

A Message from the Village of Cochin's Bylaw Enforcement/Animal Control Officer

Hi there!! My name is Christy Hansen and I am the new Bylaw Enforcement Officer. I am privileged to be in such a beautiful place! We are again at the start of what promises to be a wonderful summer. Welcome back to those returning and hello to those of you who are here year-round. For the safety, health, welfare of the people of Cochin bylaw enforcement has been put into effect. Saskatchewan is growing in population and as we climb out of this last recession land values are again on the rise. Recreational spaces and places will continue to be in demand as city & town folk alike desire a retreat.

Municipalities all over Canada are employing bylaw enforcement at an increasing rate as a complement to the police force, leaving them free to deal with more serious offences while we deal with parking, stray animals and the like. This is a permanent position during the summer months and has the possibility of being extended to all villages/hamlets within the R.M. of Meota. This letter is to serve as a reminder of the common bylaws. For further detail I encourage you to go to www.cochin.ca or www.qp.gov.sk.ca.

ATV's, Golfcarts, Mopeds, Dirtbikes, Any Recreational Vehicles

The above are permitted within the Resort Village of Cochin limits due to a bylaw passed that overrides the provincial statutes. The operator must be at least 16 years of age, in possession of a valid driver's license (class 5 or other), wearing appropriate helmets, and carry liability insurance for their recreational vehicle. Ages 12-16 may operate such provided they are supervised. The speed limit for these vehicles is 50 kmph. Any speeding, stunting, failure to wear helmets, unsafe manouevers, failure to yield right of way, failure to obey traffic laws, or failure to produce your license or insurance within specified time is grounds for a ticket and possible impoundment of the vehicle.

Untidy and Unsightly Property

This includes buildings and property (including stairs, porches, decks and railings) in a ruinous state or need of repair, land that is overgrown with grass and weeds, accumulation of new or used lumber, appliances, tires, scrap metal and other materials or junk. Any building materials or similar items stored outside shall be neatly stacked in piles and elevated off the ground so as not to constitute a nuisance or harbourage for rodents, vermin and insects. A yard shall be kept free and clean so as not to become a nuisance, fire or safety hazard and substantially depreciate the value of other land + buildings in the neighbourhood.

Speed

The speed limit in Cochin is 20km an hour unless you are on the Starview road wherein it is 30km an hour. The limit within Cochin on the Highway # 4 is 50km. ANY contravention of these limits constitutes an immediate ticket. With the amount of foot traffic on and crossing the #4 it is being looked into to see about reducing the speed further. The issuing of more tickets, installation of rumble strips, crosswalks etc. are a future possibility as the 50 kmph is not well adhered to and is highly unsafe.

Pets

Dogs must always be leashed if outside your property and/or if your yard is not enclosed properly. They need to be licensed and you must pick up their feces. No pets are allowed on the beach period as there is too much potential for problems. There are strays that venture in throughout the summer and rip up garbage and such. I ask if you see one that you call me as soon as possible and please try to get a description of it. **Do not try to catch it on your own.** All dogs caught are kept for **72 hours** in the village pound and all efforts made to find their owner, if unclaimed they are put down; hence the reason for collars and tags. If you are missing your dog please call the Village Office as they will be updated on what I have. All complaints and concerns concerning dogs that are dangerous + overly aggressive (ie: charging, attacking, biting, etc.) will

be investigated and the dogs removed if necessary. ** No horses are permitted within village limits**

For dogs caught and impounded:

1st offence-\$50 plus \$5 per day

2nd offence-\$75.00 plus \$5 per day and so forth

Included in animal control is also problem wildlife, if you have any feral cats, raccoons, skunks and the like I will be happy to trap them for you.

If there are any abnormally behaving dogs, cats, foxes, raccoons, skunks, squirrels, etc.; such as they are being oddly aggressive or not true to their nature (ex.) a wild fox coming right up to you- please keep yourself and kids away from it and **IMMEDIATELY** report it to myself and the local Conservation officer as they may be a carrier of rabies.

Whether you are aware of it or not we are in bear country, they are seldom seen but still present. This demands we become **bear-aware** and **bearsafe**. Leaving bags of garbage on the ground is irresponsible and disrespectful. To do so invites dependence of this as a foodsource and creates a nuisance bear that must be put down. Please read further down under Garbage

Fireworks

Fireworks are not allowed in the Resort Village of Cochin anywhere or anytime.

Liquor

No open liquor unless you are on your own property. You would not drink on the street in the city and the same applies here-no drinking on the roads or beaches- keep it at home.

Curfew

Children under the age of 16 are asked to be accompanied by an adult if in a public place after 10:00 P.M. Any child found after this time will be asked to go home and/or escorted there. Fines may be levied against the parent(s) or guardian of those in concern.

Firearms

Not permitted to discharge a firearm within village limits.

Noise

After 11pm to 7am people are asked to keep their level of noise down to respect those around them. Minimum \$35-max of \$500.00

Garbage

Garbage is to be kept in 17 gallon max. capacity bins (animal proof) that are in a stand and/or suspended from the ground in some fashion. We share this area with wildlife and it is only common sense to keep your garbage enclosed and inaccessible. Garbage bags simply placed on the ground outside your cottage is not acceptable and constitutes a fine. This does not apply to non-household garbage such as leaves, wood, old furniture etc.

Garbage is picked up Monday and the dump is open Sat/Sun/Mon from 10-4 P.M.

Fine of \$5-\$100 per infraction. If you fail to provide your dwelling with the proper container the village may do so at your expense.

Dumping of materials anywhere other than the landfill constitutes a min. \$200 fine to a max. \$500.

Parking

Parking of any vehicle, boat or trailer on or jutting into a laneway is not permitted. Visitor parking is for that- visitors and not the continual residing of the same vehicles. Parking on public reserves (which are in definition the beaches and surrounding area) is not permitted. If I ask you to remove your vehicle it is because it is an obstruction to clear and safe travel through the village. When the need arises emergency vehicles such as ambulance and fire must be able to

quickly and easily maneuver. If the owner is not present and all reasonable efforts made to contact and find them, as such, the vehicle will be towed to North Battleford City impoundment.

Trailers are not to be parked on any public area including the sides of lanes/roads and overnight is unacceptable. You must be on private property or head to a place where you can be accommodated such as the Battlefords Provincial Park and Starview Campground. Fine for contravention of this bylaw ranges from \$50-\$500.00.

Junk Vehicles

If there is no valid license on the said vehicle and/or it is inoperable it is not permitted to be within village limits, this includes vehicles that are for sale and also those not in use.

Commercial Vehicles

Are not allowed to be parked in Cochin during the day or night unless a permit is first issued.

Building Permits

A permit is required whenever a person wishes to erect, place, construct, alter, repair, renovate or reconstruct a building or structure of any type.

Shoreline Development/Alteration

Any docks, boathouses, or buildings near or on the shoreline MUST have a permit from the Village Office, the office of SK Environment/Battlefords Conservation Officer + Authorities and possibly the Department of Fisheries and Oceans depending on what is wanted to be done. This goes for removing or adding earth, stairs, vegetation, posts, etc.

From the high-water mark (established by SK Environment) to the present water level (usually about 5 meters total) is Crown Land and as such not owned by any person and is considered accessible by the public regardless of what has been established there in terms of boathouses, docks and the like. This also applies to any waterbody; Lehman Creek included.

Just a quick note.....

Most permits do not cost a lot to get, yet if you fail to get one before you commence work you will be penalized, so please be prudent and save yourself the hassle.

This can be a lot of information to digest but please understand that laws exist for a reason. The simple fact is if we all did what we wanted there would be utter chaos. Summer is the time for fun in the sun, of holiday and of relaxation, and to recover from the long winter!! So be safe and if you have any questions/concerns/complaints or comments please don't hesitate to call me on my cell **480-6399** or email to nanuitseal@yahoo.ca or contact the village office at **386-2333** or email to resortvillageofcochin@hotmail.com.

Thank you. I look forward to serving you this community.

Christy Hansen