

CITY OF BENNINGTON  
AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is going to be dedicated to violations. There are many issues throughout our city that apparently need addressed. Anyone interested in looking through the city code book can do so at [www.cityofbennington.com](http://www.cityofbennington.com). The entire city code is there. We also have a copy you can read if you have no access to the internet. The book is at the city office and may be read here on the premises if needed.

First, cats and dogs. All cats and dogs in the city limits must be vaccinated and a record of it must be filed in the city office. All cats and dogs must be tagged and a license must be purchased if the cat or dog lives in the city limits. The animals are to be taken to the pound if found at large in the city. We try to find owners when we can, but it is your responsibility to make sure they are properly taken care of. Cats are considered stray if they are outside unattended the ordinance is no different for cats and dogs. If your dog or cat gets out or you are walking it and it uses the bathroom on other person's property, it is your responsibility to pick it up. Do not allow your animals to go out to the bathroom without having them on a leash or in a fenced yard so they do not go to other people's property. If your dog barks all day when you are not home, you need to take care of it. People get tired of the constant barking when they are trying to enjoy being outside or trying to sleep.

Weeds, grass, rogue trees, tree limbs etc. Grass needs to be mowed consistently, weeds and rogue trees need to be cut down and continue to be cut down if you do not kill them with tree killer, yards and decorative items in yards must be trimmed around to avoid tall grass and weeds around everything in the yard. Fences need to be free of weeds and rogue trees. Limb piles, grass piles, yard waste, garden waste need to be taken to the limb/tree site, not piled up on your property and left there.

Cars, trucks, campers, trailers, boats, other vehicles, should not be parked on lawns, especially not on the front lawn, where they look unsightly. The vehicles you drive belong on drive ways, in front of the house along the street if

need be, or in the garage. Vehicles or recreational vehicles should not be parked in the front lawn, again, they look unsightly. The other items belong in the back of the home on a gravel or concrete pad or in a shed. All alley ways need to remain clear and open with nothing sticking out in the alley way.

Junk. Junk needs to be hauled away. The dump is open all week and on Saturday from 8 am until 1 pm. Any items that hold water breed mosquitoes. Piles of junk also make nice homes for critters like mice, rats, snakes and bugs. The city pays for dump days twice a year. We do not charge our citizens to dump during those times so why not take advantage of it? The next dump week will be in October as usual.

The reason for this newsletter is because those of us who work for the City, and even some council members have had citizens come to us, stop us on the street or somewhere they see us and there are many comments and complaints about all these things I have written about here. I get phone calls constantly that different places in town look horrible, that people have no pride in their properties, that they look junky, dirty, unkempt, and that it seems to be getting worse and worse. I decided to just let every citizen know the kinds of things that need to be taken care of around town to ensure that we don't let things continue to go downhill anywhere in town. I receive constant complaints about animals around town. If you cannot or don't have time to take proper care of them, then don't get them. Most of these things are just common sense. This newsletter is to serve as an informal reminder to everyone in the city. We expect these things to be taken care of. If they are not, then we have to take further action to ensure our town stays nice for years to come.

Thank You.