

Summer Village of Rochon Sands
Province of Alberta
BYLAW NO. 275-25
“DOG CONTROL BYLAW”

A **BYLAW** to regulate the control of dogs within the Summer Village of Rochon Sands to promote responsible pet ownership, ensure public safety, and maintain community enjoyment of shared spaces.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26, and amendments thereto, Council may pass bylaws respecting wild and domestic animals and activities in relation to them;

AND WHEREAS the Summer Village of Rochon Sands Council deems it desirable to regulate the keeping and control of dogs within the municipality.

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Summer Village of Rochon Sands, duly assembled, enacts as follows:

1. Title

This Bylaw may be cited as the **“Dog Control Bylaw”**.

2. Definitions

- 2.1 “Dog” – Any domesticated member of the Canidae family.
- 2.2 “Owner” – A person who owns, possesses, harbors, or has care and control of a dog.
- 2.3 “Nuisance” – Any behavior by a dog that causes injury, damages property, creates excessive noise, or unreasonably interferes with another person’s use and enjoyment of public or private property.
- 2.4 “Under Control” – A dog that is either:
 - (a) on a leash held by a person capable of managing the dog; or
 - (b) off-leash but in immediate sight and voice control of the owner and not causing a nuisance.
- 2.5 “Public Property” – Any land owned or controlled by the Summer Village, including parks, paths, and roads; this does not include the Rochon Sands Provincial Park, which is governed by Alberta Parks under its own regulations.
- 2.6 “Bylaw Enforcement Officer” – An authorized person, which may include contracted municipal enforcement services from another municipality, with authority to enforce this Bylaw.

3. General Rules

- 3.1 Dogs must be under control at all times while within the Summer Village.
- 3.2 Off-leash dogs are permitted in public areas provided that:
 - (a) the dog remains within sight and immediate recall of the owner,
 - (b) the dog does not chase, bite, or attack people, animals, or vehicles,
 - (c) the dog does not enter posted “no dogs” or playground areas,
 - (d) the dog is not causing a nuisance.
- 3.3 Dogs in heat must be securely confined or kept on a leash when outside the owner’s property.

4. Responsibilities of Owners

- 4.1 Immediately remove and dispose of their dog's feces from public or private property (other than their own).
- 4.2 Prevent their dog from causing a nuisance, including persistent barking or howling.
- 4.3 No more than three (3) dogs may be kept on a property unless:
 - (a) A valid development permit or kennel permit authorizes a greater number; or
 - (b) Any additional dogs are under ten (10) weeks of age and are the offspring of a dog residing on the same property.
- 4.4 Take reasonable steps to prevent their dog from damaging property or harming people or other animals.

5. Enforcement and Costs

- 5.1 The Summer Village does not employ its own dedicated bylaw enforcement. Municipal enforcement services may be contracted from another municipality or enforcement agency.
- 5.2 The Owner of a dog found in violation of this Bylaw is responsible for:
 - (a) paying the fine as set out in Schedule A; and
 - (b) reimbursing the Summer Village for all enforcement costs charged to the Summer Village by the contracted Bylaw Enforcement Officer or municipal service provider.
- 5.3 Dogs found not under control may be impounded at the owner's expense.

6. Penalties

- 6.1 Fines and cost recovery amounts are outlined in Schedule A of this Bylaw.

7. Severability

- 7.1 If any part of this Bylaw is declared invalid, the remainder continues in force.

8. Repeal

- 8.1 Bylaw No. 213-12, including any amendments thereto, and all previous bylaws and policies related to this subject matter are hereby repealed.

9. Enactment

- 9.1 This Bylaw shall come into force and effect on the date of third reading and signing.

READINGS

READ a first time this 9th day of September 2025.

READ a second time this 9th day of September, 2025.

Given **UNANIMOUS** consent to proceed to third reading this 9th day of September, 2025.

READ a third time and finally passed this 9th day of September, 2025.



Mayor/Chief Elected Official



Chief Administrative Officer

Schedule A – Fines and Cost Recovery

Offence	Fine (First Offence)	Second Offence (within 12 months)	Subsequent Offence	Additional Costs
Dog not under control (off-leash causing nuisance or danger)	\$250	\$500	\$1,000	Enforcement costs charged to Summer Village
Dog defecating on public/private property without cleanup	\$150	\$300	\$500	Enforcement costs charged to Summer Village
Persistent barking or nuisance behavior	\$200	\$400	\$800	Enforcement costs charged to Summer Village
Dog biting, attacking, or injuring person/animal	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$5,000– \$10,000 (Court)	Enforcement costs charged to Summer Village
More than 3 dogs on a property without permit	\$150	\$300	\$500	Enforcement costs charged to Summer Village
Dog in heat not confined or leashed	\$150	\$300	\$500	Enforcement costs charged to Summer Village

