

CHAPTER 30

NOISE ORDINANCE

Section 30.1 Title. This Chapter may be known as “The Courtland Township Noise Ordinance.”

Section 30.2 Definitions. When used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- A. **Daytime Hours** means the hours between 7:00 a.m. and sundown (as reported for that date in the *Grand Rapids Press*).
- B. **Night Hours** means the hours between sundown and 7:00 a.m. (as reported for that date in the *Grand Rapids Press*).
- C. **Loud Noise** means sounds that can be heard at a distance greater than 25 feet during the Night Hours or greater than 100 feet during the Daytime Hours.

Section 30.3 Anti-Noise Regulations.

- A. **General Regulation.** No person, firm or corporation shall cause or create any unreasonable or unnecessarily loud noise or disturbance within the Township.
- B. **Specific Violations.** In addition to the above general regulation, the following noises and disturbances are hereby declared to be a violation of this Chapter:
 - 1. The playing of any radio, phonograph, compact disc, television, or other electronic or mechanical sound producing device or musical instrument in such a manner or with such volume as to unreasonably upset or disturb the quiet, comfort or repose of other persons on neighboring property, or during Night Hours, so that it is discernible on neighboring property.
 - 2. Yelling, shouting, hooting or singing on the public streets during Night Hours or at any time or place so as to unreasonably upset or disturb the quiet, comfort or repose of any persons in the vicinity.
 - 3. The emission or creation of any Loud Noise that interferes with the operation of any school, church, hospital or court.
 - 4. The keeping of any animal, bird or fowl, which emanates frequent or intended noise which shall unreasonably disturb the quiet, comfort or repose of any person in the vicinity; such as allowing or permitting any dog to bark repeatedly in an area where such barking can be clearly heard on neighboring property.
 - 5. The operation of any automobile, motorcycle, snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle, off road vehicle, watercraft, remote controlled hobby airplane, or other vehicle so out of repair or so loaded or constructed as to cause loud and unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling, or other unreasonable noise

including the noise resulting from exhaust, which is clearly audible from nearby properties and unreasonably disturbing to the quiet, comfort, or repose of other persons. The modification of any noise abatement device on any motor vehicle or engine, or the failure to maintain same so that the noise emitted by such vehicle or engine is increased above that emitted by such vehicle as originally manufactured shall be in violation of this section.

6. The operation of any course, track, racing area, proving ground, testing area, obstacle course, field, or similar improved or unimproved area of private or public property, for motor vehicles, snowmobiles, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, automobiles, watercraft, remote controlled hobby airplane, car, or boat, or motorized vehicles of any kind or nature, on a commercial or non-commercial basis, during Night Hours, or which creates a Loud Noise during Daytime Hours.
7. During Night Hours, the operation of any automobile, motorcycle, snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle, off road vehicle, watercraft, remote controlled hobby airplane, or other vehicle not on a public road right-of-way, which creates a Loud Noise.
8. The sound of any horn or other device on any motor vehicle unless necessary to operate said vehicle safely or as required by the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code.
9. The discharging outside of any enclosed building of the exhaust of any steam engine, internal combustion engine, motor vehicle, or motor boat engine except through a muffler or other similar device which will effectively prevent unreasonable noises. The modification of any noise abatement device on any motor vehicle or engine, or the failure to maintain same so the noise emitted by such vehicle or engine is increased above that emitted by such vehicle as originally manufactured shall be in violation of this section.
10. The erection, excavation, demolition, maintenance, alteration or repair of any building or premises in any part of the Township, and including the streets and highways, in such a manner as to emanate Loud Noise during Night Hours, except in cases of urgent necessity in the interest of public health and safety. In such case, prior written permission shall be obtained from the Township Supervisor, which permission shall limit the periods that the activity may continue.
11. The creation of a Loud Noise unreasonably disturbing to other persons in the vicinity in connection with the operation, loading or unloading of any vehicle, trailer, railroad car, or other carrier or in connection with the repairing of any such vehicle or, during Night Hours, the creation of noise in connection with such activities which is discernable on neighboring properties.

12. The use of any drum, loud speaker or other instrument or device for the purpose of attracting attention to any performance, show, sale, display or other commercial purpose, which creates noise that is discernable off the premises.
13. The operation of a loud speaker or other sound-amplifying device upon any vehicle on the streets of the Township with the purpose of advertising or similar purpose during Night Hours, or in a manner which is unreasonably disturbing to nearby property during Daytime Hours.
14. During Night Hours, the idling of any vehicle for more than five minutes.

C. This Chapter shall not prohibit the following:

1. Any police vehicle, ambulance, fire engine or emergency vehicle while engaged in necessary emergency activities.
2. Excavation or repair of bridges, streets or highways or other property by or on behalf of the State of Michigan, Courtland Township, or the County of Kent, during Night Hours, if the public welfare, safety and convenience render it impossible to perform such work during other hours. In such case, written permission shall be obtained from the Township Supervisor, which shall limit the periods that the activity may continue.
3. Warning devices emitting sound for warning purposes as authorized by law. This exception shall not, however, override the limitations in the Chapter on noise created by construction activities.
4. Any agricultural equipment while engaged in normal agricultural activities including but not limited to planting, cultivation, irrigation and harvesting of crops.
5. Noises during Daytime Hours caused by maintenance of grounds, provided such noise is not unduly excessive.
6. The Township Board may grant limited and conditional permission to create noise otherwise prohibited by this Chapter for the purposes of a public or private meeting, concert, parade or other similar event. Application must be received by the Township clerk at least 45 days prior to the event.