

CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GREENWOOD
BYLAW NO. 1004, 2023
A BYLAW TO PERMIT BACKYARD BEEKEEPING IN THE CITY OF GREENWOOD

The Council of the Corporation of the City of Greenwood, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

INTERPRETATION

1. Definitions

“Abandon” means to leave without intent to return; to desert.

“Animal” means any mammal, bird, reptile or insect.

“Animal Control Officer” means the Bylaw Enforcement Officer or any persons or company appointed by Council to ensure compliance with this Bylaw.

“Backyard Beekeeping” means the keeping of up to three beehives on private property for hobby and personal (non-commercial) purposes, in accordance with the regulations of the *BC Ministry of Agriculture Animal Health Act – Bee Regulation*.

“Bees” shall mean honey producing bees (*Apis mellifera*).

“Beehive” means a structure, including frames, which houses a colony of worker-bees with a queen and drones and must be kept within a secure enclosure.

“City” means the City of Greenwood.

“Council” means the Council of the Corporation of the City of Greenwood.

“Lot” or “Lots” means the smallest unit in which the land is designated as a separate and distinct parcel on a legally recorded plan or description filed in the Land Title Office.

“Rear Yard” means the area of a lot between the principal building and the rear lot line, extending across the full width of the lot.

“Rodents” means members of the order Rodentia including but not limited to mice and rats.

“Run at Large” means any animal that is not under control, other than: 1) contained on the property of its Owner or another person who has care and control of the animal; or 2) confined within a secure enclosure.

“Secure Enclosure” means a fence or structure capable of preventing the entry of a child under the age of eight (8) years, adequately constructed to prevent animals from escaping, and secured to prevent access by wildlife.

“Vermin” includes fleas, lice, worms and other parasitic insects and animals.

“Wildlife” means any undomesticated free-ranging animal.

“Zone” or “Zones” shall have the same meaning and classification as contained and identified in the Zoning Bylaw.

“Zoning Bylaw” means the City of Greenwood Zoning Bylaw No. 683, 1997 and amendments thereto, or in the case of repeal, its successor bylaw.

2. Regulations

- a. Backyard Beekeeping must comply with all applicable municipal, provincial, and federal regulations, including the *BC Ministry of Agriculture Animal Health Act – Bee Regulation*, as amended.
- b. Backyard Beekeeping must be registered with the BC Ministry of Agriculture in accordance with the requirements of the *BC Ministry of Agriculture Animal Health Act – Bee Regulation*, as amended. Proof of such registration must be provided to the City of Greenwood.
- c. Backyard Beekeeping is permitted in the Residential 1 Zone (Single and Two Family) and the Residential 2 Zone (Mobile Home Subdivision).
- d. The maximum number of beehives permitted per lot is:
 - i) On lots with a minimum area of at least 465 square meters (5,000 square feet), the maximum number of beehives is two (2);
 - ii) On lots with a minimum area of at least 929 square meters (10,000 square feet), the maximum number of beehives is three (3).
- e. Property owners must live on the property where the Backyard Beekeeping is conducted.
- f. Property owners must register their beehives with the City of Greenwood.
- g. Beehives must be kept in secure enclosures in the rear yard.
- h. Beehives must not be abandoned.
- i. Secure enclosures (including accessory buildings used to shelter and/or house beehives) must be at least 15 meters (50 feet) from any front lot line, and 4.5 meters (15 feet) from any side or rear lot line.
- j. Beehives, enclosures, and accessory buildings must be kept in good repair, in sanitary condition and free of vermin and rodents to the satisfaction of the Animal Control Officer.
- k. Bees must be provided with adequate food, water, and shelter.
- l. Beehives must be maintained in such a condition so as to reasonably prevent swarming or aggressive behaviour by said bees. Bees (including new break-off colonies, or re-queened colonies) may need to be removed from the property if they swarm, show signs of aggressive behaviour or form new colonies outside of the established beehives.

3. Offences and Penalties

Any person who violates a provision of this Bylaw, or consents, allows or permits an act or thing to be done in violation of a provision of this Bylaw, or who neglects to or refrains from doing anything required to be done by a provision of this Bylaw, is guilty of an offence and is liable to the penalties imposed under this Bylaw, and is guilty of a separate offence each day that violation continues to exist, as outlined in the attached Schedule "A".

4. Citation

This bylaw may be cited as the City of Greenwood "Bylaw No. 1004, 2023 – Backyard Beekeeping Bylaw".

5. Effective Date

This Bylaw shall come into full force and effect and be binding on all persons upon adoption.

Read a First Time this 23rd day of January, 2023

Read a Second Time this 23rd day of January, 2023

Read a Third Time this 23rd day of January, 2023

Adopted by Council this

Mayor

Certified a true copy of Bylaw No. 1004, 2023

On the ___ day of _____, 2023.

Corporate Officer

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SCHEDULE "A" OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

OFFENCE	BYLAW SECTION	PENALTY
(short form description – please see corresponding bylaw section for additional details)		
Unpermitted Zoning	2. c.	\$100.00
Maximum Number Exceeded	2. d.	\$100.00
Failure to Register	2. f.	\$100.00
Unsecured Animals	2. g.	\$150.00
Abandoned Animals	2. h.	\$150.00
Failure to Meet Setback Requirements	2. i.	\$100.00
Inadequate Enclosures	2. j.	\$150.00
Inadequate Care of Bees	2. k.	\$200.00
Inadequate Maintenance to Prevent Swarming / Aggressive Behaviour	2. l.	\$150.00