



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST HANTS
By-law Enforcement On-Call Guidelines

1. Purpose

To provide guidelines for a By-law Enforcement Officer's response after regular working hours.

2. Definitions

- a. **"After hours"** means hours occurring outside of regular time frame of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, excluding holidays.
- b. **"Designated material"** means tires, railway ties, painted wood, other treated wood, rubber, plastic, garbage, food products, animal or human remains, used oil and waste dangerous goods as defined in the Dangerous Goods Management Regulations pursuant to the Environment Act, Stats. N.S. 1994-1995, C.1 and amendments thereto.
- c. **"Emergency"** means a serious, unexpected and often dangerous situation requiring immediate action.
- d. **"Non-emergency"** means an event which involves an injured dog or abandoned dog due to the hospitalization, incarceration or evacuation of the owner of the dog which occurs outside regular hours.
- e. **"RCMP"** means the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, which is the local policing agency.
- f. **"Regular hours"** means hours occurring inside of the 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. time frame, Monday to Friday, excluding holidays.

3. Limitations

By-law Enforcement Officers employed with the Municipality of the District of West Hants will not normally respond to after hours calls or complaints unless the call involves an event which meets the description of an emergency. At no time will a By-law Enforcement Officer respond to a call occurring between 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. For an emergency, residents should call 911.

4. Types of Complaints

- a. **Dog Complaints** – Instances where a dog has been alleged to have been involved in a serious incident resulting in injury to a person or persons or other animal(s) and the dog is under the effective control, at the request of the



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RCMP, the By-law Enforcement Officer may attend the scene to remove the animal or make arrangements for the animal to be removed and cared for.

If requested by the RCMP, the By-law Enforcement Officer may respond to and assist in the detention and removal of the dog, but only if the RCMP is in control of the scene.

- b. **Found Dog** – If a dog is found after hours, a By-law Enforcement Officer will pick it up the next regular business day from the resident. Residents may want to contact a local veterinary hospital to see if the owner has contacted them or monitor various social media sites where lost and found animals are sometimes listed.
- c. **Dangerous or Unsightly Property Complaints** – Response will occur during regular hours only. All Dangerous or Unsightly Property complaints must be submitted on the approved complaint form which can be submitted either in person or through the Municipal website. Incomplete complaint forms will not be investigated. The Municipality does not release information about the person making the complaint.
- d. **Illegal Dumping** – Responses will occur during regular hours only. If illegal dumping is in progress, residents should contact the RCMP at 902-798-2207. If illegal dumping is occurring on properties in the French Mill Brook Watershed (Falmouth) or Davidson Lake Watershed (Hantsport), residents should email watershed@westhants.ca.
- e. **Illegal Burning** – Responses will occur during regular hours only. If illegal burning is occurring after hours, designated materials are being burnt or it is believed to be an emergency, residents should call 911 or the Department of Environment after hours number at 1-800-565-1633.
- f. **Province of Nova Scotia Domestic Brush Burning Restrictions** – During wildfire risk season (March 15 to October 15) all domestic brush burning and campfires must adhere to the daily Nova Scotia burning restrictions under the Department of Natural Resources. Residents should visit www.novascotia.ca/burnsafe or call 1-855-564-2876 for updates on restrictions of burn times.



Approved by: _____
Martin Laycock MBA, CPA, CMA
Chief Administrative Officer

Adoption	
Notice to Council:	Not Applicable
Approval:	June 12, 2015
Description: Initial approval of the By-law Enforcement On-Call Guidelines.	
1st Amendment	
Notice to Council:	Not Applicable
Approval:	October 29, 2018
Description: Updated the Guidelines with additional definitions and types of complaints. Changed the time the By-law Enforcement Officer will not respond to 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	

Original signed by Martin Laycock, Chief Administrative Officer