

TITLE 8

Health and Sanitation

Chapter 1	Health and Sanitation
Chapter 2	Pollution Abatement

Title 8 ▶ Chapter 1

Health and Sanitation

8-1-1	Rules and Regulations
8-1-2	Health Nuisances; Abatement of
8-1-3	Deposit of Deleterious Substances Prohibited
8-1-4	Destruction of Noxious Weeds
8-1-5	Rodent Control
8-1-6	Large Livestock Operations

Sec. 8-1-1 Rules and Regulations.

The Town Board may make reasonable and general rules for the enforcement of the provisions of this Chapter and for the prevention of the creation of health nuisances and the protection of the public health and welfare and may, where appropriate, require the issuance of licenses and permits. All such regulations shall have the same effect as ordinances, and any person violating any of such regulations and any lawful order of the Town Board shall be subject to the general penalty provided for in this Code.

Sec. 8-1-2 Health Nuisances; Abatement of.

- (a) **Defined.** A health nuisance is any source of filth or cause of sickness.
- (b) **Duty to Abate.** The Town Board shall abate health nuisances pursuant to Ch. 823, Wis. Stats., which is adopted by reference and made a part of this Section.

State Law Reference: Ch. 823, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 8-1-3 Deposit of Deleterious Substances Prohibited.

No person shall deposit or cause to be deposited in any public street or on any public ground or on any private property not his/her own any refuse, garbage, litter, waste material or liquid or any other objectionable material or liquid. When any such material is placed on the person's own private property, it shall be properly enclosed and covered so as to prevent the same from becoming a public nuisance.

Sec. 8-1-4 Destruction of Noxious Weeds.

- (a) Unless delegated to the county, the Town Clerk-Treasurer shall annually on or before May 15th publish as required by state law a notice that every person is required by law to destroy all noxious weeds on lands in the Town which he/she owns, occupies or controls. A joint notice with other towns or municipalities may be utilized.
- (b) If the owner or occupant shall neglect to destroy any weeds as required by such notice, then the Weed Commissioner of the Town shall give five (5) days' written notice by mail to the owner or occupant of any lands upon which the weeds shall be growing to the effect that the said Weed Commissioner after the expiration of the five (5) day period will proceed to destroy or cause to be destroyed all such weeds growing upon said lands and that the cost thereof will be assessed as a tax upon the lands upon which such weeds are located under the provisions of Sec. 66.0407, Wis. Stats. In case the owner or occupant shall further neglect to comply within such five (5) day notice, then the Weed Commissioner shall destroy such weeds or cause them to be destroyed in the manner deemed to be the most economical method and the expense thereof, including the cost of billing and other necessary administrative expenses, shall be charged against such lots and be collected as a special tax thereon.

Sec. 8-1-5 Rodent Control.

- (a) **Definitions.** The following definitions shall be applicable in this Section:
 - (1) **Owner or Manager** — Whenever any person or persons shall be in actual possession of or have charge, care or control of any property within the Town, as executor, administrator, trustee, guardian or agent, such person or persons shall be deemed and taken to be the owner or owners of such property within the true intent and meaning of this Section and shall be bound to comply with the provisions of this Section to the same extent as the owner, and notice to any such person of any order or decision of the Building Inspector or his/her designee shall be deemed and taken to be a good and sufficient notice, as if such person or persons were actually the owner or owners of such property, except that whenever an entire premises or building is occupied as a place of business, such as a store, factory, warehouse, rooming house, junk yard, lumber yard or any other business under a single management, the person, firm or corporation in charge of such business shall be considered the owner or manager.
 - (2) **A Rodent-Proof Container** shall be a container constructed of concrete or metal, or the container shall be lined with metal or other material that is impervious to rodents, and openings into the container such as doors shall be tight-fitting to prevent the entrance of rodents.
 - (3) **Rodent-Proofing** shall consist of closing openings in building foundations and openings under and around doors, windows, vents and other places which could

Title 8 ► Chapter 2

Pollution Abatement

- 8-2-1** Cleanup of Spilled or Accidentally Discharged Wastes
8-2-2 Storage of Polluting Substances

Sec. 8-2-1 Cleanup of Spilled or Accidentally Discharged Wastes.

- (a) **Cleanup Required.** All persons, firms, or corporations delivering, hauling, disposing, storing, discharging or otherwise handling potentially polluting substances, solid or liquid, such as, but not limited to, the following: fuel oil, gasoline, solvents, industrial liquids or fluids, milk, grease trap and septic tank wastes, sewage sludge, sanitary sewer wastes, storm sewer catch-basin wastes, oil or petroleum wastes, shall immediately clean up any such spilled material to prevent its becoming a hazard to health or safety or directly or indirectly causing pollution to the lakes and streams under the jurisdiction of the Town.
- (b) **Notification.** Spills or accidental release of hazardous materials or pollutants at a site or of a quantity or nature that cannot adequately be cleaned up by the responsible party or parties shall be immediately reported to the Fire Department so that assistance can be given by the proper agency.
- (c) **Financial Liability.** The party or parties responsible for the release, escape or discharge of wastes shall be held financially liable for the cost of any cleanup or attempted cleanup deemed necessary or desirable and undertaken by the Town, or its designated agent, in an effort to minimize the pollutional effects of the discharged waste.
- (d) **Reimbursement for Hazardous Material Emergency Action.**
- (1) Any person who possessed or controlled a hazardous substance that was discharged or who caused the discharge of a hazardous substance shall reimburse the Town of Big Bend for actual, reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by the Town of Big Bend for any emergency action taken under, and consistent with, Sec. 166.22(3), Wis. Stats., whether such action be taken by the Town of Big Bend or another entity on its behalf or direction.
 - (2) Reimbursement as provided under Subsection (d)(1), above, will be accomplished as provided by Sec. 166.22(5), Wis. Stats., by the Rusk County Board of Supervisors, or by local emergency government officials.
 - (3) Terms not defined above shall have the meaning referred to in Sec. 166.22(1), Wis. Stats.

Sec. 8-2-2 Storage of Polluting Substances.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to store any potentially polluting substances unless such substances are stored in such manner as to securely prevent them from escaping onto the ground surface and/or into any street, sewer, ditch or drainageway, lake or stream within the jurisdiction of the Town of Big Bend.

- provide means of entry for rodents, with concrete, sheet iron, hardware cloth or other types of rodent-proofing material approved by the Town.
- (4) **Rodent Harborage** shall mean any place where rodents can live and nest without fear of frequent molestation or disturbance.
 - (5) **Hardware Cloth** shall mean wire screening of such thickness and spacing as to afford reasonable protection against the entrance of rodents.
 - (6) **Rodent** shall mean all nuisance animals.
- (b) **Elimination of Rodent Harborage.** Whenever accumulations of rubbish, boxes, lumber, scrap metal, car bodies or any other materials provide rodent harborage, the person, firm or corporation owning or in control of such materials shall cause the materials to be removed or the materials shall be stored so as to eliminate the rodent harborage. Lumber boxes and similar materials shall be neatly piled. These piles shall be raised at least a foot above the ground.
 - (c) **Elimination of Rodent-Feeding Places.** No person, firm or corporation shall place, or allow to accumulate, any materials that may serve as a food for rodents in a site accessible to rodents. Any waste material that may serve as food for rodents shall be stored in rodent-proof containers.
 - (d) **Extermination.** Whenever rodent holes, burrows or other evidence of rodent infestation are found on any premises or in any building within the Town, it shall be the duty of the owner or manager of such property to exterminate the rodents or to cause the rodents to be exterminated. Within ten (10) days after extermination, the owner or manager shall cause all of the rodent holes or burrows in the ground to be filled with earth or other suitable material.
 - (e) **Rodent-Proofing.** It shall be the duty of the owner or manager of any building in the Town of Big Bend to make such building reasonably rodent-proof, to replace broken basement windows and, when necessary, to cover the basement window openings with hardware cloth or other suitable material for preventing rodents from entering the building through such window openings.

Sec. 8-1-6 Large Livestock Operations.

For new dairying or cattle farming operations of over one thousand (1,000) head, hog rearing operations of over two thousand (2,000) head or poultry operations of over two thousand (2,000) birds annually, the operator shall file with the Town of Big Bend proof of compliance with all applicable state and county regulations.