

TOWN OF BUTTE FALLS.....NOISE ORDINANCE #290

(Excerpts from ordinance)

Section 6. Noises Prohibited - the following acts are declared to be per se violations of this ordinance. This enumeration does not constitute an exclusive list:

A. Unreasonable Noises: The unreasonable making of, or knowingly and unreasonably permitting to be made, any unreasonably loud, boisterous or unusual noise, disturbance, commotion or vibration in any boarding facility, dwelling, place of business or other structure, or upon any public street, park or other place or building. The ordinary and usual sounds, noises, commotion or vibration incidental to the operation of these places when conducted in accordance with the usual standards of practice and in a manner which will not unreasonably disturb the peace and comfort of adjacent residences or which will not detrimentally affect the operators of adjacent places of business are exempted from this provision.

B. Vehicle horns, signaling devices and similar devices: the sounding of any horn, signaling device, or other similar device, on any automobile, motorcycle, or other vehicle on any right-of-way or in any public space of the town, for more than **10 consecutive seconds**. The sounding of any horn, signaling device, or other similar device as a danger warning is exempt from this provision.

C. Non-Emergency signaling devices: sounding or permitting sounding any amplified signal from any bell, chime, siren, whistle or similar device, intended primarily for non-emergency purposes, from any place for more than **20 consecutive seconds** in any hourly period. The reasonable sounding of such devices by houses of religious worship, ice cream trucks, seasonal contribution solicitors or by the city for traffic control purposes are exempt from the operation of this provision.

D. Emergency signaling devices: the intentional sounding or permitting the sounding outdoors of any emergency signaling device including fire, burglar, civil defense alarm. Siren, whistle, or similar emergency device, except in an emergency or except as provided in subsections (1) and (2) below.

(1) Testing of an emergency signaling device shall occur between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm. Any testing shall use only the minimum cycle test time. In no case shall such test time exceed five minutes.

(2) Sounding or permitting the sounding of any exterior burglar or fire alarm or any motor vehicle burglar alarm shall terminate within fifteen minutes of activation unless an emergency exists. If a false or accidental activation of the alarm occurs more than 4 times in a calendar month, the owner or person responsible for the alarm shall be in violation of this ordinance.

E. Radios, televisions, boom boxes, phonographs, stereos, musical instruments and similar devices: the use or operation of a radio, television, boom box, stereo, musical instrument or similar device that produces or reproduces sound in a manner that is plainly audible to any person other than the player(s) or operator(s) of this device, and those who are voluntarily listening to the sound, and which unreasonably disturbs the peace, quiet and comfort of neighbors and passers-by, or is plainly audible at a distance of 50 feet from any person in a commercial, industrial area or public space. The use or operation of such items that produce or reproduce sound in a manner that is plainly audible to any person other than the player(s) or operator(s) of the device, and those who are voluntarily listening to the sound, and unreasonably disturbs the peace, quiet and comfort of neighbors in residential or noise sensitive areas, including multi-family or single family dwellings.

More excerpts next issue.

