

9<sup>th</sup> class  
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VECTOR CONTROL ORDINANCE

An ordinance to provide for the protection of the public health by controlling or preventing the spread of vector borne diseases and infections by the elimination of insanitary conditions, elimination of breeding and harborage areas, by extermination of the vectors, and by vectorproofing and the maintenance thereof in a sanitary and vector proofed condition.

BE IT ORDAINED BY the Supervisors OF THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF Read Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania.

SECTION (1)-Short Title

This ordinance shall be known as the "Vector Control Ordinance."

SECTION (2)-Definitions

For the purpose of this ordinance the following definitions shall apply:

(A) The term "vector" shall mean a rodent, arthropod, or insect capable of transmitting a disease or infection. Vectors shall include, but not be limited to rats, mosquitoes, cockroaches, flies, ticks.

(B) The term "vector proofing" shall mean a form of construction to prevent the ingress or egress of vectors to or from a given space or building or gaining access to food, water, or harborage. This term shall include, but not be limited to rat proofing, fly proofing, mosquito proofing.

(C) The term "breeding area" shall mean any condition which provides the necessary environment for the birth or hatching of vectors.

(D) The term "collection of water" considered in this ordinance shall be held to be those contained in ditches, pools, ponds, streams, excavations, holes, depressions, open cesspools, privy vaults, fountains, cisterns, tanks, shallow wells, barrels, troughs, urns, cans, boxes, bottles, tubs, buckets, roof gutters, tanks of flush closets, reservoirs, vessels, receptacles of any kind, or other containers or devices which may hold water.

(E) The term "harborage" shall mean any place where vectors can live, nest, or seek shelter.

(F) The term "extermination" shall mean the control and elimination of vectors by eliminating their harborage places; by removing or making inaccessible materials that may serve as their food; by poisoning, spraying, fumigating, fogging larviciding, trapping, or by any other recognized and legal vector control elimination methods approved by the local or state authority having such administrative authority.

(G) The term "garbage" shall mean all animal and vegetable wastes resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking, or consumption of foods.

(H) The term "refuse" shall mean all solid wastes, except body wastes, and shall include garbage, ashes, and rubbish.

(I) The term "disposal" shall mean and include the storage, collection, disposal, or handling of refuse.

(J) The term "rubbish" shall mean and include glass, metal, paper, plant growth, wood, or non-putrescible solid wastes.

(K) The term "accessory structure" shall mean a detached structure which is not used or not intended to be used for living or sleeping by human occupants and which is located on or partially on any premise.

(L) The term "dilapidated" shall mean fallen into partial ruin or decay.



(M) The term "occupant" shall mean any person, over one (1) year of age, living, sleeping, cooking, or eating in, or actually having possession of, a dwelling unit or a rooming unit; except that in dwelling units a guest will not be considered an occupant.

(N) The term "owner" shall mean any person who, alone or jointly or severally with others:

- (1) shall have legal title to any premise, dwelling or dwelling unit, with or without accompanying actual possession thereof, or
- (2) shall have charge, care, or control of any premise, dwelling or dwelling unit, as owner or agent of the owner, or an executor, administrator, trustee, or guardian of the estate of the owner.

Any such person thus representing the actual owner shall be bound to comply with the provisions of this ordinance and of the rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto, to the same extent as if he were the owner.

### Section (3) - Prohibited Acts

(A) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to deposit any refuse, offal, pomace, dead animals, decaying matter, or organic substance of any kind in or upon any private lot, building, structure, accessory structure, premises, or in or upon any street, avenue, alley, parkway, ravine, ditch, gutter, or into any of the waters of the Commonwealth so that same shall or may afford food, harborage, or breeding areas for rats, flies or other vectors.

(B) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to deposit or permit to accumulate in or upon any premise, improved or vacant, or on any open lot, or alley, any lumber, boxes, barrels, bottles, cans, glass, scrap iron, wire, metal articles, pipe, broken stone or cement, broken crockery, broken plaster, or rubbish of any kind, unless the same may be kept in approved covered receptacles

or placed on open racks that are elevated not less than (18) eighteen inches above the ground, and evenly piled or stacked, or disposed of as may be approved by the Department of Environmental Resources.

~~(C)~~ It shall be unlawful to maintain a junk yard or a place for the dumping or wrecking or disassembling of automobiles, trucks, tractors, or machinery of any kind or for the storing or leaving of dilapidated, wrecked or abandoned automobiles, trucks, tractors, or machinery of any kind or of any of the parts thereof, or for the storing or leaving of any machinery or equipment used by contractors or builders or by other persons which said places may afford harborage or breeding areas for rats or other vectors.

(D) It shall be unlawful to store refuse in containers other than those which shall be made of durable, watertight, rust-resistant material having a tight-fitting lid which must be kept on the container when in use. These containers must be kept clean by thorough rinsing and draining as often as necessary so as not to provide food or breeding areas for flies.

(E) It shall be unlawful to dump, burn, bury, destroy, or otherwise dispose of refuse except at an approved refuse disposal site.

(F) It shall be unlawful to collect, haul, transport, or convey garbage in open, unenclosed, non-leakproof vehicles.

(G) It shall be unlawful to construct, maintain, or use a sewage system, privy, urinal, cesspool, or other receptacle for human excrement so that vectors may have access to the excrementitious matter contained therein.

(H) It shall be unlawful to permit weeds, or similar vegetation more than one foot high to remain standing in any vacant lot, yard, or other place except as may be approved by the municipality.



(I) It shall be unlawful to have, keep, maintain, cause or permit any collection of standing or flowing water in which mosquitoes breed or are likely to breed, unless such collection of water is treated or maintained so as effectually to prevent such breeding.

Section (4) - Responsibilities of Owners and Occupants

(A) Every owner of a dwelling containing two or more dwelling units shall maintain in a clean and sanitary condition the shared or public areas of the dwelling and premises thereof.

(B) Every occupant of a dwelling or dwelling unit shall maintain in a clean and sanitary condition that part or those parts of the dwelling, dwelling unit, and premises thereof that he occupies and controls.

(C) Every occupant of a dwelling containing a single dwelling unit shall be responsible for the extermination of insects, and/or rodents, on the premises; and every occupant of a dwelling unit in a dwelling containing more than one dwelling unit shall be responsible for such extermination whenever his dwelling unit is the only one infested. Notwithstanding, the foregoing provisions of this subsection, whenever infestation is caused by failure of the owner to maintain a dwelling in a rodent proof or reasonable insectproof condition, extermination shall be the responsibility of the owner. Whenever infestation exists in two or more of the dwelling units in any dwelling, or in the shared or public parts of any dwelling containing two or more dwelling units, extermination shall be the responsibility of the owner.

Section (5) - Vector Proofing

(A) Any dwelling, building, structure, accessory structure, premise or any other place may be required to be vector-proofed when found to be providing harborage or breeding areas for rats, flies, mosquitoes, or any other vectors.



(B) It shall be unlawful for the owner, occupant, contractor, public utility company, plumber, or any other person to remove and fail to restore in like condition the vector proofing from any building, structure or accessory structure for any purpose.

Section (6) - Plans and Specifications for Private Vector Control Programs.

(A) A program plan and specifications for private vector control programs may be required to be submitted to the municipality as deemed necessary by the vector control program director. Said program plan shall be submitted by the owner or agent of the property on or in which said vector control program is or will be conducted. The program plan shall state the type of vectors to be controlled, the name of the company contracted to carry out the program, and any and all work to be conducted in an effort to control said vectors. If, after review of the program plan by the Vector Control Program Director, it is found to be inadequate or incomplete, additional information may be required as well as additional control methods.

Section (7) - Authority To Abate Vector Problems

(A) From and after passage of this ordinance, the municipality and/or a representative of the vector control program is empowered to make inspections of the interior and exterior of all dwellings, buildings, structures, and accessory structures, premises, collections of water, or any other places to determine full compliance with this ordinance, and to determine evidence of vector infestation and the need for vector proofing or additions or repairs to existing vector proofing.

(B) Whenever it shall be determined that any dwelling, building, structure, accessory structure, premise, collection of water, or any other place is in violation of this ordinance, a notice shall be issued setting forth the alleged violations, and advising the owner, occupant, operator, or agent that such violations must be corrected. The time for the correction of said violations must be

given as well as the necessary methods to be employed in the correction.

(C) Whenever said violations shall fail to be corrected within the time set forth, and an extension of this time is not deemed to be necessary, the municipality may proceed to abate the said violations in the manner provided by the law.

#### Section (8) - Penalty

(A) Any person, firm, or corporation who shall violate any provision(s) of this ordinance shall upon conviction before any alderman or district Justice of the Peace be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding three hundred dollars (\$300) plus the cost of prosecution. Each day's violation shall constitute a separate offense. In default of the payment of such fine and costs, said person shall undergo imprisonment in the Dauphin County Jail for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days.

#### Section (9) - Savings Clause

(A) If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional to any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

#### Section (10) - Repeal Clause

(A) All ordinances or parts of ordinances conflicting with the provisions of this ordinance, are hereby repealed insofar as they are inconsistent with this ordinance.