NINE WAYS FOR YOU TO BE A #NotoriouslyGoodNeighbour

What makes a neighbour "good"? Some would say "a good fence". We agree that a good fence serves many valuable purposes (privacy, security, aesthetics, wind buffer), but there's more to being a good neighbour than erecting barriers.

In fact, the City of Moose Jaw Bylaw department has identified nine areas where a little education can go a long way to help you be a Good Neighbour. By following the #NotoriousNine, you can help ensure that all of us live in a community that's #NotoriouslySafe, #NotoriouslyClean and #NotoriouslyFriendly.

The Guide contains several photos, including a few #NotoriouslyExaggerated examples of how NOT to be a "good neighbour". The photos are all in fun, and if those pictures represent an issue with your neighbour, we encourage initiating a casual, respectful conversation aimed at solving the issues.

If you find yourself in an unresolved situation or have questions about the content in the Good Neighbour Guide, please contact the City of Moose Jaw's Bylaw Enforcement team at 306-694-4553
or email: **bylaw@moosejaw.ca**

We'll be #NotoriouslyPleased to help.

1. PROPERTY MAINTENANCE/BOULEVARDS

YARD CARE

We don't ask that your lawn be considered "well-manicured". We just ask that it be, well, mowed on a consistent basis. Occupants and owners of property are responsible for the care and maintenance of their lot. As per the City's Property Maintenance & Nuisance Bylaw No. 5484, "Owners and occupants shall not cause or permit the property to be overgrown with grass and weeds."
The City's Noise Bylaw permits lawn mowing and other maintenance activities between 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

"Lawn mowing is not a spectator sport. Please give your neighbour privacy at all times unless they invite you to have a conversation or join an activity".

#NotoriousKnowledge: Owners must be compliant with The *Weed Control Act*. If you have weeds listed as Prohibited or Noxious, they must be destroyed.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Keeping the areas around your home tidy will improve your curb appeal and help foster a sense of community pride. Unsightly properties look unappealing and can pose dangerous risks to others around you.

Owners/residents are responsible for ensuring their properties remain tidy. As a result, the storage of any materials on a residential lot must not be visible from outside the property. This includes loose garbage, yard waste, bottles, cans, household furniture, packaging materials, machinery, equipment or automobile parts and appliances. When stored outside, for the safety of the community, refrigerators and freezers must be locked or have the doors removed.

An accumulation of building materials may only be stored on a property if the owner can establish that construction or renovation is occurring or imminent. Owners are responsible for ensuring these materials are stacked in an orderly manner.

Materials that are prohibited on private property include:

- Any accumulation of offensive material such as animal remains, animal feces and materials that create unpleasant odors or are likely to attract pests.
- Open or exposed storage containers of industrial fluid such as engine oil, brake fluid, antifreeze, or other hazardous materials.
- Dilapidated vehicles.

#NOTORIOUSKNOWLEDGE

EXTRA TIPS FOR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE:

- Prevent trees on your property from encroaching over sidewalks or paved roadways.
- Trim all landscaping to ensure it's within your property boundaries and intersection sight lines are not obstructed.
- Trees and shrubs should not be planted within the road right-of-way. Private property does not extend all the way out to the road in most locations.
- The location and verification of property lines is a civil matter to be addressed and resolved between neighbours.
- Blowing grass and other yard debris into the sidewalk, street, storm drainage system or neighbouring properties is a violation and can create a safety hazard.
- Do not leave piles of grass clippings in rear lanes to decompose.

BOULEVARDS

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Well-maintained boulevards increase curb appeal and contribute to a sense of pride within the community. The portion of your property closest to the street is municipally owned property known as a boulevard. This area provides space for municipal services and is regulated as it may need to be accessed at any time to repair or improve different types of services.
It is the responsibility of every homeowner to maintain landscaped boulevards bordering your property. This includes cutting grass on shared frontage between sidewalks and roads bordering all sides of your property.

- These spaces must be kept free from the accumulation of refuse and debris in order to ensure safe passage under normal use and weather conditions.
- Any trees planted by past and present homeowners are the responsibility of the current property owners to maintain.
- All hedges, retaining walls, landscaping rocks, etc. must be at least one metre back from the edge of the sidewalk.
- Boulevard maintenance - Residents are responsible for the boulevards fronting their properties. Keep boulevards trimmed and free of weeds.

BOULEVARD PERMITS AND TREATMENTS

There is a boulevard adjacent to every residential property in Moose Jaw. Boulevard widths vary from less than a foot to 28 feet from the curb. A boulevard permit may be required for any treatments or construction on the boulevard. If you are unsure of your boulevard measurement or wish to receive further information about boulevard permits, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department
at 306-694-4447
or email: **recreation@moosejaw.ca**

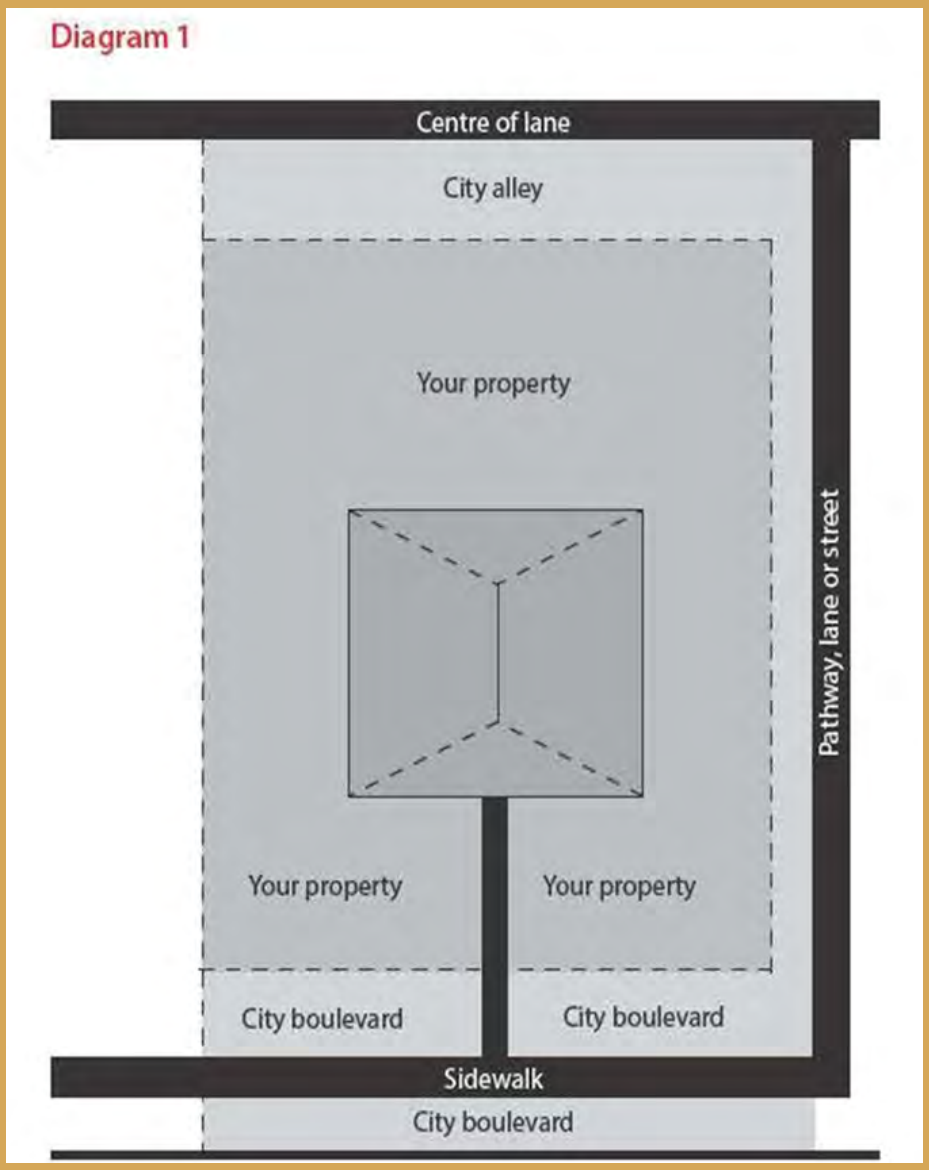
#NOTORIOUSKNOWLEDGE

The city has three types of boulevards:

- Green space located between the street and the sidewalk.
- Green space located between the sidewalk or curb and the property line.
- The green space located in the centre medians of major streets and roads.

ON AND AROUND YOUR PROPERTY

Owners/residents are generally responsible for their property, adjacent boulevards, sidewalks, and the alley adjoining their property (See Diagram 1).



Homeowners who prune City-owned trees are in violation of The Boulevard Bylaw 5610, subsection 3.(3), which states, "No owner or occupant may prune or remove any public tree." If you are unsure of a tree's ownership, request a tree inspection through the City of Moose Jaw's Report an Issue feature on the City's website (www.MooseJaw.ca) or free City of Moose Jaw app.

#NotoriousKnowledge: If you would like to plant a tree on the boulevard, use the application found with this link or email recreation@moosejaw.ca to request a tree be supplied to you by the City. (The City cannot guarantee availability of trees.)

2. FIRE

FIRE PITS

Fire pits are a great way to spend time with family and friends. However, it's important to follow the City's guidelines to ensure enjoyment and safety for all. The City of Moose Jaw Fire Department regulates all outdoor burning within the City boundaries through the Fire Bylaw.

Fire Safety Bylaw No. 5567

Owners/residents are responsible for the appropriate use of fire pits on their properties.

- Firepits must be contained in a non-combustible receptable constructed of concrete, clay, brick or sheet metal with a minimum eighteen (18) gauge thickness.
- Open flames not exceed one metre in height and width to ensure that fire embers, sparks, or dense smoke do not endanger anyone or cause a nuisance to neighbouring properties.
- All fire pits or outdoor fireplaces shall be located a minimum of *three (3) metres* (10 feet) from any combustible material, building, porch, deck, similar amenity space or property line.

FIREWORKS

Fireworks are not permitted to be discharged in Moose Jaw without first obtaining a fireworks display permit from the Fire Department.

- Fireworks include, but are not limited to, cannon crackers, fireballs, fire-crackers, roman candles, and any other explosive device.
- A copy of the permit must be available for viewing upon request by a member of the Fire Department, Moose Jaw Police Officer or a Bylaw Officer.
- Fireworks display permit for a public fireworks display using display fireworks shall only be issued to a Pyrotechnician.

BE A #NOTORIOUSLYGOOD NEIGHBOUR

Consider your neighbours and let them know your plans for fireworks so they, or their pets, are not startled by them.

#NOTORIOUSKNOWLEDGE

There may be times when a fire ban is in effect as declared by the Fire Chief, who has authority to declare a ban at any time. This ban is separate from any provincial fire ban and may remain in effect within City boundaries even after a provincial fire ban has been lifted. Fire bans prohibit the use of all fire pits, even if you have a valid permit.

NOISE

Your favourite music is the greatest music ever made - why wouldn't your neighbours want to hear it as well? Alas, for all of AC-DC's redeeming musical qualities, excessive noise (whether it's music, shouting, amplification devices, TVs, radios or musical instruments) can disturb your neighbours and goes against the City of Moose Jaw's *Noise Bylaw*. Further, any noise, sound or vibration as a result of construction, excavation, repairs or demolition is considered construction noise. Bottom line, be a good neighbour and consider the noise impact of your activities.

***Noise Bylaw* No. 5488**

Sound restrictions in the Bylaw exist to address appropriate noise levels during the daytime and at night. E.g. no operating loud machinery (including lawn mowers and snow blowers) between 10:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m. The *Noise Bylaw* is enforced by the Moose Jaw Police Service.

Barking dogs can disturb the peace and quiet of the neighbourhood. Be proactive to ensure your dog does not disturb your neighbours by barking, howling or whimpering.

Whether heavy metal or Johnny Mathis, chances are your loud music will disturb your neighbours.

#NOTORIOUSKNOWLEDGE

Noise travels further at night.

4. SNOW REMOVAL

SNOW AND ICE

When removing snow (whether it's with a shovel, snow blower or leaf blower), place the snow, ice or other loose debris from the sidewalk or driveway and place it upon your own private property.

One of these neighbours is properly moving fallen snow onto their property. The other? Not so much.

- Snow and other debris from private property cannot be placed onto any City street or lane.
- It is the responsibility of every business owner to remove snow and ice from the sidewalks adjacent to your commercial or industrial property before 9:00 a.m. in the winter and before 8:30 a.m. all other times (cleared snow cannot be placed on roadways or sidewalks).

When removing snow from the sidewalk, place the snow, ice, or other loose debris upon your own private property. As a best practice, shoveled snow and ice should not be stored in a way that will cause melting water to drain onto your neighbour's property.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

Consider helping your neighbour by offering to shovel their sidewalk or driveway if needed. There are many individuals who are aging or have physical limitations that prevent them from shoveling their sidewalks.

Be A Good Neighbour and clear snow from your sidewalk so others can walk safely.

#NOTORIOUSKNOWLEDGE

When temperatures dip below -10˚, salt is no longer effective in melting. Sand is an excellent alternative when colder than -10˚.

5. PETS

- Scoop the poop.
- If your dog does their business on any property – public or private – other than your own, it is your responsibility to remove the poop immediately. Dog owners must not allow poop to accumulate on their own property.
- Free doggy bag dispensers are placed throughout the City for your convenience.
- Owners are responsible for licensing their pets and for keeping pets on their property.
- **Licenses may be purchased through the 1st floor of City Hall or at the Moose Jaw Humane Society.**

Although your dog may want to catch up with the neighbours, not everyone may want an uninvited guest.

WHAT DO I DO NOW?

Owners are responsible for keeping their pets safe and must be on a leash and under your control when off your property. If you see a dog at-large, please contact The Moose Jaw Humane Society at 306-692-1517 for enforcement under the Dog Bylaw.

6. WASTE/RECYCLING

GARBAGE & RECYCLING

One of these neighbours has their cart in its proper position with a secure lid. Guess which one?

HOUSEHOLD WASTE, RECYCLING & COMPOSTING

Regular household garbage is collected on a weekly schedule from June 1 through October 31, with a bi-weekly schedule in place for the remainder of the year. Recycling is collected from your blue bin on a bi-weekly schedule year-round.
Residents who have manual collection are allowed to dispose no more than six (6) large garbage bags per property per collection day and the total weight may not exceed 200 pounds of refuse.

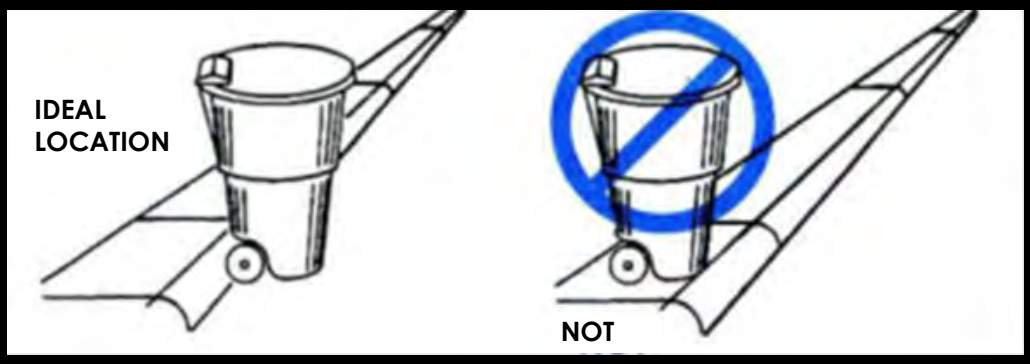
Set Out Your Cart Properly on Collection Day

IS THERE A CERTAIN WAY MY CART SHOULD BE SET OUT FOR COLLECTION?

Yes, on your designated collection day, place your cart as described below. The truck driver does not exit the vehicle; therefore, proper placement of the cart is essential.

FRONT STREET COLLECTION

How to place the cart on the street:



The cart must be placed with the wheels against, or as close as possible, to the curb. **Do not place the cart on the sidewalk.**

If there are snow banks along the curb, the cart can be placed out from the curb a little further. **Do not place the cart on/behind a snow bank.**

Be Wildlife Smart: We can prevent conflicts with wildlife by making sure we do not provide a food source to attract animals.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

Don't overstuff your bin to the point the lid doesn't close properly. Wind can scatter your trash and recycling around the neighbourhood before it has a chance to be collected.

#NOTORIOUSKNOWLEDGE

The City has a dedicated web page that answers your questions about what can/can't be recycled, the latest on plastic bags, Household Hazardous Waste and more. Visit www.MooseJaw.ca/LetsTalkTrash

7. PARKING/TRAFFIC

All drivers are welcome to park on roadways if they meet local and provincial laws regulating vehicles and parking. There are many options for parking with a few limitations to ensure public safety. The Traffic Bylaw and parking issues are enforced by the Moose Jaw Police Service. In determining whether there is a violation under the Traffic Bylaw, the public may call the Moose Jaw Police Service on the non-emergency line at (306) 694-7600

VEHICLE PARKING

Traffic Bylaw 5556

Owners/residents are responsible for ensuring that vehicles parked on their property and adjacent streets are registered, insured, operable and properly equipped. Owners/residents should ensure the following rules are met:

- Vehicles are not permitted to park on any side boulevard or municipal property not intended for as a parking lot.
- Parked vehicles do not block access to driveways, waste containers, fire hydrants or streets.
- Unless allowed by specific markings or signs, always park with the vehicle's right side parallel to the curb or edge of the roadway.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

To park on the street, your vehicle must be operable, display a valid license plate and have valid insurance. A vehicle is not permitted to be parked or stored on a highway for more than 48 hours without movement.

#NOTORIOUSKNOWLEDGE

Bicycles are not permitted on the sidewalks, especially in the downtown areas.

RECREATION VEHICLES

- Recreational vehicles or RVs (e.g., motor homes, campers, travel and tent trailers) can be parked on the street adjacent to the owner's or driver's residence for no more than 48 consecutive hours. After this point, the RV must be moved before it may be parked back on the street.
- RVs may also be parked to the side or rear of house.
- RVs may be stored in some industrial and special districts where Vehicle Storage – Recreational is a listed use.
- Trailers or detachable camping vehicles should not be left on the street or in an alley if not connected to a vehicle.

FRONT YARD PARKING

Parking on any portion of a front lawn is not permitted for any period, as it affects the overall appearance of a neighbourhood and can cause damage to the lawn. Vehicles can also damage the water and sewer infrastructure that runs

underneath many front lawns.
Parking is permitted on an approved driveway crossing. Driveway extensions or new driveways require a driveway permit before construction. For more information regarding approved driveways, the public may call the Engineering Department at (306) 694-4596.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

Please consider your neighbours when guests park on the street in front of their homes.

8. POOLS/HOT TUBS/DRAINAGE

SWIMMING POOLS AND HOT TUBS

Swimming pools are great for enjoying the hot days of summer, especially when built with safety in mind. Just remember that a Building Permit is required prior to installation of any swimming pool (above or in-ground) or hot tub, where the depth of the water is 600mm (24") or more. You'll also need to submit plans and specifications stating:

- Size and location of the pool on the lot, including other buildings and property lines;
- Height of enclosure for the swimming pool area;
- Location of any gates or doors giving access to the swimming pool area;
- Details of drainage of the pool into the City's sanitary sewer system; and

When the swimming pool is unoccupied, the gates, doors and other entrances to the pool must be locked. Enclosures must be built prior to filling the pool.

DRAINAGE

Owners/residents are responsible for ensuring that drainage from their property drains to the front street or back lane and does not negatively impact neighboring properties and complies with all City bylaws and policies.

Our Notorious neighbour is breaking two of the rules surrounding pools/hot tub drainage. Read below to find out which ones.

Owners/ residents must ensure that:

- Downspouts are directed toward the front and rear of the property ending at least two metres (6.5 feet) away from any sidewalk, road, parkway, alley, lane or surface drainage facility.
- Hot tubs and swimming pools are to be drained using the sewer drain located in the basement of a residence to ensure that chemically treated water enters the sanitary sewer system.
- Water hoses are not directed towards neighbouring properties.

- **Surface drainage facilities, including swales and catch basins, are kept clear of any debris or obstructions that may restrict or prevent the flow of water. Fences that must be built over swales must provide a 15cm (6 inch) clearance from the top of the swale. Sheds, stairs or other objects should not be placed on top of swales and minimum buffer zones need to be respected so that runoff can enter the swale and be directed safely through the network during a storm event.**

#NOTORIOUSKNOWLEDGE

Do you think your water meter is providing inaccurate readings? Report it with the free City app or call our Utilities department at 306-694-4534

9. BUILDING PERMITS/ZONING

ZONING AND BUILDING CERTIFICATE

A Zoning Certificate is a document which states a particular property's status under the Zoning Bylaw and provides a list of all the Building Permits on the City's records, and any outstanding legal Orders the City may have on file. Additionally, if a current Real Property Report is available, the City will comment on the building location and sizes and their compliance with the City Zoning Bylaw

DETACHED GARAGE/ACCESSORY BUILDINGS

Zoning Bylaw No. 5346

A Building Permit and Development Permit is required for all buildings or structures larger than 10m^2 (107 ft^2). Please note that only one accessory building under 107 ft^2 per property is exempt from obtaining a Building Permit; all other buildings require a permit. Even if a shed does not require a permit, it still must meet all Zoning and Building Bylaw requirements.

DECKS

Consider your neighbours when designing a new deck. Think about how your deck will impact a neighbour's privacy, or if it will cast a shadow on your neighbour's vegetable garden or flower bed.

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT & HOME IMPROVEMENTS

When designing your new home, or an addition to your existing home, take a close look at your neighbourhood. Being a good neighbour means asking yourself questions in the early stages of the design process such as how will my design affect my neighbours, or will my new house fit with my neighbourhood?
For home improvements, other bylaws and regulations might apply and other permits may be required. This could include electrical, plumbing and gas, or building permits.
The most common home improvements are:

- Detached garages and sheds
- Uncovered decks and balconies
- Fences and retaining walls
- Basement development
- Sunrooms and other types of addition to a house
- Fireplaces
- Hot tubs, pools and ponds
- Air conditioning equipment
- Driveways

There are many design choices that could directly impact your neighbours and neighbourhood, such as parking, view corridors and retaining walls. Homeowners are responsible for ensuring that all developments comply with the appropriate City bylaws and policies. Contact the Planning and Development Services Department at 306-694-4443 to learn more about the requirements for each project.

BUILDING PERMITS – BEFORE YOU START, START HERE

When and why you need one:

- If you're planning to build, renovate, or demolish a residence, accessory building, industrial or commercial property, it is important that you are issued a Building Permit and Development Permit by the City of Moose Jaw.
- A Permit ensures that all buildings comply with safety, health, building and zoning requirements for the owner, the City and the Province of Saskatchewan.
- Building Permits are not required for landscaping, sidewalks, and fences but may be required for decks.

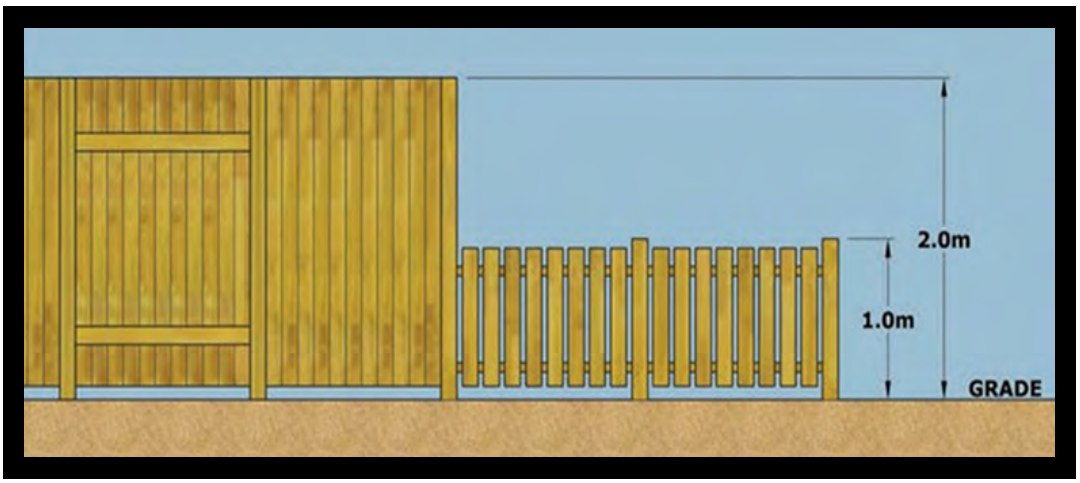
- If you are unsure whether your project requires a permit, call Planning and Development Services: 306-694-4443.
- Applications, guides, and forms are available online. Visit: www.MooseJaw.ca/StartHere.

#NOTORIOUSKNOWLEDGE

Livestock is not permitted in residential areas or within city limits except where permitted. They're an E-I-E-I-NO-NO! Livestock includes, but is not limited to, chickens, hens, pheasants, ducks, pigs, horses, donkeys, cattle, llamas, sheep and goats.

FENCES AND PRIVACY SCREENS

Zoning Bylaw No. 5346



Fences give us privacy and can help increase neighbourhood safety. However, if not installed at the right height or location, they can also pose a safety risk by blocking views of pedestrians and vehicle traffic. We encourage you to do the neighbourly thing and talk to your neighbours before installing a fence.

#NOTORIOUSKNOWLEDGE

A permit is not required to install a fence on private property. However, fences must comply with all requirements of the Zoning Bylaw.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

Consider how your new home, renovation or addition will affect your neighbour's sightlines and privacy, among other things.

CONTACT + MORE INFO

Planning & Development Services Department: 306.694.4443
planning@moosejaw.ca

WHAT DO I DO NOW?

From time to time, it may be difficult to come to an agreement with your neighbour. There are options to help resolve conflicts that may arise that can help you find ways to improve communication and build positive relationships within your community.

You are encouraged to speak with your neighbours when possible, to try and resolve any issues you may be experiencing. Often people are not aware they are violating a bylaw or creating a problem for someone. Having a conversation can often diffuse the situation and foster good neighbour relations.

To help us respond faster to concerns of a bylaw infraction, please provide your complaint in writing by sending an e-mail to bylaw@moosejaw.ca, by filling out a 'request for service' through the MyCivic App, phoning the office directly at 306-694-4553, or in person at City Hall, ensuring to include the following information:

- Your name, address and phone number;
- The address of the property related to the complaint; and
- A brief and concise description of the complaint.

DID YOU KNOW?

The goal of the Bylaw Department is to achieve voluntary compliance through education and information. Members of the public are provided the opportunity to correct an offence before more serious enforcement action is considered. The Bylaw Department may need to take direct action if there is an immediate health or safety concern.

GOT A QUESTION OR NEED TO REPORT AN OFFENSE? CONTACT:

Bylaw Enforcement Department: 306.694.4553
For emergencies call 9-1-1