

Village of Frederic



THE
CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO
RESIDENTIAL ORDINANCES

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There are numerous ordinances (or laws) in the Village of Frederic that pertain to residential property. Most of these have been enacted to protect and preserve the basic character and quality of life in our residential neighborhoods. They are designed to control the accumulation of junk, trash, refuse, and vehicles, which are abandoned, inoperable and in disrepair. The Village also has an interest in ensuring that businesses and industries do not operate where they are inconsistent and may compromise the residential character of our neighborhoods.

More than one department at the Village, as well as State or County agencies may enforce these ordinances, where applicable. Copies of individual ordinances and sections of the Village of Frederic Municipal Code may be obtained by contacting the Village Municipal Center at 359-6114. The entire Municipal Code is also available on the Village's website located at www.fredericwi.gov. Ordinances are updated periodically to reflect the changing needs of the Village and its citizens.

We welcome any questions or comments that will keep the Village of Frederic a safe, attractive and pleasant community. You may contact Janice Schott, Village Clerk at 715-327-4294 or clerk@fredericwi.com with any questions or comments you may have.

This Guide to Residential Ordinances is simply a guide, not meant to be final or complete compliance doctrine.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES

First – If you feel comfortable, try the “Good Neighbor” approach and talk with your neighbor about the nuisance, and ask for their cooperation to resolve it. For best results, always approach people in a friendly, rational manner. Never approach someone when you are angry or out of control. Many times, people appreciate their neighbors contacting them first before getting the Village involved and will correct the problem. Other times, people may be offended and become defensive and uncooperative. Therefore, you must use your best judgment before and during the interaction with your neighbor.

REPORTING VIOLATIONS

If your “Good Neighbor” efforts do not reach your desired outcome, call or email the Village Hall at 715-327-4294 or clerk@fredericwi.com. Please have the following information ready:

- **The general type or nature of the complaint or nuisance.**
- **Your name, address, and telephone number.**
This information will allow us to keep you updated on the status of your complaint, and also allow us to call you if we need further information. Your information will be kept confidential.
- **The exact location of the problem:**
Preferably house number and street. If the address is unknown, details that help identify the property are helpful, ex “northwest corner of Oak Street and Second Avenue, directly across from the blue house.”
- **A detailed description of the offending situation or problem.**
Be specific about the “type” of activity, or nuisance condition, and “where” on the property the activity or nuisance condition is located. Also, include any other details that may help us to observe an activity, such as, the “time” and “date” the activity is most likely to occur.

For example: “Vehicle repair activity in a residential neighborhood. The resident, Mr. Goodwrench, has been repairing cars on his driveway for a month, on Thursdays and Fridays, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. There are car parts sitting in the front lawn.”

- **Note:** In certain circumstances, we may need your assistance in pursuing violations where photos and records of events may be helpful. For example, certain alleged code violations may be taking place after normal Village business hours.

NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION PROCESS

VILLAGE FOLLOW-UP – The Village will investigate complaints within 48 hours after they are received. Staff will first determine if the complaint is valid and is covered by the ordinances enforced by the Village. If the complaint is valid, it is the Village’s policy to issue a warning notice by mail to the owner(s), in order to give them an opportunity to correct or eliminate the code offence. An exception to this policy would be made in a case where there are **immediate health or safety concerns**, which require an immediate response or correction to reduce or remove a hazard to health or safety.

NON-COMPLIANCE – If the responsible party does not comply, the Village may use any, or all of the following processes to obtain the appropriate compliance:

1. Charge fees for non-compliance,
2. Have the Frederic Police Department issue a citation and fine,
3. If appropriate, cause the removal, or abatement of a violation,
4. Initiate legal action.

PROCESSES – These processes individually, or collectively, can remedy the violation in as little as a few days or several months depending on the circumstances, the nature of the violation, and the cooperation of the property owner.

ABATEMENTS – The Village has the authority to remove, or abate property nuisances including, but not limited to: junk vehicles, miscellaneous junk, refuse, garbage, and debris from a property, after the property owner has been notified and fails to comply. If an abatement action is necessary, the Village shall charge the property owner for all costs involved in the investigation and abatement of the violation. This could however take months to get resolved through the court system.

CONFIDENTIALITY – It is not the Village’s intent to increase neighborhood animosity, or to prolong personal feuds whenever there is a need to enforce these ordinances. Toward that end, we will make every effort to keep the names and identities of complainants confidential. Residents are advised, however, that persons who file complaints may be asked to appear as witnesses if their case goes to court. Also, the Public Records Act allows for the release of some public records, which may include the complainant’s information. However, the decision to release this information is that of the Village Attorney.

ADDRESSES ON BUILDINGS

Each house and building in the Village shall have address numbers conspicuously displayed. These numbers must be at least three inches in height and placed on the building in such a manner that the number is clearly visible from the public right-of-way. Identification of premises is very important for emergency responses of the Police and Fire Departments. For more information, or to make a complaint about inadequate house numbers, please call the **Village Hall at 327-4294**.

ANIMALS

ANIMAL CONTROL - Animals running at large are prohibited.

Animal owners shall not allow their animals to disturb any person by continuous barking or howling. Municipal ordinance prohibits owners from allowing dogs and cats to roam at large. Pet owners are also responsible for picking up any pet excrement left by their pets on another's property. Persons disturbed by an animal should telephone the **Frederic Police Department at 327-8851** at the time of the disturbance.



KEEPING OF ANIMALS AND POULTRY - The keeping or raising of livestock, includes, but is not limited to, horses, cattle, swine, sheep and goats, and all related activities, shall only be permitted in the Agricultural district. The keeping of Wild Animals, birds, mammals and reptiles, which normally inhabit and propagate in a natural environment is prohibited. For more information, please contact the **Zoning Administrator at 327-8062**.

NUMBER OF DOGS ALLOWED – The number of dogs allowed to be kept by one residential unit or by one or more persons constituting one residential unit is restricted. No Person, except a kennel licensee, shall own, harbor or keep more than 3 dogs that are more than 5 months of age. For more information, please call the **Village Hall at 327-4294**.

DOG LICENSING - All dogs, within the Village of Frederic, over the age of 5 months must be licensed. License Applications are available at the Village's website located at www.fredericwi.com or by contacting the Village Hall. Proof of current rabies shots and vaccinations must be included at the time of license application. For more information, please call the **Village Hall at 327-4294**.

BUILDING PERMITS



Building Permits are required for safety reasons for most home improvements including, but not limited to, fences, swimming pools, decks, driveways, garages, yard sheds and building additions. **Prior** to starting a new project contact Bill Struck, Zoning Administrator at 715-327-8062 or Ben Campbell, Village Building Inspector at 715-566-3136 to find out if your proposed project requires a building permit.

FENCES

A building permit is required for all fences constructed in the Village of Frederic. Fence height is regulated depending on where the fence is located on the property. In general, no fence shall exceed six (6) feet in height. A fence can be built up to your designated non-street property lines. Fences located in the back yard and side yards (non-street yard) can be up to six feet in height. A fence located in the front yard can be up to 3 feet high & must be at least 3 feet back from a public right of way. See Village Land Use Regulations Section 13-1-142 for more information. For questions about fence height, placement or to obtain a building permit for a fence, please contact the **Village Zoning Administrator at 327-8062** or the **Village Hall at 327-4294**.





GARBAGE, TRASH, JUNK, AND DEBRIS

The accumulation of garbage, trash, junk, and debris help spread disease, harbor insects and rodents, and detracts from the appearance of your property. You can help control these problems by placing your trash in proper containers. Although law does not require it, storing your trash and recycling containers out of public view does help to enhance the visual image of the neighborhood and the quality of the community. The Municipal Code requires the use of garbage containers by all Village residences and businesses. For questions or to report the improper disposal of garbage by a property owner in the Village please contact the **Village Hall at 327-4294**.

GARBAGE ACCUMULATION – Accumulation of garbage, trash, junk, and debris (not properly enclosed within a garbage container or dumpster), including vehicle parts and equipment, are not allowed to be stored outside in a residential area. The Village may abate those items not removed after notification by the Village, and the cost of removal plus administrative fees will be charged to the property owner. For more information or to report garbage accumulation on a property, please call the **Village Hall at 327-4294**.

GARBAGE SERVICE – All occupied premises within the Village are required by ordinance to have weekly garbage service. There are a number of disposal companies that service the Village of Frederic. If you need help finding a disposal company please call the Village Hall at 327-4294.

BURNING OF TRASH AND GARBAGE – Burning trash or garbage is prohibited in the Village of Frederic. For more information or to report the burning of trash or garbage, please call the **Frederic Fire Department at 327-8182 or the Frederic Police Department at 327-8851**.

NOISE

The Village of Frederic observes quiet hours of 10 pm to 6 am in all residential neighborhoods. For noise complaints, please contact the **Frederic Police Department at 327-8851**.

MAILBOXES

All mailboxes in the Village of Frederic shall be built and erected in accordance to the United States Postal Department and Village Department of Public Works recommendations for mailbox mounting, support and location. The Village is not responsible for any damage to any mailboxes that do not conform to postal and Village regulations. For more information concerning the correct placement of mailboxes, please call the **Village Public Works 327-8062**.



RECREATIONAL FIRES

Recreational fires **using commercially prepared wood or clean dry wood** are allowed from 6 pm to midnight, but must be under control and out by midnight. Recreational fires are not allowed when the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has issued a burning ban for the Village. For more information concerning recreational fires, please contact the **Village Hall at 327-4294**.



SNOW REMOVAL ON SIDEWALKS

The Village shall be responsible for the initial snow removal on all Village sidewalks, when the streets are plowed by Public Works. The owner of the property or the party in possession of the property abutting on any sidewalk shall be responsible for additional snow removal, ice removal and for any injuries resulting from failure to remove ice or sleet. If ice has formed so that it cannot be immediately removed, the property owner or the party in possession of the property shall keep the same sprinkled with salt, sawdust or sand. No snow, sweepings or debris shall be deposited on any sidewalk, alley, parkway, public place or street in the Village. For questions regarding snow removal please call **Public Works at 327-8062**.

VEHICLE PARKING AND STORAGE



Parking regulations are designed to maintain and promote safety on our public streets. Parking your vehicle on an a parking surface, as the Village's ordinances state, helps prevent fluids and oil from seeping into the ground and contaminating the ground water. Parking regulations also improve the look of the neighborhood and the value of your property by preventing accumulations of abandoned and inoperable vehicles.

VEHICLE PARKING

ON PUBLIC STREETS – No person shall park any vehicle for any period of time on the following streets or portions of streets:

On lake Avenue, between Birch Street and Cedar Street.

On both sides of STH 35 north, from Birch Street to the Village limits

On both sides of STH 35 south, from Linden Street to the Village limits

On both sides of STH 48 west, from First Avenue to the Village limits

On the south side of Elm Street, between Wisconsin Avenue and Traffic Avenue.

No person shall park any vehicle on Oak Street and Wisconsin Avenue between the hours of 3:00 am and 6:00 am, except during certain Holidays. Between November 1st of any year and April 1st of the following year it is unlawful for any vehicle to park on any Village street from 3:00 am to 6:00 am. Please call the **Frederic Police Department at 327-8851** for enforcement or information.

VEHICLE STORAGE

INOPERABLE VEHICLES – Inoperable vehicles or junk vehicles are defined as those that are not street operational or do not have current vehicle registration. Inoperable vehicles must be stored within a garage or carport. All operable vehicles must be parked on a driveway surface. Inoperable vehicles left on the street or in parking lots are subject to tow. To report violations or for additional information, please call the **Frederic Police Department at 327-8851**.



RECREATIONAL VEHICLES – Trailers, boats, pop-up campers, travel trailers and other recreational vehicles must be stored on a driveway or in the side or rear yard areas within the appropriate building setbacks. In addition to the setback requirement, fifteen hundred square feet or at least sixty percent of the remaining rear yard areas, whichever is less, must be maintained as usable outdoor recreations space. No item shall be parked within five feet of any required exit, including existing windows. No recreational vehicle maybe be parked for more than 72 hours in the front yard. For more information or to report violations, please call the **Village Hall at 327-4294**.

WEEDS AND TALL GRASS – No person owning property within the Village shall allow to grow or pollinate on his property any weeds, grasses or brush that causes or produces or exhales unpleasant or noxious odors or may conceal filthy deposits or provide a place for the accumulation of trash or litter. The existence of noxious weeds on any property in the Village is prohibited. Lawns must be kept at a height not to exceed 8 inches. Landscaping shall be maintained so as not to present hazards to adjoining properties or to persons or vehicles traveling on public ways and shall be maintained so as to enhance the appearance and value of the property on which located and thereby the appearance and value of the neighborhood and the Village. For more information or to report violations, please call the **Village of Frederic at 324-4294**.

