

R.M. OF SWIFT CURRENT NO. 137

BYLAW NO. 21-2015

A BYLAW RESPECTING FIRE RESTRICTIONS

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Swift Current No. 137 in the Province of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows:

TITLE

This bylaw shall be referred to as the “*Fire Restriction Bylaw*”.

PURPOSE

To provide for public safety in times of extreme fire hazard conditions;
To restrict or eliminate the use of fire within the municipality in areas of fire danger;
To attempt to minimize the risk of accidental fire;
To regulate open fires, fireworks and burning of any kind;

PART I – DEFINITIONS

1. “Administrator” shall mean the administrator of the municipality, or in their absence their designate;
2. “Council” shall mean the council of the municipality;
3. “Designated Officer” shall mean the Administrator, a Peace Officer, and any person appointed to enforce this bylaw;
4. “Discharge” includes to ignite, fire, or set off and the words “discharging” and “discharged” have a similar meaning;
5. “Enforcement and Protective Services” means the municipal department responsible for delivery of law enforcement services within its jurisdictional area;
6. “Fireworks” means any article defined as a firework pursuant to The Canada Explosives Act or any Regulations thereto, shall also include Low Hazard Fireworks and High Hazard Fireworks and Manufactured Fireworks and include fireworks for recreation such as firework showers, fountains, golden rain, lawn lights, pin wheels, Roman candles, volcanoes and sparklers and rockets, serpents, shells, bombshells, tourbillions, maroons, large wheels, bouquets, barrages, bombardos, waterfalls, fountains, mines and firecrackers, or any firework composition that is enclosed in any case or contrivance or is otherwise manufactured or adapted for the production of pyrotechnic effects, signals or sound but does not include sparklers, Christmas crackers, caps for toy guns containing not in excess of twenty-five one-hundredths of a grain of explosive per cap.

7. "Municipality" shall mean the Rural Municipality of Swift Current No. 137;
8. "Peace Officer" means a peace officer as defined in *The Summary Offence Procedures Act, 1990*;
9. "Reeve" shall mean the person elected as Reeve to the municipality, or in their absence the Deputy Reeve.
10. "Supervising Officer" means a person appointed by the Municipality to oversee the Enforcement and Protective Services Department, or their designate;

PART II – FIRE BAN

11. A fire ban prohibiting open fire of any kind may be issued by a resolution of Council or jointly by the two officials of the Municipality identified in Section 12. A fire ban shall be issued in writing and shall identify;
 - a. The time and date that the fire ban commences;
 - b. The land location(s) the fire ban covers;
 - c. The time and date the fire ban is lifted, or will be reviewed;
 - d. Person or persons authorizing the fire ban;
 - e. Authority allowing the fire ban;
 - f. Other information that may be in the public interest.
12. Pursuant to Section 11, the municipal officials so authorized to issue a fire ban are the Reeve AND the Administrator.
13. No person shall light, or start or allow or cause to be lighted, ignited or started a fire of any kind whatsoever in the open air during a fire ban.
14. No person shall discharge, or start or allow or cause to be discharged, ignited or started any fireworks of any kind whatsoever during a fire ban.
15. A Designated Officer may order any fire be extinguished forthwith during any period for which a fire ban is in effect within the municipality.
16. No person shall fail to immediately comply with an order to extinguish a fire by a Designated Officer.
17. A Designated Officer may cause a fire to be extinguished forthwith during any period for which a fire ban is in effect within the municipality.
18. The cost of fire prevention, suppression and emergency response services shall be charged directly on the persons who receive the service in accordance with Schedule "A" which is attached to and forming a part of this bylaw.

19. The Administrator shall as per Section 369 of *The Municipalities Act* add to the taxes of any property owned, occupied or inhabited by the person referred to in Section 19 of this bylaw any amount which remains unpaid at the end of the calendar year or 21 days after the person has been invoiced for said services, whichever is earlier.
20. Every person who contravenes any provision of this bylaw is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to:
 - a. In the case of a first offence, to a fine not less than \$500 and not more than \$10,000;
 - b. In the case of a second offence to a fine not less than \$750 and not more than \$10,000;
 - c. In the case of a third or subsequent offence to a fine of not less than \$1000 and not more than 10,000, to imprisonment for not more than one year or to both.
21. A new offence is deemed to have been committed not less than two (2) hours from any previous offence.
22. Notwithstanding Section 20, a Designated Officer may issue a notice of violation to any person committing a first or second offence under this bylaw.
23. The notice of violation shall require the person to pay to the Municipality;
 - a. In a case of an individual, to a fine of \$300 for a first offence and \$450 for a second offence.
24. The amount specified in clause 23 may be paid.
 - a. In person, during regular office hours, to the Municipality at the Municipal Office, 2024 South Service Road West, Swift Current, Saskatchewan.
OR
 - b. By mail addressed to the Rural Municipality of Swift Current No. 137, 2024 South Service Road West, Swift Current, Saskatchewan, S9H 5J5.
25. If payment of the fine as provided in clause 23 is made prior to 15 days from the date they received the notice of violation, the person shall not be liable to prosecution for that offence.
26. The imposition of any penalty for violation of this bylaw shall not relieve the person from complying with this bylaw.

Limitation of Prosecution

27. Unless otherwise specifically stated no prosecution for an offence pursuant to this bylaw is to be commenced after two years from the date on which the offence is alleged to

have been committed or, in the case of a continuing offence, the last date on which the offence was committed.

28. If any Part, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or other portion of this Bylaw is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by a Court of competent jurisdiction, that portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and the holding of the Court shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Bylaw.

29. This bylaw shall come into force on final passing thereof.

Reeve

(seal)

Administrator

Certified a true copy of Bylaw No. 21-2015 adopted
by the council of the R.M. of Swift Current No. 137
on the 14th day of July, 2015.

Administrator

SCHEDULE A

Hourly

- one alarm: \$750 (5 firefighters, 2 trucks)
- two alarm: \$30/additional firefighter

***max fire call charges (for ratepayers)**

- residential: \$2,500
- commercial: \$5,000

Inspection of Properties.

The cost of fire prevention and life safety inspections shall be charged to the property owner or tenant according to the rates charged to the Municipality by the Municipality's appointed Inspector, which may be revised from time to time.

This is Schedule "A" as attached to and forming a part of Bylaw No. 21-2015 – Page 1 of 1

Reeve

(seal)

Administrator