

# BYLAW #2023-18

## A BYLAW RESPECTING FIRE RESTRICTION

The Council of the R.M. of Mervin No. 499, in the Province of Saskatchewan enacts as follows:

### TITLE:

This bylaw shall be referred to as the "*Fire Restriction Bylaw*".

### PURPOSE

To provide for public safety in times of extreme fire hazard conditions;  
To restrict or eliminate the use of fire within the municipality in areas of fire danger;  
To attempt to minimize the risk of accidental fire;  
To regulate open fires, fireworks and burning of any kind;

### PART I – DEFINITIONS:

1. "Administrator" shall mean the administrator of the municipality, or in their absence their designate;
2. "Council" shall mean the council of the municipality;
3. "Designated Officer" shall mean the Administrator, a Peace Officer, and any person appointed to enforce this bylaw;
4. "Discharge" includes to ignite, fire, or set off and the words "discharging" and "discharged" have a similar meaning;
5. "Fireworks" means any article defined as a firework pursuant to The Canada Explosives Act of any Regulations thereto, shall also include Low Hazard Fireworks and High Hazard Fireworks and Manufactured Fireworks and include fireworks for recreation such as firework showers, fountains, golden rain, lawn lights, pin wheels, Roman candles, volcanoes and sparklers and rockets, serpents, shells, bombshells, tourbillions, maroons, large wheels, bouquets, barrages, bombardos, waterfalls, fountains, mines and firecrackers, or any firework composition that is enclosed in any case or contrivance or is otherwise manufactured or adapted for the production of pyrotechnic effects, signals or sound but does not include sparklers, Christmas crackers, caps for toy guns containing not in excess of twenty-five one-hundredths of a grain of explosive per cap.
6. "Municipality" shall mean the R.M. of Mervin No. 499;
7. "Peace Officer" means a peace officer as defined in *The Summary Offence Procedures Act, 1990*;
8. "Reeve" shall mean the person elected as Reeve to the municipality, or in their absence the Deputy Reeve.
9. "Supervising Officer" means a person appointed by the Municipality to oversee the provisions of this Bylaw.
10. "All-terrain vehicle" and/or "ATV" means all-terrain vehicle as defined in *The All-Terrain Vehicles Act*; and for the purpose of this bylaw, includes golf carts, scooters, etc.

## **PART II – GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

11. No person under 18 years of age shall discharge any fireworks within the Municipality except under the direct supervision of a parent, guardian or other responsible adult.
12. No parent or guardian of a child under 18 years of age shall permit the child to discharge any fireworks, except when under the direct supervision of the parent or guardian.

## **PART III – FIRE BANS:**

13. A fire ban prohibiting open fire of any kind may be issued by a resolution of Council or jointly by any two officials of the Municipality identified in 13. A fire ban shall be identified by;
  - a. Posting on the R.M. of Mervin website
  - b. Signs posted in the Hamlets
  - c. Notifying local radio stations

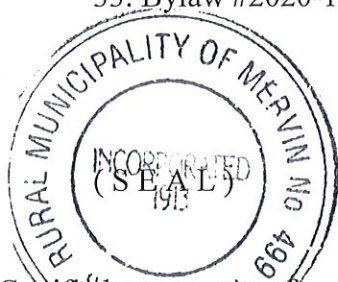
Prior to starting a fire, a person shall make all reasonable inquiries with the RM as to whether a fire ban is in effect.

14. Pursuant to section 12 the municipal officials so authorized, in any tandem, to issue a fire ban are the Administrator, Reeve, Supervising Officer.
15. No Person shall light, or start or allow or cause to be lighted, ignited or started a fire of any kind whatsoever in the open air during a fire ban.
16. No person shall discharge, or start or allow or cause to be discharged, ignited or started any fireworks of any kind whatsoever during a fire ban.
17. A Designated Officer may order any fire be extinguished forthwith during any period for which a fire ban is in effect within the municipality.
18. No person shall fail to immediately comply with an order to extinguish a fire by a Designated Officer.
19. No person shall use ATV's recreationally while a fire ban is in effect.
20. A Designated Officer may cause a fire to be extinguished forthwith during any period for which a fire ban is in effect within the municipality.
21. The cost of fire prevention, suppression, emergency response services shall be charged directly on the persons who receive the service in accordance with Schedule "A" which is attached to and forming a part of this bylaw.
22. The Administrator shall as per Section 369 (1)(d) of The Municipalities Act add to the taxes of any property owned, occupied or inhabited by the person referred to in Section 21 of this bylaw any amount which remains unpaid at the end of the calendar year or 21 days after the person has been invoiced for said services, whichever is earlier as per 369 (2)(b).
23. Every person who contravenes any provision of this any bylaw is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to:
  - a. in the case of a first offence, to a fine not less than \$500 and not more than \$10,000;
  - b. in the case of a second offence to a fine not less than \$750 and not more than \$10,000;
  - c. in the case of a third or subsequent offence to a fine of not less than \$1000 and not more than \$10,000, to imprisonment for not more than one year or to both.

24. A new offence is deemed to have been committed not less than two (2) hours from any previous offence.
25. Notwithstanding Section 23, a Designated Officer may issue a notice of violation to any person committing a first or second offence under this bylaw.
26. The notice of violation shall require the person to pay to the Municipality;
  - a. in a case of an individual, to a fine of \$300.00 for a first offence and \$450.00 for a second offence.
27. The amount specified in clause 24 may be paid:
  - a. in person, during regular office hours, to the Municipality at the Municipal Office, 211 Main Street, Turtleford, SK, OR
  - b. by mail addressed to the R.M. of Mervin, Box 130, Turtleford, SK S0M 2Y0
28. If payment of the fine as provided in clause 24 is made prior to 15 days from the date they received the notice of violation, the person shall not be liable to prosecution for that offence.
29. The imposition of any penalty for violation of this bylaw shall not relieve the person from complying with this bylaw.

**Limitation of Prosecution**

30. Unless otherwise specifically stated no prosecution for an offence pursuant to this bylaw is to be commenced after two years from the date on which the offence is alleged to have been committed or, in the case of a continuing offence, the last date on which the offence was committed.
31. If any Part, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or other portion of this Bylaw is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by a Court of competent jurisdiction, that portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and the holding of the Court shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Bylaw.
32. This bylaw shall come into force on final passing thereof.
33. Bylaw #2020-13 is hereby repealed.



Certified a true copy of  
Bylaw No. 2023-18 adopted by  
resolution of Council this

25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023

.....  
Reeve

.....  
Administrator

.....  
Reeve

.....  
Administrator



**Schedule "A"**

**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MERVIN NO. 499  
FIRE RESTRICTIONS**

**Other Fees and Charges**

Fire Department or other Fire Suppression Services or other fees and charges respecting fires;  
at the hourly rate set by Saskatchewan Government Insurance annually.

*Handwritten initials in blue ink, possibly "SA" and "499".*