



Town of Olds

Care of Properties

The Town of Olds has many bylaws that govern how properties are to be used and maintained. These bylaws help ensure the environment is protected and appropriate community standards are preserved, as well as to keep our Town safe.

An owner is required to control all yard material on their property. This includes any boulevard which abuts their property and alley.

Care of Properties includes tree management. Trees must be maintained annually to ensure there is adequate clearance over public roads, sidewalks, traffic signage and streetlights. Pruning should also be done regularly to ensure public safety. Remove hazardous branches that could cause injury or property damage; and to promote good branch structure.

Community Standards Bylaw 2015-08

The Community Standards Bylaw was created to regulate the activities of people in public places and on privately owned property. The bylaw enhances Olds neighbourhood livability by ensuring compliance to Town legislation through public awareness and education. The Community Standards Bylaw is put in place to promote the safe, enjoyable and reasonable use of property for the benefit of all citizens and visitors to Olds.

Many offences will be enforced first through educating the property owner/representative of the infraction, and giving them an opportunity to rectify the problem. If the problem is not rectified in the time allotted, then a compliance order will be issued and/or a fine. Every situation will be judged on a case-by-case basis.



Town of Olds

This informational brochure has been prepared for convenient reference only.

For specific information, please refer to the **Community Standards Bylaw** at: www.olds.ca

Contact Information

If you have any questions about the Bylaw, contact **Municipal Enforcement** at:

Town of Olds

4512 46 Street
Olds, Alberta

T4H 1R5

Phone: 403-507-4859

Email: bylaw@olds.ca



Unsightly Premises

**Grass & Weeds
Trees & Shrubs
Garbage & Debris**





Unightly Premises

Unightly properties are regulated by the Town of Olds. Be conscious of the outward appearance of your property and its affect on your neighbourhood.



- Loose garbage, yard waste, bottles, cans, boxes, household furniture, packaging materials, parts of machinery, equipment, appliances and automobile parts must be stored so they are not visible from the outside of the property.
- Accumulation of offensive materials on private property is prohibited. This includes animal remains, animal feces and materials that create unpleasant odours or are likely to attract pests.
- Open or exposed storage of industrial fluid is prohibited. This includes engine oil, brake fluid, antifreeze or any hazardous material.
- Building materials are not allowed to accumulate unless the owner can establish that construction or renovation is taking place or imminent.
- Dilapidated and unlicensed vehicles are prohibited anywhere on private property unless housed inside a building.

Grass & Weeds

Combat Weeds

- Help maintain a safe and attractive environment for everyone. Keep your grass and weeds cut to 20 cm (8 inches) or shorter - long grass is unsightly and can attract insects. It can also aggravate health issues such as asthma, allergies and other respiratory problems.
- When watering your lawn, make sure water isn't running onto the street or sidewalk. The best time to water is early in the morning or when it cools off in the evening. Cut lawns more often to reduce number of weeds that are allowed to spread seeds.
- Be courteous and advise your neighbours before you use a herbicide or pesticide. They may have concerns about the timing and nature of your planned activities.
- Increase fertilizing and aerating.
- Cover garden and shrub areas with mulch.

Dandelions - weed versus wildflowers. Dandelions are not a noxious weed and do not require regulation per the Weed Act or Weed Regulations. Currently the Province's restricted weed list does not include dandelion. Nor is the presence of dandelions a reason to be deemed an unightly premises by the Town Municipal Enforcement. If property is kept mowed it is generally speaking not deemed unightly unless other evidence exists to deem a property unightly.

Plenty of lawns are overrun with non-grass species such as moss or clover, but bright yellow dandelions are the most noticeable. They may start on public lands and migrate to private yards or from private property to private property. Useful flower or not, dandelions are most likely an unwelcome addition to lawns and yards. The Town mowing program begins in May and continues throughout the summer. Regular mowing is a significant part of weed control and a greater emphasis with use of herbicide will be taken in response to the high level of infestation. The Town will continue efforts to control dandelion infestation in public spaces with mowing and herbicide application as best it can. Residents are encouraged to do the same.

Garbage

Garbage and Debris - including animal waste, leaves and weeds are unsightly and can be a health and safety hazard. Help create a safe and attractive environment for everyone by clearing garbage and debris from your property. This includes but is not limited to:

- * garbage bags
- * animal waste
- * branches
- * graffiti
- * unlicensed vehicles
- * parts of vehicles (including tires)
- * discarded furniture, appliances, machinery, barbecues
- If a property is not kept clear of garbage and debris (including graffiti) the Town may issue an 'Order to Comply'.
- Burning waste or garbage is prohibited in the Town of Olds.

Three-Yard Community Bin/Container

Every year there are over one hundred (100) 3-yard compost bins placed around Town for the spring and summer months to take care of additional yard waste now that collection takes place on a 3-week pick up schedule. These are put in place for all residents to take advantage of the convenience to haul extra yard waste. No person shall place grass clippings from outside of Town boundaries in any community bins or receptacle.

Please be respectful of this service and **DO NOT** pile bags or garbage beside compost bins. Lids must be able to close for the trucks to safely remove debris. Check bins to ensure there is room for your excess compost prior to dumping. You may have to wait a day for them to be emptied. Plastic is not compostable - do not bag refuse.

