to the tax roll for the property in question.

CLEANER, SAFER COMMUNITY

This bylaw is motivated by the 'Broken Windows Theory'. Developed by Harvard researchers Wilson and Kelling in the 1980's, this theory has been used by the NYPD, LAPD, as well as many law enforcement agencies across the globe. The theory is that one broken window that remains unrepaired increases the likelihood that another window will be broken and more vandalism in the area will occur. An unrepaired broken window conveys the message that no one cares about the area, therefore crime rates increase.

This theory has seen success in New York City Subway stations in the 1990's. All dirt, grime, and graffiti was removed from the transit system including: trains, entrance ways, and platforms. The areas were cleaned and kept to a considerably higher standard than before. This led to a considerable decrease in not only littering and 'fare-dodging' (not paying) but also more serious crimes like assaults and muggings.

A clean, well kept community will not only appear nice, but will also alter the attitude of residents and guests to treat our community with the respect and dignity it deserves.

We appreciate you doing your part to continue to build our beautiful community.



www.foothillscountyab.ca

**For additional information contact
Foothills Patrol - Municipal Enforcement
(403) 603-6300**

BUILDING BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITIES

Community Standards Bylaw



To all residents and business owners in Foothills County

MAKING YOUR COMMUNITY BETTER!

Bylaw No. 45/2013 The Community Standards Bylaw (CSB) is intended to make your community a nicer place to live. Foothills County has passed legislation to ensure compliance of issues regarding unsightly premises, nuisances, noise complaints as well as maintenance standards to ensure a safe and vibrant community.

Knowing your landowner or tenant responsibilities will result in a higher rate of voluntary compliance, resulting in less need for enforcement and fewer community conflicts. The ultimate benefit to individuals is the protection of the investment in their properties and the community at large.

The Community Standards Bylaw ensures all residents in this naturally beautiful setting do not act in a manner or leave their properties in a state which detracts from the allure of our great area. In response to ratepayer concerns, these practices have been introduced to ensure compliance from all residents and businesses that live or do business within Foothills County.

A well maintained property instills a sense of pride in its residents and results in a higher standard of living. These bylaws have been written to protect the environment, our communities and ensure a high standard of public health and safety. They are not meant to restrict freedoms, but are meant to help neighbours live together peacefully in a wonderful setting.

UNSIGHTLY PREMISES

An unsightly premise is defined by the CSB as: “any premise whether land, buildings, improvements to land or buildings, personal property or any combination of the above, located on the lands within the County, (that) in the opinion of an Officer, is unsightly to such a degree as to detrimentally affect the repose, amenities, use, value, or enjoyment of the surrounding lands in reasonable proximity to the Unsightly Premises, or as otherwise detrimental to the surrounding area or in an unsightly condition as defined in the Municipal Government Act.”

Some of the key issues addressed in the Community Standards Bylaw include:

- Maintenance standards of residential properties;
- Unsightly and nuisance properties;
- Weed control;
- Cutting of grass on boulevards and clearing snow from sidewalks adjacent to residences;
- Construction projects and accumulation of construction materials;
- Recreational and passenger vehicles parked on streets longer than 72 hours;
- Noise nuisances;
- Accumulation of animal feces and manure management;
- Use of ATVs on private and public lands.



More details as well as a copy of the Community Standards Bylaw can be found at our website:

www.foothillscountyab.ca

**For additional information contact
Foothills Patrol - Municipal Enforcement**

403-603-6300

