

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF FRENCH RIVER

BY-LAW 2019-18

BEING A BY-LAW TO PROHIBIT AND REGULATE NOISES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF FRENCH RIVER

WHEREAS authority is granted to the councils of all municipalities under Section 129 (a)(b) of the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25*, to prohibit and regulate noises likely to disturb the inhabitants within the Municipality of French River;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Council deems it expedient to pass a by-law to prohibit and regulate noise;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF FRENCH RIVER ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I - SHORT TITLE:

1.1 This By-Law may be cited as the “Noise Control By-Law”.

SECTION II - DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

2.1 In this By-Law,

“**Audio Device**” means a radio, stereo, CD player, MP3 player, television, public address system or other similar electronic device capable of emitting sounds, but does not include a two-way radio, weather radio or a device that can only be heard by using earphones/headphones;

“**Authorized Emergency Vehicle**” means any ambulance or hearse, any vehicle of the fire department, any vehicle of the provincial or federal police, any vehicle (including a snow plough) operated by or for the Municipality or a public utility company while actively engaged in the construction, maintenance or repair of any highway, or any equipment or facilities thereon, or a snow plough or other maintenance vehicle operated by or for the Corporation of the Municipality of French River;

“**Clearly Audible**” means that sound from the source in question is easily perceptible without undue effort, to a disinterested person with no hearing disability;

“**Construction**” means erection, alteration, repair, dismantling, demolition, structural maintenance, painting, moving, land clearing, earth moving, grading, excavating, the laying of pipe and conduit whether above or below ground level, street and highway building, concreting, equipment installation and alteration and the structural installation of construction components and materials in any form or for any purpose, and includes any work in connection therewith;

“Construction Equipment” means any equipment or device designed and intended for use in construction, or material handling, including but not limited to, air compressors, pile drivers, pneumatic or hydraulic tools, bulldozers, tractors, excavators, trenchers, cranes, derrick loaders, scrapers, pavers, generators, off-highway haulers or trucks, ditchers, compactors and rollers, pumps, concrete mixers, graders or other material handling equipment;

“Council” means Council of the Municipality French River;

“Emergency” means a sudden and unexpected occurrence demanding immediate action to prevent possible injury, loss of life or substantial property damage;

“Excessive” in reference to barking, howling, whining, squawking, or other sound-making by an animal or bird. Has the same meaning as persistent;

“Manufacturing Industry” means the manufacturing goods from raw materials;

“Motor vehicle racing” means the operation of a motor vehicle over a set course, whether in competition with other vehicles, for racing, training, lapping, testing or instructional purposes, for recreational purposes, or for any other purpose and includes any warm up or testing done on the premise in preparation for such operation of a Motor Vehicle;

“Motorized Vehicle” means an automobile, motorcycle, and any other vehicle propelled or driven otherwise than by muscular power or wind; but does not include the cars of electric or steam railways, or other Motor Vehicles running only upon rails, or a motorized snow vehicle, traction engine farm tractor, self-propelled implement of husbandry or road-building machine within the meaning of the Highway Traffic Act as amended ;

“Municipality” means the land within the geographic limit of the Corporation of The Municipality of French River;

“Municipal Law Enforcement Officer” means the officer in charge of the by-law enforcement of the Municipality or his or her authorized subordinates or assistants;

“Noise” means unwanted sound. For the purpose of this by-law, sound in excess of the limits or specifically prohibited herein is defined to be noise;

“Officer” means the Municipal Law Enforcement Officer appointed by the Council of the Municipality French River to enforce the Municipality’s By-Laws;

“Persistent” in reference to barking, howling, whining, squawking or other sound-making by an animal or bird means continuously or intermittently for an aggregate period of at least 10 minutes out of any 60-minute period;

“Person” includes any individual, corporation, partnership, company, association or party and the heirs, executors, administrators, or other legal representative of such person, to whom the context can apply according to law, shall include any group of persons comprising a society or other organization and shall include the plural wherein the context requires;

“Place of worship” means a building dedicated to religious worship and includes a church, synagogue, temple, mosque, monastery or convent;

“Point of Reception” means any point on the premises of a person where sound or vibration originating from other than those premises is received;

“Property” means a building or structure or part of a building or structure and includes the lands appurtenant thereto and all mobile homes, mobile buildings or mobile structures and vacant land;

“Quiet Zone” means an area in the municipality where quiet is of particular importance and as more particularly designated in Schedule “C”;

“Residential Area” means any property within the municipality which is zoned for residential uses by an applicable zoning by-law or which is used in whole or in part for human habitation, in accordance with the zoning of the property or where human habitation is a legal non-conforming use.

SECTION III - PROHIBITIONS

- 3.1 No person or owner shall emit, cause to emit or permit the emission of noise resulting from an act specified in Schedule “A” to this By-Law and which sound is clearly audible at a point of reception.
- 3.2 No person or owner shall within a prohibited time shown in Schedule “B”, emit, cause to emit or permit the emission of noise resulting from an act specified in Schedule “A” to this By-Law and which sound is clearly audible at a point of reception.

SECTION IV – EXEMPTIONS

- 4.1 None of the provisions for this By-Law shall apply to:
 - (a) The use in a reasonable manner, any apparatus or mechanism for the amplification of the human voice or music, in a public park or any other commodious space in connection with any public election meeting, public celebration or other reasonable gathering, provided written permission from the Municipality has first been obtained.
 - (b) Necessary municipal or public utility operations carried out in the interest of public necessity and convenience, including but not limited to snow clearing and snow removal, street cleaning, and garbage collection, undertaken by or on behalf of the Municipality.
 - (c) Any authorized emergency vehicle or service animal of the Police or Fire Department, the Municipality or its agents, any ambulance or any public service or emergency vehicle while answering a call.
 - (d) The use in a reasonable manner of vehicles and equipment when utilized for the clearing and removal of snow from private property.

- (e) Noise resulting from the measures undertaken in an emergency.
- (f) Any military or other band or any parade operating under written permission obtained from the Municipality.
- (g) The ringing of church bells, school bells or the sounding of a public-address system on school property in connection with normal operation of educational institutions during regular business hours and / or during school or church authorized activities.
- (h) Signaling devices utilized as traffic and pedestrian control devices at intersections and crosswalks
- (i) Any sound arising from the operation of any railway operated under the *Railway Act of Canada* as amended
- (j) All forestry operations including saw mills.
- (k) Activities of a Normal Farm Practice carried out as part of an Agricultural Operation, as defined in the *Farming and Food Production Protection Act 1998, SO 1998* as amended or any successor legislation and located on a property zoned for agricultural purposes in accordance with the *Municipal Zoning Bylaw* as amended.
- (l) Any noise necessary to the operation of equipment on designated industrial sites in accordance with the Municipalities' Zoning By-law as amended between the hours listed in Schedule "B"
- (m) Noises resulting from reasonable construction and maintenance operations between the hours listed in Schedule "B"
- (n) Generators producing electricity during power outages ONLY at permanent residences or businesses.

SECTION V - WRITTEN PERMISSION

- 5.1 Notwithstanding any other provisions of this By-law, any person may make application to Council to be granted an exemption from any of the provisions of this By-law with respect to any source of noise or vibration for which he might be prosecuted and Council, by resolution, may refuse to grant any exemption, agree to grant lesser exemption and any exemption granted shall specify the time period, not in excess of six months, during which it is effective and may contain such terms and conditions as Council see fits.
- 5.2 The application shall contain:
 - (a) The name and address of the applicant;
 - (b) A description of the noise in respect of which the exemption is being sought;
 - (c) The period of time and date(s) for which the exemption is being sought.

- 5.3 In deciding whether to grant the exemption, Council shall give the applicant and any person opposed to the application an opportunity to be heard and may consider such other matters as it sees fit.
- 5.4 Breach by the applicant of any of the terms or conditions of any exemption granted by Council shall render the exemption null and void.

SECTION VI – ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT

- 6.1 This By-law shall be administered and enforced by the Municipal Law Enforcement Officer of the Municipality or such other person or persons as Council may, by By-law, appoint. Nothing herein shall be deemed to limit the ability of the Ontario Provincial Police or any police force with sufficient jurisdiction to enforce this By-law at any time.
- 6.2 Any Municipal Law Enforcement Officer may enter on any property at any reasonable time for the purpose of carrying out an inspection to determine whether or not the provisions of this By-law have been complied with.

SECTION VII – OFFENCES

- 7.1 Every person who contravenes any provision of this By-Law is guilty of an offence and upon conviction is liable to a fine pursuant to the provisions of the Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 33.
- 7.2 Upon registering a conviction for a contravention of any provision of this By-Law, the Provincial Offences Court may, in addition to any other remedy and to any penalty imposed by this By-Law, make an order prohibiting the continuation or repetition of the offence by the person convicted.

SECTION VIII – SEVERABILITY

- 8.1 Should a court of competent jurisdiction declare a part or whole of any provision of this By-Law to be invalid or of no force and effect, the provision or part is deemed severable from this By-Law, and it is the intention of Council that the remainder survive and be applied and enforced in accordance with its terms to the extent possible under law.

SECTION IX – SCHEDULES

- 9.1 Schedules “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, “E” and “F” shall be deemed to form part of this By-Law.

SECTION X – AUTHORITY

- 10.1 By-Law 2016-38 is hereby repealed and all other by-laws inconsistent with this by-law are hereby repealed.
- 10.2 This By-Law shall come into force and take effect on the day it is passed.

**READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED
THIS 17TH DAY OF APRIL 2019.**

MUNICIPALITY OF FRENCH RIVER
NOISE CONTROL BY-LAW 2019-18

SCHEDULE “A” – PROHIBITED ACTS*

***All prohibited acts are subject to Schedule B – Time Prohibitions**

1. No person shall operate of any auditory signaling device including but not limited to ringing of bells, gongs, sirens, horns, whistles, motor vehicle horn or other warning device and the production or reproduction of any similar sound by electronic means except where authorized or required by law.
2. No person shall yell, shout, hoot or make other similar noise made by a human.
3. No person shall race a motor vehicle other than in a municipally approved racing event.
4. No person shall operate any combustion engine or pneumatic device or construction equipment without an effective exhaust or intake muffling device in good working order and in constant operation. This will include but not be limited to the operation of a motor vehicle, off-road vehicle, motorized snow vehicle or other similar motorized conveyance for recreational purposes.
5. No person shall operate a vehicle or a vehicle with a trailer resulting in banging, clanking, squealing or other like sound due to improperly secured load or equipment or inadequate maintenance.
6. No person shall operate an engine or motor in, or on, any motor vehicle or item of attached auxiliary equipment for a continuous period exceeding five minutes, while such vehicle is stationary (also known as idling), unless:
 - a. the original equipment manufacturer specifically recommends a longer idling period for normal and efficient operation of the motor vehicle in which case such recommended period shall not be exceeded; or
 - b. operation of such engine or motor is essential to a basic function of the vehicle or equipment, including but not limited to, operation of ready-mixed concrete trucks, lift platforms and refuse compactors; or
 - c. weather conditions, justify the use of heating or refrigerating systems powered by the motor or engine for the safety and welfare of the operator, passengers or animals, or the preservation of perishable cargo, and the vehicle is stationary for purposes of delivery or loading; or
 - d. prevailing low temperatures make longer idling periods necessary immediately after starting the motor or engine; or
 - e. the idling is for the purpose of cleaning and flushing the radiator and associated circulation system for seasonal change of antifreeze, cleaning of the fuel system, carburetor or the like, when such work is performed other than for profit.

7. No person shall operate any electronic device or group of connected electronic devices incorporation one or more loudspeakers or other electro-mechanical transducers and intended for the production, reproduction or amplification of sound in a stationary installation or in a motor vehicle.
8. No person shall use a generator excessively unless;
 - a. recharging an off-grid, solar system or equivalent. This noise is subject to the time prohibitions outlined in Schedule “B”.
 - b. they are producing electricity for a residence or business during a power outage
9. No person shall allow the persistent barking, calling, whining, squawking or other similar persistent noise making by any domestic pet or any other animal or bird kept or used for any purpose other than agricultural or other authorized work.
10. No person shall allow noises or sounds created by the repairing, wrecking, dismantling or modifying of any vehicle, motor, machine or any part or parts.
11. No person shall allow noises arising out of any manufacturing industry which has the effect of disturbing the repose of any person, unless permission has been granted by Council.
12. No person shall allow the operation of an engine which,
 - (i) is, or
 - (ii) is used in, or
 - (iii) is intended for use in
 - (iv) a toy, model, drone or replica of any device which model or replica has no function other than amusement and which is not a conveyance.
13. No person shall operate any equipment in connection with construction outside of allow.
14. No person shall operate any tool or powered device such as but not limited to a lawnmower, chain saw, generator or pressure washer for domestic purposes other than snow removal.
15. No person shall load, unload, deliver, pack, unpack or otherwise handle any containers, products, materials, or refuse, whatsoever, unless necessary for the maintenance of essential services or the moving or private household effects.
16. No person shall discharge a firearm.
17. No person shall detonate fireworks other than at those times described in detail in Schedule “B”.

MUNICIPALITY OF FRENCH RIVER
NOISE CONTROL BY-LAW 2019-18

SCHEDULE “B” – TIME PROHIBITIONS

Item	Prohibited Act	Quiet Zone	Residential Area (WR, R1, R2, R3)	All other zones
1.	The operation of any auditory signaling device including but not limited to the ringing of bells or gongs and the blowing of horns or sirens or whistles, or the production, reproduction or amplification of any similar sounds by electronic means except where required or authorized by law or in accordance with good safety practices.	At Any Time	At Any Time	B
2.	Yelling, shouting, hooting whistling or singing. Also including noise arising from the banging of drums or another unamplified musical instrument.	At Any Time	B	A
3.	Motor vehicle racing other than in a municipally approved racing event.	At Any Time	At Any Time	At Any Time
4.	The operation of any combustion engine or pneumatic device or construction equipment without an effective exhaust or intake muffling device in good working order and in constant operation. This will include but not be limited to the operation of a motor vehicle, off-road vehicle, motorized snow vehicle or other similar motorized conveyance for recreational purposes.	At Any Time	At Any Time	At Any Time
5.	The operation of a vehicle or a vehicle with a trailer resulting in banging, clanking, squealing or other like sound due to improperly secured load or equipment or inadequate maintenance	At Any Time	At Any Time	At Any Time
6.	The operation of an engine or motor in, or on, any motor vehicle or item of attached auxiliary equipment for a continuous period exceeding five minutes, while such vehicle is stationary (also known as idling). (See exceptions Schedule A (6))	At Any Time	At Any Time	B
7.	The operation of any electronic device or group of connected electronic devices incorporation one or more loudspeakers or other electro-mechanical transducers and intended for the production, reproduction or amplification of sound in a stationary installation or in a motor vehicle.	At Any Time	A	A
8.	The excessive use of generators. (See exceptions Schedule A (8))	C	C	A
9.	Persistent barking, calling, whining, squawking or other similar persistent noise making by any domestic pet or any other animal or bird kept or used for any purpose other than agricultural or other authorized work.	At Any Time	At Any Time	At Any Time

10.	The noise or sound created by the repairing, wrecking, dismantling or modifying of any vehicle, motor, machine or any part or parts	At Any Time	B	B
11.	Noises arising out of any manufacturing industry which has the effect of disturbing the repose of any person, or unless permission has been granted by Council.	At Any Time	D	D
12.	The operation of an engine which, (v) is, or (vi) is used in, or (vii) is intended for use in (viii) a toy, model, drone or replica of any device which model or replica has no function other than amusement and which is not a conveyance.	At Any Time	At Any time	B
13.	The operation of any equipment in connection with construction.	At Any Time	C	B
14.	The operation of any tool or powered device such as but not limited to a lawnmower, chain saw, generator or pressure washer for domestic purposes other than snow removal.	C	C	A
15.	Loading, unloading, delivering, packing, unpacking or otherwise handling of any containers, products, materials, or refuse, whatsoever, unless necessary for the maintenance of essential services or the moving or private household effects.	D	D	A
16.	Discharge of a firearm	At Any Time	At Any Time	B*
17.	The detonation of fireworks other than those times described in detail in Schedule "B".	E	E	E

A	11:00 pm to 7:00 am of the following day except Saturday, Sunday and Statutory holidays 9:00 am.
B	9:00 pm to 7:00 am of the following day except Saturday, Sunday and Statutory holidays 9:00 am.
C	7:00 pm to 7:00 am of the following day except Saturday, Sunday and Statutory holidays 9:00 am.
D	7:00 pm of any day to 7:00 am of the following day.
E	Fireworks – No person shall set off or discharge or permit the setting off or discharge of consumer fireworks, except on the following days: (a) after 7:00 pm and before 11:00 pm - the two days immediately preceding and one (1) day following Victoria Day - the two days immediately preceding and one (1) day following Canada Day - the two days immediately preceding and one (1) day following July 4 th - the two days immediately preceding and one (1) day following New Year's Day (b) until 12:00 midnight on New Year's Eve and until 12:30 am on New Year's Day (c) any other days authorized by resolution of Council

* Provincial/Federal legislation supersedes the provisions outlined in this By-Law relating to prohibited times for the discharge of firearms.

MUNICIPALITY OF FRENCH RIVER
NOISE CONTROL BY-LAW 2019-18

SCHEDULE “C” – QUIET ZONES

SCHOOLS
École Secondaire de la Rivière-des-Français (Noëlville)
École St. Antoine (Noëlville)
Monetville Public School (Monetville)
PLACE OF WORSHIP
Calvary Mennonite Church (Monetville)
Paroisse Notre Dame de Lourdes (Alban)
Paroisse St. David (Noëlville)
PUBLIC PARKS/BALLFIELDS/PLAYGROUNDS
Alban Community Centre Playing Fields
Alban Community Splash Pad
Joe Chartrand Park (Noëlville)
Knights of Columbus Park/Beach (Alban)
Noëlville Community Centre Playing Fields
The Scollard Discovery Park (Noëlville)
Verchères St. Parkette (Noëlville)
CEMETERIES
Notre Dame de Lourdes Cemetery (Alban)
St. David Cemetery (Noëlville)

MUNICIPALITY OF FRENCH RIVER
NOISE CONTROL BY-LAW 2019-18

SCHEDULE “D” – SPECIAL EVENTS

Volunteer Appreciation Night
Canada Day Celebration
Emergency Preparedness Week
Noelville Family Hockey Tournament
Club Richelieu Family Baseball Tournament
Christmas Parade
Rubber Boots Festival
CP Holiday Train

MUNICIPALITY OF FRENCH RIVER
NOISE CONTROL BY-LAW 2019-18

SCHEDULE “E” – SET FINES

ITEM	SHORT FORM WORDING	BY-LAW PROVISION	SET FINE
1.	Operation of auditory signaling device where prohibited.	Schedule A (1), Schedule (B) Item 1	\$125.00
2.	Excessive noise made by a human.	Schedule A (2), Schedule B Item 2	\$125.00
3.	Prohibited racing.	Schedule A (3), Schedule B Item 3	\$200.00
4.	Operation of an engine without muffling device	Schedule A (4), Schedule B Item 4	\$125.00
5.	Motorized vehicle, or part making unnecessary noise.	Schedule A (5), Schedule B Item 5	\$125.00
6.	Excessive noise from idling	Schedule A (6), Schedule B Item 6	\$125.00
7.	Operation of any electronic audio device during prohibited hours.	Schedule A (7), Schedule B Item 7	\$125.00
8.	Excessive use of generator	Schedule A (8), Schedule B Item 8	\$125.00
9.	Allowing persistent noise from a domestic animal	Schedule A (9), Schedule B Item 9	\$125.00
10.	Creating excessive noise while repairing machinery.	Schedule A (10) Schedule B Item 10	\$125.00
11.	Excessive noise arising out of any manufacturing industry.	Schedule A (11), Schedule B Item 11	\$300.00
12.	Make excessive noise operating a model, toy or drone.	Schedule A (12), Schedule B Item 12	\$85.00
13.	Making excessive noise arising out of any construction operation.	Schedule A (13), Schedule B Item 13	\$300.00
14.	Excessive noise operating a domestic tool or device.	Schedule A (14) Schedule B Item 14	\$85.00
15.	Loading or delivering items outside of allowed hours	Schedule A (15), Schedule B Item 15	\$85.00
16.	Discharge of a firearm when prohibited.	Schedule A (16), Schedule B Item 16	\$300.00
17.	The detonation of fireworks when prohibited.	Schedule A (17), Schedule B Item 17	\$300.00

MUNICIPALITY OF FRENCH RIVER
NOISE CONTROL BY-LAW 2019-18

SCHEDULE “F” - NOISE CONTROL POLICY

All property owners are required to limit noise according to standards set in the “Noise By-law”.

The By-law Enforcement Officer will act not only on written complaints but will use a common-sense approach to the application of the “Noise By-law”.

When a complaint is received, an Officer will investigate to determine if a violation exists. This by-law will not be used to resolve issues between neighbours. If a violation is found, the officer can issue an Order advising the owner of the violation and requiring that it be remedied.

In view of the fact that the Municipality of French River has many diverse neighborhoods such as village areas, waterfront residential, waterfront commercial, farmland and rural residential, enforcement will have to be done with some discretion taking into consideration the complainant, the geographic location of the property in question, the size of the property in question, the type of property in question (farmland vs urban lot) and the effect of the infraction on adjacent properties and the general well-being of the residents of the area, and the Municipality. As the complaints and investigations become more numerous, past practice data as well as the consistent application of the policy will become more evident and will act as a guide in the application of the by-law.

This information is for convenience and quick reference only. For specific information, contact the By-law Enforcement Officer.