

## **BY-LAWS ~ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **Why do we have bylaws?**

Bylaws have been in existence since the mid 1800's. Previously, neighbors would solve their disagreements in very barbaric ways. The creation of bylaws and their enforcement was established to allow neighbors to live in harmony with each other.

Bylaws help ensure personal safety and educate and guide people about how to comply with the rules of living in Vermilion. Following these rules contributes to making Vermilion a safe and beautiful town to live in or visit.

### **After it snows, how long do I have to shovel the snow from my sidewalk?**

Your sidewalk must be cleaned within 48 hours of the previous snowfall and applies to both business and residential properties. The town will not clean your sidewalks for you. Homeowners are responsible for the sidewalks adjacent to their properties including those on corner lots.

Town of Vermilion Sidewalk Snow Removal Map

### **Can I operate my snowmobile in town?**

Snowmobiles are permitted access to and from town only, on the snowmobile route at a maximum of 30 km/h between the hours of 8 a.m. and 11 p.m. This prevents the need for trailering of snowmobiles.

Snowmobilers must access the route by the most direct path of travel available. The town airport, fairgrounds, ball diamonds, provincial property, and parks are not to be used for snowmobiling.

Snowmobile Bylaw & 2005 Amendment Map - Snowmobile Route

### **Do I have to cut the grass on the boulevard adjacent to my property?**

Yes you do.

### **Do my dogs and cats need a new license every year?**

Cats and dogs can be sneaky and get out of the house or yard. The Town of Vermilion needs to know how to locate the owners of an animal to ensure a quick and timely return home. When cats and dogs without identification tags are reported or found, the Town cannot contact you, the owners, to inform you that you are missing a pet. Licensing your cat or dog also allows possible identification of animals in the kennels by cross referencing the town files (i.e. tattoos, marking, breeds, scars, microchips).

The town requires that pet owners register their dogs and cats within 2 weeks of moving to Vermilion, and again by January 15 annually.

### **Why license my cat if she/he never leaves the house?**

### **Why license my dog if she/he never leaves the yard?**

Animals have a tendency to get out from time to time. If a citizen or Community Peace Officer picked up your cat or dog running at large and it was licensed, you would be notified immediately. Without a license, your cat or dog could be assumed to be a stray, which means your pet could be adopted by another family or euthanized. The Town of Vermilion has an animal control bylaw that states all cats and dogs must be licensed.

### **Does Vermilion have an Off Leash Dog Park?**

Yes. It was opened in 2012 and is located on the east side of 44th Street and 54th Ave.

### **Can my dog be off leash in any other place within the Town of Vermilion?**

A dog is not allowed to be off leash at any time when the dog is off the owner's property, except at the Off-Leash Dog Park. This prevents dogs from chasing cars or people, dog attacks, or dog injuries from being hit by a vehicle.

### **Do I have to pick up after my dog?**

All pet owners are required to carry a bag or a device that will pick-up feces when they are not on their own property. Pet owners have to be aware that it is not acceptable, a potential health risk, and punishable by fine to leave animal feces on private and public property. Pet owners must dispose of the bag or device appropriately.

### **What is the deal with my advertising signs on town property?**

Signs cannot be posted on town property. When people forget to take down garage sale signs or other temporary signs, they often become litter on the streets. Town property includes:

- ~ Parks
- ~ Fences
- ~ Sidewalks
- ~ Boulevards
- ~ Power poles
- ~ Town Buildings
- ~ Town parking lot

### **How long can my recreational vehicle be parked on the street?**

A recreational vehicle or trailer can be parked on the street if attached to a vehicle for a period of 48 hours.

The owner of the RV can only use this provision once with a period of seven days. All electrical cords attached to an RV must be suspended a height of 2.4m by stanchions, as this prevents pedestrians from tripping over the electrical cords on sidewalks. Trailers and RVs are not allowed to be parked on the street if unattached to a towing vehicle.

**Can I park my heavy vehicle on the street?**

Heavy vehicles can only be parked in commercial areas designated for heavy parking. You cannot park your heavy vehicle in front of your house in a residential driveway/yard.

**Can I have a fire pit in my yard?**

Homeowners must have a fire permit to have a fire pit in their yard. For homeowners that do not have a permit, an application can be made to the Town of Vermilion.