

**BYLAW # 246-2024**

**SUMMER VILLAGE OF SOUTH VIEW**

**BEING A BYLAW OF THE SUMMER VILLAGE OF SOUTH VIEW IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA TO PROHIBIT AND CONTROL OPEN FIRES AND OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES DURING FIRE BANS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE SUMMER VILLAGE OF SOUTH VIEW.**

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 7 of the Municipal Government Act, being chapter M-26 of the Statutes of Alberta, 2000 and amendments thereto.

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Summer Village of South View deems it proper and expedient to pass a Bylaw regulating open burning in the Summer Village of South View.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Summer Village of South View, duly assembled, hereby enact as follows:

**SECTION 1 – SHORT TITLE**

1. This Bylaw may be cited as “The Fire Bylaw”.

**SECTION 2 – DEFINITIONS**

2.
  - (a) “Council” means the Municipal Council of the Summer Village of South View.
  - (b) “Full Fire Ban” means no fire of any kind, whether they require a permit or not, may be ignited within the Summer Village of South View and any existing fires must be extinguished immediately. A full fire ban also bans the use of OHV’s within the Summer Village.
  - (c) “Fire Advisory” means that anyone using a recreational fire is to utilize caution and that fireworks are prohibited.
  - (d) “Fire Chief” means the member appointed and approved by the Summer Village’s Fire Service Provider as head of the Fire Department, or his/her designate.
  - (e) “Fire Extinguishing Equipment” means any equipment capable, when used properly, of extinguishing burning materials.

- (f) “Fire Pit” means an installation which is no more than 1.0 m. (3 feet) wide and 0.6 m (2 feet) tall, has enclosed sides made from bricks, concrete blocks, heavy gauge metal, or other non combustible materials acceptable to the Fire Chief or Fire Security Personnel and is covered by a heavy gauge metal screen having a mesh size not larger than 1.25 cm. (0.5 in.).
- (g) “Fire Security Personnel” means a person, organization or group appointed as Fire Security Personnel by the Summer Village of South View Fire Chief, Administrator or Mayor and Council under this Bylaw.
- (h) “Member” means any person who is a duly appointed member of the Fire Department.
- (i) “Officer” means a Bylaw Enforcement Officer appointed directly by the Summer Village of South View or indirectly through a contracted service provider pursuant to the Municipal Government Act to enforce Bylaws, a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or a Community Peace Officer.
- (j) “OHV” means an off-highway vehicle and includes two, three, or four wheeled vehicles that are designed to be ridden on unpaved surfaces, including, but not limited to, dirt bikes, quads, motorized trikes, and side-by-sides.
- (k) “Park” means:
- i. Every public park, sports field, playground or recreation area title to which is vested in the Summer Village of South View.
  - ii. Any Municipal Reserve or area used as a park, whether on a permanent or temporary basis.
  - iii. Any area designated by resolution of the Summer Village as a park for the purposes of this Bylaw.
  - iv. Any land acquired by the Summer Village of South View through subdivision as a Municipal Reserve.
- (l) “Person” includes an individual, corporation, firm, partnership, association or body corporate, over the age of eighteen (18) years of age.

- (m) “Portable Appliance” means any propane or gas-powered appliance sold or constructed for the purpose of cooking food out of doors, a propane or gas powered device intended for small recreational fires, or pellet stoves and pellet smokers.
- (n) “Prohibited Debris” means material burned in accordance with all applicable statutes and Bylaws including but not limited to materials such as:
- i. straw and stubble
  - ii. grass and weeds, except as in section 3(a)(iii)&(iv)
  - iii. leaves and tree prunings, except as in section 3(a)(iii)&(iv)
  - iv. brush and fallen trees on newly cleared land or associated with logging operations
  - v. wooden material from the construction or demolition of building
  - vi. solid waste from post and pole operation that does contain wood preservatives
  - vii. solid waste from tree harvesting operations
  - viii. animal cadavers
  - ix. animal manure
  - x. pathological waste
  - xi. non-wooden material
  - xii. combustible material in automobiles
  - xiii. tires
  - xiv. rubber or plastic, or anything containing or coated with rubber or plastic or similar substances, including rubber or plastic attached to shredded scrap steel;
  - xv. wood or wood products containing substances for the purpose of preserving wood; and
  - xvi. household refuse including furniture.
- (o) “Recreational Fire” means a confined fire for the purpose of cooking, obtaining warmth or viewing for pleasure. A Recreational Fire may only be fueled with untreated/unpainted wood, charcoal, propane or natural gas.
- (p) “Summer Village” means the Municipal Corporation of the Summer Village of South View in the Province of Alberta.
- (q) “Spark Arrestor” means a mesh screen with openings no larger than 1.25cm or approximately ½ inch and constructed of expanded metal (or equivalent non-combustible material) is used to cover the fire pit opening in a manner sufficient to contain and reduce the hazards of airborne sparks unless fuel is being added to the fire.

- (r) “Violation Tag” means a tag or similar document issued by the Summer Village of South View pursuant to Section 7 of the Municipal Government Act.
- (s) “Violation Ticket” means a ticket issued pursuant to Part II of the Provincial Offences Procedure Act S.A. 1988, c.P-21.5, as amended and regulations thereunder.

### **SECTION 3 – PROHIBITIONS**

- 3. (a) Except as provided in this Bylaw, no person shall conduct any outdoor burning unless:
  - (i) Such burning is performed under the direct supervision of an individual eighteen (18) years or older;
  - (ii) The burning is conducted in a safe manner;
  - (iii) Only pulp products (paper or cardboard), dry refuse from vegetation, untreated/unpainted wood and/or gas or propane are burned;
  - (iv) Fire extinguishing equipment/spark arrestor is readily available at the site
- (b) No person shall burn anything within a distance of 3.0 meters from any structure, and do so using a device as allowed within this Bylaw.
- (c) No person shall conduct or cause to be conducted any burning in a park or on any other property owned or operated by the Summer Village, unless such burning occurs in a container provided by the Summer Village for that purpose or in a portable appliance.
- (d) No person shall conduct any burning or light an outdoor fire without first taking sufficient precautions to ensure that the fire can be kept under control at all times.
- (e) No person shall conduct any burning or light an outdoor fire when weather conditions are conducive to a fire readily escaping out of control.
- (f) Every person lighting, igniting or causing a fire to be lit or ignited shall take reasonable steps to prevent it from spreading onto land other than his own, and;

- (g) No person shall deposit, discard or leave any burning matter or substance in a place where it might ignite other matter and result in fire.
- (h) No person shall conduct any burning or light an outdoor fire unless confined within an approved fire pit or portable appliance.

**SECTION 4 – FIRE BAN ORDERS and FIRE ADVISORY**

- 4. Mayor and Council, Summer Village of South View Chief Administrative Officer or designate, or The Minister may issue FULL FIRE BAN ORDERS and when issued, every person shall:
  - (a) within the Summer Village of South View municipal boundaries immediately proceed to extinguish all outdoor fires (including recreational, cooking, and heating fires) lit by him/her or under his authority and every fire located on land occupied or owned by him.
  - (b) not discharge any fireworks.
  - (c) Not operate an OHV within the boundaries of the Summer Village.
  - (d) During a FIRE BAN ORDER, portable appliances are permitted on private property so long as all open flame is contained within the appliance and no sparks are generated.
- 5. Mayor and Council, or Summer Village of South View Chief Administrative Officer or designate may issue a FIRE ADVISORY and when issued, every person shall:
  - (a) not discharge any fireworks
  - (b) ensure a spark arrestor is utilized unless the fire is in a portable appliance
  - (c) utilize caution

**SECTION 5 – COOKING**

- 6.
  - (a) Except as provided for in subsection (b) it shall not be an offence under this Bylaw to cook, prepare or smoke food; providing it is an approved portable appliance as set in the definitions 2(m).
  - (b) No person shall cook, prepare or smoke food in a park unless it is done in a portable appliance or such device or structure constructed for those purposes in the park, excepting when a FIRE BAN is in effect.

**SECTION 6 – RECREATIONAL FIRES**

7. (a) Except as provided for in Section 6 – subsection (b) it shall not be an offence to ignite, construct or otherwise create a recreational fire, provided it is in an approved fire pit or portable appliance, excepting when a FIRE BAN is in effect.
- (b) No Person shall ignite, construct or create a recreational fire in a park unless the recreational fire occurs at a location so designated within a park or in a device or structure constructed for that purpose in the park, excepting when a FIRE BAN is in effect.

#### **SECTION 7 – FIRE DEPARTMENT**

8. It shall not be an offence under this Bylaw for the Fire Department to conduct any burning for the purpose of fire prevention or training excepting when a FIRE BAN is in effect.

#### **SECTION 8 – RECOVERY COSTS**

9. (a) Recovery of fire fighting cost:
  - (i) Upon written request by the Summer Village’s Fire Service Provider, where the Fire Department has taken any action whatsoever for the purpose of extinguishing a fire or responding to a fire call or incident in the Summer Village of South View for the purpose of preserving life or property from injury or destruction by fire or other incident on land within the Summer Village, including any action taken by the Department on a false alarm, the Chief Administrative Officer or his/her designate may in respect of any costs incurred by the Fire Department in taking such action, if the Chief Administrative Officer or his/her designate feels that proper grounds for doing so exist, charge any costs so incurred against the land upon which the fire was extinguished, the land upon which the fire was started, or a combination thereof, as taxes due and owing in respect of that land.

#### **SECTION 9 – EXEMPTIONS**

10. (a) A fire permit is not required under this Bylaw for the following:
  - (i) An incinerator fire; or
  - (ii) An outdoor fire or recreational fire that is set for the purposes of cooking or obtaining warmth, excepting when a FIRE BAN is in effect

- (iii) **Fire Service Provider will be notified of any special event fires.**

**SECTION 10 - PENALTIES**

- 11. (a) Offences:
  - (i) Any person who contravenes a provision of this Bylaw is guilty of an offence and is liable to a penalty as set out in Schedule “A” herein.
  - (ii) Under no circumstances shall any person contravening any provision of this Bylaw be subject to the penalty of imprisonment.
  - (iii) Nothing in this Bylaw shall be construed as curtailing or abridging the right of the Summer Village of South View to obtain compensation or maintain an action for loss of or damage to property from or against the person or persons responsible.

**SECTION 11 – FIRE HAZARDS**

- 12. (a) If Council finds within its Municipal boundaries on privately owned land or occupied public land conditions that in its opinion constitute a fire hazard, it may order the owner or the person in control of the land on which the fire hazard exists to reduce or remove the hazard within a fixed time and in a manner prescribed by the Council.
- (b) When Council finds that the order it made pursuant to Section 11(a) has not been carried out, it may enter on the land with any equipment and any person it considers necessary and perform any work required to eliminate or reduce the fire hazard. Any such costs incurred shall be added to the tax roll.

**SECTION 12 – AUTHORITY**

- 13. (a) The Chief Administrative Officer or the Mayor and Council may limit the:
  - (i) Authority and power of the Fire Security Personnel and their designates through a written description of their duties.
  - (ii) Unless the powers are otherwise limited by the Administrator, each Fire Security Personnel and their designates shall have the authority and power to enforce the provisions of this Bylaw within the boundaries of the Summer Village of South View.

### **SECTION 13 – VIOLATION TAGS**

14. (a) An Officer is hereby authorized and empowered to issue a Violation Tag to any person, or property owner, who the Officer has reasonable and probable grounds to believe has contravened any provision of this Bylaw.
- (b) A Violation Tag may be issued to such person:
  - (i) Either personally; or
  - (ii) By mailing a copy to such person at his/her last known mailing address
- (c) The Violation Tag shall be in a form approved by the Summer Village or the responsible Administrator and shall state:
  - (i) The name of the person and/or address of property;
  - (ii) The offence;
  - (iii) The appropriate penalty for the offence as specified in Schedule “A” of this Bylaw;
  - (iv) That the penalty shall be paid within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the Violation Tag;
  - (v) Any other information that may be required by the Summer Village of South View
- (d) Where contravention of this Bylaw is of a continuing nature, an Officer shall issue one Violation Tag for each 24-hour period that the contravention continues.
- (e) Where a Violation Tag is issued pursuant to this Bylaw, the person to whom the Violation Tag is issued, may in lieu of being prosecuted for the offence, pay to the Administration Officer the penalty specified in the Violation Tag, on or before the specified first appearance.
- (f) Nothing in this Bylaw shall prevent an officer from immediately issuing a Violation tag for the mandatory court appearance of any person who contravenes a provision in this Bylaw.

### **SECTION 14 – VIOLATION TICKET**

15. (a) If the penalty specified in a Violation Tag is not paid within the prescribed time period, then an Officer is hereby authorized and empowered to issue



a Violation Ticket pursuant to Part II of the Provincial Offences Procedures Act.

- (b) When a Violation Ticket is issued, a Person who wishes to plead guilty may make a voluntary payment by paying an amount equal to the specified penalty for the offence as provided for in Schedule “A” of this Bylaw.

**SECTION 15 – SEVERABILITY**

- 16. Should any provision of this Bylaw be invalid, then such invalid provision shall be severed and the remaining Bylaw shall be maintained.
- 17. This Bylaw repeals Bylaw No. 189-16 and comes into full force and effect upon third and final reading.

THIS BYLAW SHALL COME INTO FULL FORCE AND EFFECT UPON THE THIRD AND FINAL READING THEREOF.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2024.

READ A SECOND TIME THIS 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2024.

READ A THIRD AND FINAL TIME THIS 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2024.

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR AND C.A.O. THIS 23<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2024.

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Mayor,  
Sandi Benford

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Chief Administrative Officer,  
Wendy Wildman

**SCHEDULE "A"**

<b><u>Section</u></b>	<b><u>Particulars</u></b>	<b><u>Penalty</u></b>	<b><u>Second or Subsequent Offence</u></b>
3(a)(i)	No adult supervision	\$250.00	\$500.00
3(a)(ii)	Unsafe burning	\$250.00	\$500.00
3(a)(iii)	Prohibited material	\$250.00	\$500.00
3(a)(iv)	No fire extinguishing equipment	\$250.00	\$500.00
3(b)	Too close to structure	\$250.00	\$500.00
3(c)	Burning in park	\$250.00	\$500.00
3(d)	Insufficient precautions	\$250.00	\$500.00
3(e)	Unsafe weather	\$250.00	\$500.00
3(f)	Danger of spreading fire	\$250.00	\$500.00
3(g)	Burning unsafe matter	\$250.00	\$500.00
3(h)	Failure to comply with pit\ enclosure size	\$250.00	\$500.00
5(b)	Cooking in park	\$250.00	\$500.00
6(b)	Recreational fire in park	\$250.00	\$500.00

**Failure to follow Fire Ban when in effect:**

First Offence:	\$1,000.00
Second Offence:	\$2,000.00
Third and subsequent Offence:	\$5,000.00 per offence