

Environmental Health Bylaws

- The purpose of this bylaw is to protect and promote the long term health benefits of the community.
- Every person has a constitutional right to a healthy living environment.
- The municipality within its financial and administrative constraints must contribute to this healthy living standard.
- No person must undertake activity that will put the environment or public health at risk.
- No person may cause a public health nuisance to occur.
- A public health nuisance may occur, if :-
 - (a) a premises is infested with insects;
 - (b) conditions that may cause the spread of communicable diseases;
 - (c) Unsanitary conditions;
 - (d) water unsafe for human consumption.
- If an owner is aware of a public health hazard, he has a duty to report same within a period of 24 hours.
- He must also eliminate or reduce the risk, and inform the municipality of the risk in writing.
- The instances of when an owner creates a public health nuisance is listed as provision 6 of the bylaw.
- These instances also include pest control as listed in section 7 and air pollution as listed in section 8.
- Should there be an instance wherein a premises, will be used for activities related to potentially hazardous material that is likely to cause a health risk, steps must be taken to avoid or reduce the risk to an acceptable level.
- In this instance the activity must be reported to the Municipality, and the measure taken to reduce the risk must be also reported to the Municipality.
- In the event that this activity is part of a trade of a person/company permit must be obtained from the Municipality for exemption from this provision.
- The Municipality may with the cooperation of the environmental health officer, issue an exemption certificate, and same may also be issued with conditions.
- The business or person must apply for a public health permit. The application procedure is as set out in section 14.
- These permits may under conditions stipulated in the bylaws be amended cancelled or suspended.
- The Municipality must appoint an environmental health officer.
- The officer in accordance with the provisions of the bylaws has the powers to issue notices for compliance (section 19), undertake measures to remove/reduce the risk (section23), undertake measures prohibiting a person from continuing an activity.
- In the event that the hazard is of such a high risk, the municipality may issue a demolition notice. The costs of the demolition to be borne by the owner.
- The Municipality may also enter the premises, in order to conduct remedial work in order to ensure compliance with the bylaw.
- The municipal manager may issue a costs order for the work done by the Municipality in order to ensure compliance with the bylaw.
- No person may use a caravan, tent or vehicle for human habitation without the written permission of the Municipal Manager.

- All buildings must be in accordance with the national building regulations and building structures act, or it may be declared hazardous.
- This provision is also applicable to flat, complexes or blocks.
- All toilets in buildings must be in accordance with the building regulations.
- In the event that toilets are being provided for the purposes of workers such must be in a sanitary condition and a good state of repair.
- In the event of any travelling show or circus proper facilities must be provided.
- No person is allowed to provide private service for the removal of human waste.
- No person may pollute any water source.
- All boreholes must be fenced, and the owner must ensure that no dangerous material reaches the borehole or is stored in same.
- Every owner must provide adequate water supply to the occupier.
- Owners of property must ensure that they are able to storm water runoff that may be hazardous to health.
- The bylaw then goes on to explain in detail what are **scheduled trades**, as well as instances wherein permits will be required.
- The bylaw is called Environmental Health Bylaws.