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Springfield, NJ
Revised General Ordinances
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CHAPTER III POLICE REGULATIONS

3-1 LITTERING.

3-1.1 Definitions.
As used in this section:
Garbage shall mean animal and vegetable wastes resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food.
Litter shall mean any material or unwanted substance or waste material which has been discarded, whether made of aluminum, glass, plastic, rubber, paper or other natural or synthetic material, or any combination thereof, including but not limited to, any bottle, jar or can, or any tag, cap or detachable tab of any bottle, jar or can, any unlighted cigarette, cigar, match or any flaming or glowing material, or any garbage, trash, refuse, debris, rubbish, grass clippings or other leaves or garden waste, newspapers, magazines, glass, metal, plastic or paper containers or other packaging or construction material, but does not include the waste of the primary processes of mining or other extraction processes, logging, sawmilling, farming or manufacturing.
Park shall mean a park, playground, recreation center or any other public area owned or used by the Township or local authorized governmental agencies and devoted to active or passive recreation.
Private premises shall mean any dwelling house, building or other structure designed or used either wholly or in part for private residential purposes, whether inhabited or continuously uninhabited or vacant, and shall include any yard, grounds, walk, driveway, porch, steps or vestibule belonging or appurtenant to such dwelling house, building or other structure.
Public place shall mean any or all streets, sidewalks, boulevards, alleys, or other public ways and any and all public parks, squares, spaces, grounds and buildings.
Refuse shall mean all solid waste, including garbage, rubbish, ashes, street cleanings, dead animals, abandoned automobiles and solid market and industrial wastes.
Rubbish shall mean solid waste consisting of both combustible and non-combustible wastes, such as paper, wrappings, cigars, cigarettes, cardboard, tin cans, scrap metals, yard clippings, leaves, wood, glass, building, crockery and similar materials.
Vehicle shall mean every device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a street or highway.
(1991 Code § 200-1; Ord. No. 2006-10 § I(B))

3-1.2 Litter.
No person shall throw, drop, discard or otherwise place any litter of any nature upon public or private property other than in a litter receptacle, or having done so, to allow such litter to remain. (1991 Code § 200-2; Ord. No. 2006-10 § I(B))

3-1.3 Scrapping Litter into Gutters.
No person shall sweep into or deposit in any gutter, street or other public place the accumulation of any litter from any building or lot or from any public or private sidewalk or driveway. Persons owning or occupying property shall keep the sidewalk in front of the property free of litter. This provision shall not apply to those periods of time fixed by the Township for the collection of litter. (1991 Code § 200-3)

3-1.4 Litter Thrown from Vehicles.
No person in a vehicle or boat shall throw, discard or allow to fall, any litter from such vehicle. In such case, the operator and owner of the vehicle or boat shall be deemed to also be in violation of this section. (1991 Code § 200-4; Ord. No. 2006-10 § I(B))

3-1.5 Transporting Litter.
No person shall haul, drive or move any truck or other vehicle unless the vehicle is so constructed or loaded as to prevent any load, contents or litter from being blown or dispersed upon any street or other public place. (1991 Code § 200-5)

3-1.6 Litter in Parks, Lakes or Streams.
No person shall throw or deposit any litter in any fountain, stream, river, skating rink or any other body of water in a park or recreation area or elsewhere in the Township. (1991 Code § 200-6)

3-1.7 Litter on Private Property.
No person shall throw or deposit litter on any occupied or vacant private property, whether owned by such person or not, provided that the owner or person in control of the property may maintain private receptacles for the collection of litter. (1991 Code § 200-7)

3-1.8 Litter in Quasi-Public Places.
The owner, agent, lessee, tenant, occupant or other person who manages or controls a building or lot shall be jointly or severally responsible for keeping the sidewalk, flagging, curbstone and the alcoves, areaways, backyards, courts, parking lots and alleys free from litter. (1991 Code § 200-8)

3-2 HANDBILL DISTRIBUTION AND BILLPOSTING.

3-2.1 Distribution of Handbills in Public Places Prohibited.
No person shall deposit, place, throw, scatter or cast any handbills or litter in or upon any public place within the Township. No person shall hand out or distribute handbills in any public place. (1991 Code § 200-9A)

3-2.2 Distribution of Handbills in Private Places Prohibited.
No person shall deposit, place, throw, scatter or cast any handbills or litter in or upon any private premises within the Township. (1991 Code § 200-9B)

3-2.3 Billposting and the Like Prohibited in Certain Places.
No person shall post, stick, stamp, paint or otherwise affix, or cause the same to be done by any person, any notice, placard, bill, card, poster, advertisement or other paper or device calculated to attract the attention of the public, in or upon any sidewalk, crosswalk, curb or curbstone; flagstone or any other portion or part of any public way or public place, or any lamppost, electric light, telegraph, telephone or trolley line pole or railway structure; hydrant, shade tree or tree box, or upon the pipes, columns, recess, grilles, railings, gates or other parts of any public bridge or viaduct or other public structure or building, or upon any pole, box or fixture of the fire alarm or police telegraph system, except such as may be authorized or required by the laws of the United States or State and Township ordinances. (1991 Code § 200-9C)

3-2.4 Placing Handbills in Vehicles Prohibited.
No person shall distribute, deposit, place, throw, scatter or cast any handbill in or upon any automobile or other vehicle. (1991 Code § 200-9D)

3-2.5 Discarding Handbills Prohibited.
No person entering a handbill shall discard same upon any public place or private premises. (1991 Code § 200-9E)

3-2.6 Exemptions.
Newspapers, United States mail and nonprofit, public-service, political and religious noncommercial handbills shall be exempted from the regulations in this section. (1991 Code § 200-9F)

3-3 - 3-4 RESERVED.

3-5 DRUG-FREE SCHOOL ZONE.

3-5.1 Adoption of Official Map.
In accordance with and pursuant to the authority of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-7, the Drug-Free School Zone Map produced on or about November 10, 1987, by Leo J. Eckmann, Municipal Engineer, is hereby approved and adopted as an official finding and record of the location and areas within the municipality of property which is used for school purposes and which is owned by or leased to an elementary or secondary school or school board and of the areas on or within one thousand (1,000) feet of such school property. (1991 Code § 425-1; Ord. No. 88-18)

3-5.2 Effect of Map.
The Drug-Free School Zone Map approved and adopted pursuant to subsection 3-5.1 shall continue to constitute an official finding and record as to the location and boundaries of areas on or within one thousand (1,000) feet of property owned by or leased to any elementary or secondary school or school board which is used for school purposes until such time, if any, as this section shall be amended to reflect any additions or deletions with respect to the location and boundaries of school property and drug-free school zones. (1991 Code § 425-2; Ord. No. 88-18)

3-5.3 Changes in Boundaries of Property.
The school board or the chief administrative officer in the case of any private or parochial school is hereby directed and shall have the continuing obligation to promptly notify the Municipal Engineer and the Municipal Attorney of any changes or contemplated changes in the location and boundaries of any property owned by or leased to any elementary or secondary school or school board and which is used for school purposes. (1991 Code § 425-3; Ord. No. 88-18)

3-5.4 Filing of Map; Copy.
The Township Clerk is hereby directed to receive and to keep on file the original of the map approved and adopted pursuant to subsection 3-5.1 and to provide at a reasonable cost a true copy thereof to any person, agency or court which may request such a copy, along with a certification that such copy is a true copy of the map approved and adopted herein and kept on file. It is hereby further directed that a true copy of such map and of this section shall be provided without cost to the County Clerk and to the office of the Union County Prosecutor. (1991 Code § 425-4; Ord. No. 88-18)

3-5.5 Additional Matters.
The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, resolved and stated:
a. It is understood that the map approved and adopted pursuant to subsection 3-5.1 was prepared and is intended to be used as evidence in prosecutions arising under the criminal laws of this State, and that pursuant to State law, such map shall constitute prima facie evidence of the following:
1. The location of elementary and secondary schools in the municipality.
2. The boundaries of the real property which is owned by or leased to such schools or school board.
3. That such school property is used continuous to be used for school purposes.
4. The location and boundaries of areas which are on or within one thousand (1,000) feet of such school property.
b. All of the property depicted on the map approved and adopted herein as school property was owned by or leased to a school or school board and was being used for school purposes as of July 9, 1987, that being the effective date of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-7.
c. Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-7, a prosecutor is not precluded from introducing or relying upon any other evidence or testimony to establish a violation of the offense defined in that statute, including use of a map or diagram other than the one approved and adopted pursuant to subsection 3-5.1. The failure of the map approved herein to depict the location and boundaries of any property which is, in fact, used for school purposes and which is owned by or leased to any elementary or secondary school or school board, whether the absence of such depiction is the result of inadvertent omission or the result of any changes in the location and boundaries of such property which have not yet been incorporated into a revised approved map, shall not be deemed to be an official finding and record that such property is not owned by or leased to a school or school board or that such property is not used for school purposes.
d. All of the requirements set forth in N.J.S.A. 2C:35-7 concerning the preparation, approval and adoption of a Drug-Free School Zone Map have been complied with.
(1991 Code § 425-5; Ord. No. 88-18)

3-6 HUNTING AND FIREARMS.

3-6.1 Prohibited Conduct.
a. No person shall, within the limits of the Township, discharge, nor or carry a gun, pistol, revolver or firearm, BB gun, air rifle, pellet gun, crossbow, hunting bow or cannon for the purpose of hunting, shooting, recreation or amusement. The Township Committee, however, shall have the right and authority in its discretion to grant a permit or permits to members of gun clubs or shooting clubs within the Township to carry or discharge such gun or guns, pistol or pistols, revolver or revolvers, firearm or firearms for such purpose, under such conditions and at such times and places as the Committee may designate, by resolution. The permit or permits so issued shall be revocable at will by the Committee.
b. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to be in conflict with State laws regulating hunting.
(1991 Code § 107-1)

3-6.2 Violations and Penalties.
Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction, be liable to the penalty stated in Chapter 1, Section 1-5. (1991 Code § 107-2; New)

3-7 - 3-9 RESERVED.

3-10 ABANDONED VEHICLES.[1]

3-10.1 Abandonment Prohibited.
It shall be unlawful for any person to leave or abandon a motor vehicle or motor drawn vehicle on off-street lands in the Township. (1995 Code § 270-1)

3-10.2 Open Storage Prohibited.
It shall be unlawful for any person, owner, possessor or occupant to permit, store or place on off-street lands in the Township any motor vehicle or motor drawn vehicle which is unregistered, not licensed or to such a state of disrepair as to be incapable of operation, unless stored in a garage. (1995 Code § 270-2)

3-10.3 Certain Rights Unaffected.
This section does not countenance any rights flowing from any regulation of the Township or variance of the Board of Adjustment. (1995 Code § 270-3)

3-11 TRAILERS AND BOATS.

3-11.1 Definitions.
Wherever any words and phrases are used in this section, the meaning respectively ascribed to them in Subtitle 1 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes of New Jersey shall be deemed to apply to such words and phrases used herein.[2] (1995 Code § 265-1)

3-11.2 Illegal Parking or Storage.
It shall be unlawful for any person to park or store a trailer or boat on property used for residential purposes, except as otherwise permitted in Section 3-10, Abandoned Vehicles. (1995 Code § 265-2)

3-11.3 Exceptions; Permitted Parking or Storage.
a. The temporary standing or parking for unloading and loading is not prohibited by this section.
b. The parking or storing of trailers or boats which are owned by the occupant, in a fully enclosed garage, is not prohibited by this section.
c. The parking or storing of boats on trailers owned by the occupant, not in dead storage for a period of one (1) year or more, less than twenty-one (21) feet in length from the stem and less than seven (7) feet in overall height, without cabins or overhead structures in the rear yard of the property, is not prohibited by this section.
d. The parking or storing of travel and camping trailers owned by the occupant, not in dead storage for a period of one (1) year or more, less than twenty-one (21) feet in length and less than ten (10) feet in overall height, in the rear yard of the property, is not prohibited by this section.
e. The parking of boats or trailers on any corner lot, alongside the garage, in compliance with all setback lines, is not prohibited by this section.
(1995 Code § 265-3)

3-12 DUMPSTERS.

3-12.1 Permit Required.
No person shall park or have unattended any waste or refuse container, commonly known as a roll-off dumpster or roll-off container, on or along any highway or public property, within the Township, without the written consent of the appropriate municipal, County or State authority having jurisdiction over the highway or public property. Consent shall be valid and remain in effect for a period of not more than thirty (30) days, but may be renewed by the appropriate official upon application thereof. (Ord. No. 94-18 § 162-1)

3-12.2 Application Procedure.
Any person proposing to park or have unattended any such container under the jurisdiction of the Township shall first file an application for a Dumpster Permit with the Construction Code Official, on a form provided thereby. (Ord. No. 94-18 § 162-2)

3-12.3 Display Markers Required.
To warn the operators of vehicles of the presence of a traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care, any roll-off dumpster or roll-off container parked on or along any highway shall be equipped with and display markers consisting of all yellow, reflective diamond-shaped panels having a minimum size of eighteen inches by eighteen (18" x 18") inches. These panels shall be mounted at the edge of the dumpster or container at both ends nearest the path of passing vehicles and facing the direction of oncoming traffic. These markers shall have a minimum mounting height of three (3) feet from the bottom of the panels to the surface of the roadway. (Ord. No. 94-18 § 162-3)

3-12.4 Fees.
The fee for a license or any renewal thereof shall be as follows:
a. Dumpster Permit Application: $25.00
b. Dumpster Permit Renewal Application: $50.00
(Ord. No. 94-18 § 162-4)

3-12.5 Violations and Penalties.
A person who is convicted of a violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be liable to the penalty stated in Chapter 1, Section 1-5. The fine shall be paid over to the Board or body charged with the maintenance of the road or highway upon which the violation occurs. (Ord. No. 94-18 § 162-5)

3-12.6 Enforcement.
This section shall be enforced by the Police Department of the Township. (Ord. No. 94-18 § 162-6)

3-13 RESERVED.[3]

3-14 CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IN PUBLIC.

3-14.1 Definition.
As used in this section:
Public place shall mean any outdoor area to which the public has access and shall include, but not be limited to, any street, highway, road, alley, sidewalk or gathering place for public transportation. (Ord. No. 2001-02)

3-14.2 Prohibition.
It shall be a violation of this section for any person to consume, from any container, whether concealed or not, including but not limited to bottles, cans, cups or plastic containers, any alcoholic beverage as defined in N.J.S.A. 33:1-1, while in or upon any public place within the Township of Springfield, except within a designated area pursuant to an outdoor sale license issued pursuant hereto. (Ord. No. 2001-02)

3-14.3 Violations and Penalties.
Any person violating this section shall, upon conviction, be liable for each offense for a fine not less than twenty-five ($25.00) dollars and not to exceed one hundred ($100.00) dollars. (Ord. No. 2001-02)

3-15 POSSESSION AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BY UNDERAGE PERSONS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.[4]

3-15.1 Definitions.
As used in this section:
Guardian shall mean a person who has qualified as a guardian of an underage person pursuant to testamentary or court appointment.
Relative shall mean an underage person's grandparent, aunt or uncle, sibling, or any other person related by blood or affinity.
(Ord. No. 2001-03)

3-15.2 Prohibition.
It shall be a violation of this section for any person under the legal age to, without legal authority, knowingly possess or knowingly consume an alcoholic beverage on private property within the Township of Springfield. (Ord. No. 2001-03)

3-15.3 Exceptions.
This section shall not prohibit:
a. An underage person from consuming or possessing an alcoholic beverage in connection with a religious observance, ceremony, or rite or consuming or possessing an alcoholic beverage in the presence of or with the permission of a parent, guardian or relative who has attained the legal age to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages.
b. Possession of alcoholic beverages by an underage person while actually engaged in the performance of employment by a person who is licensed under N.J.S.A. 33:1-1 et seq., or while actively engaged in the preparation of food while enrolled in a culinary arts or hotel management program at a county vocational school or postsecondary educational institution; however, this exception shall not be construed to preclude the imposition of a penalty under N.J.S.A. 33:1-81, or any other section of law against a person who is convicted of unlawful alcoholic beverage activity occur as persons licensed for the sale of alcoholic beverages.
(Ord. No. 2001-03)

3-15.4 Violations and Penalties.
a. Any person violating this section shall, upon conviction, be liable for a fine of not hundred fifty ($250.00) dollars for a first offense and three hundred fifty ($350.00) dollars for any subsequent offense.
b. In addition to the fine authorized herein, upon conviction, the court may suspend or postpone for six (6) months, the driving privileges for such person, and the courts shall forward a report to the Division of Motor Vehicles stating the fine and last day of the suspension or the postponement period imposed by the court pursuant to this section. If a person at the time of the imposition of such sentence is less than seventeen (17) years of age, the period of license postponement, including a suspension or postponement of the privilege of operating a motorized bicycle, shall commence on the day the sentence is imposed and shall run for a period of six (6) months after the person reaches the age of seventeen (17) years.
c. If a person at the time of the imposition of a sentence hereunder has a valid driver's license issued by this State, the court shall immediately collect the license and forward it to the Division along with the report. If the court does not have such a license, it shall include in the report the complete name, address, date of birth, eye color, and sex of the person convicted, as well as the first and last date of the license suspension imposed by the court.
d. The court shall inform the person orally and in writing that if a person is convicted of operating a motor vehicle during the period of license suspension or postponement, the person shall be subject to the penalties set forth in N.J.S.A. 39:3-40. A person shall be required to acknowledge receipt of the written notice in writing. Failure to receive a written notice or failure to acknowledge receipt of the written notice shall not be a defense to a subsequent charge of a violation of N.J.S.A. 39:3-40.
e. If a person convicted hereunder is not a New Jersey resident, the court shall suspend or postpone, as appropriate, the nonresident driving privilege based on the age of the person and subject to the Division the required report. The court shall not collect the license of a nonresident convicted hereunder. Upon receipt of a report by the court, the Division shall notify the appropriate officials in the licensing jurisdiction of the suspension or postponement.
(Ord. No. 2001-03)

3-16 RESERVED.

3-17 LIBRARY PROPERTY.

3-17.1 Failure to Return Books.
No person shall retain or fail to return any book or article borrowed from the Springfield Public Library contrary to the rules and regulations of the library. (1991 Code § 194-1)

3-17.2 Failure to Pay Fine.
a. Fines and Charges. No person shall fail to pay to the library any fine or charge contrary to the rules and regulations of the library for failure to return books or other property of the library.
b. Any fine or charge to a person under the age of eighteen (18) may also be charged to any parent or guardian of such person, provided that the parent or guardian of such person is first notified in person or in writing by ordinary mail of the amount of the fine or charge.
(1991 Code § 194-2)

3-17.3 Notice to Return Items.
If any person retains or fails to return any book or article or fails to pay any fine or charge, such person shall be notified in person or in writing by ordinary mail of the failure to return the book or article or failure to pay the fine or charge as per rules and regulations of the library. (1991 Code § 194-3)

3-17.4 Damage to Books or Property.
No person shall damage or destroy or permit to be damaged or destroyed any book or other article or any part thereof which is owned by or is in the custody of the library. (1991 Code § 194-4)

3-17.5 Library Cards.
No person shall register or furnish a false name or address or use any card other than the one issued to the person for the purpose of borrowing any books or other article from the library. (1991 Code § 194-5)

3-17.6 Violations and Penalties.
Every person convicted of a violation of the provisions of this section shall be liable for each offense by a fine not to exceed one hundred ($100.00) dollars. (1991 Code 194-6; Ord. No. 93-6)

3-18 HOURS OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS IN CERTAIN AREAS.
No retail establishment of any nature, other than pharmacies or restaurants, shall conduct business between the hours of 9:00 p.m. of each day and 6:00 a.m. of the following day in any N.C Neighborhood Commercial zone. (Ord. No. 77-5 § 1)

3-19 FIRE HYDRANTS.

3-19.1 Piling of Snow.
No property owner, tenant, employee, agent, or other person, shall shovel, plow, blow, or in any other manner place snow, ice, or other similar precipitation on or around any fire hydrant within the Township, either before, during or after same has been cleared of such precipitation for access by or on behalf of the Township. (Ord. No. 2002-01)

3-19.2 Blocking of Access.
No property owner, tenant, employee, agent, or other person shall place, or allow to be placed, on or around any fire hydrant within the Township, any garbage, refuse, or other item which would block or interfere with prompt, free and lawful access to such fire hydrant. (Ord. No. 2002-01)

3-20 THEFT OF WATER.

3-20.1 Taking of Water from Hydrant.
No person shall take water from any fire hydrant within the Township unless that person has written permission from the water purveyor and the flow of water from such hydrant is metered at all times. (Ord. No. 2005-20 § I)

5-20.2 Taking of Water from Service Connection.

No person shall take water from any service connection unless that person is the customer of record for such service connection, or has express permission from the customer of record. No person shall use water from any service connection except on the property served by such service connection. (Ord. No. 2005-20 § 1)

5-20.3 Enforcement.

This section shall be enforceable by the Police Department and the Fire Department of the Township. (Ord. No. 2005-20 § 1)

5-20.4 Violations and Penalties.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction, be liable to the penalty stated in Chapter 1, Section 1-5, as well as for restitution as concerns any damage done to any municipal fire hydrant. (Ord. No. 2005-20 § 1)

5-21 WILDLIFE FEEDING.

5-21.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this section is to prohibit the feeding of uncontrolled wildlife on Township-owned property, so as to protect the public health, safety and welfare. (Ord. No. 2006-18 § 1[5])

5-21.2 Definitions.

As used in this section:

Feed shall mean to give, place, expose, deposit, distribute or scatter any edible material with the intention of feeding, attracting or enticing wildlife; but does not include baiting in the legal taking of fish or game.

Wildlife shall mean all animals that are neither human nor domesticated.

(Ord. No. 2006-18 § 1[5])

5-21.3 Prohibited Conduct.

No person shall feed, in any public park or on any other property owned or operated by the Township, any wildlife, excluding confined wildlife (for example, wildlife confined in a zoo, park or rehabilitation center). (Ord. No. 2006-18 § 1[5])

5-21.4 Enforcement.

The provisions of this section shall be enforced by the Police Department and the Health Department. (Ord. No. 2006-18 § 1[5])

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[1] **Editor's Note:** See also subsection 15.5.1, Maintenance of Exterior Premises, paragraph c.

[2] **Editor's Note:** See N.J.S.A. 39:1-1.

[3] **Editor's Note:** Former Section 5-3.1, Loitering; Failure to Obey Order of Police Officer, previously entitled herein and containing portions of 1974 Code §§ 5.2-3 through 5.2-5 and 5.2-6 and Ordinance No. 02-28 was repealed in its entirety by Ordinance No. 03-04.

[4] **Editor's Note:** For additional regulations regarding minors, see Section 6-9, Persons Under Legal Age.

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