

What is the Clean Yards By-law?

The Clean Yards By-law sets standards for properties regarding litter, waste and property maintenance to help ensure that properties are safe, clean and attractive. The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville's Clean Yards By-law regulates:

- Vegetation and Waste
- Dust
- Litter
- Composting
- Standing Water
- Sewage
- Drainage
- Pits, Excavations
- Graffiti
- Snow and Ice



Enforcement

Municipal Law Enforcement Officers enforce the Town By-laws. An Officer may enter upon and inspect any land to determine whether or not a property complies with the standards set out in the Town By-laws. Should violations of the By-law be observed, Officers may issue an Order requiring the property owner to correct and/or discontinue the activity within a certain time frame. Failure to comply may result in legal action or the Town completing the work at the owners expense. Costs incurred will be charged to the property owner via property taxes.

Contact

If you have any additional questions or concerns about the Clean Yards By-law, please contact:

By-Law Enforcement

Phone: 905-640-1910 or
1-855-642-TOWS (8697)
Extension 2229

Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

111 Sandiford Drive
Stouffville, ON
L4A 0Z8

Clean Yards By-law 2013-166-RE



Customer Service Centre

905-640-1900 or
1-855-642-TOWN (8696)
Fax: 905-640-7957
www.townofws.ca

Yard & Maintenance

Vegetation - All lawns, shrubs, vines, hedges, bushes and weeds are to be kept trimmed and shall not be overgrown.

Waste - Household waste must be stored in rigid watertight containers maintained in good condition. When waste is stored outdoors, containers should have secure lids and be stored in the garage, side yard or storage facility

Dust - All yards and vacant land must be maintained with appropriate ground cover to prevent large amounts of dust or dirt from spreading to neighbouring properties.

Composting – Permitted in a container, pile or digester and only in the rear yard of a dwelling unit and at least 60 cm from any lot line. No offensive odor shall be permitted to emanate from the compost.

Standing Water - Not permitted to remain on any yard or property for more than three (3) days. Swimming pools, hot tubs, wading pools or artificial ponds must be maintained in good repair and working condition by the property owner so it does not present a health hazard.

Sewage – Sewage or organic waste must be discharged into a Municipal Sewage System. If a Municipal Sewage System does not exist, sewage and organic waste must be disposed of in a manner acceptable to the local health authorities. Sewage of any kind shall not be discharged onto the surface of the ground.

Drainage – Every property owner shall ensure that all roof drainage, storm water, swimming pool, hot tub or sump pump discharge is properly maintained on his/her property. Every owner of property shall ensure that proper grading is maintained to prevent the ponding of water. All storm water run-off from downspouts must be contained on the property until absorbed by the soil.

Pits, Excavations, etc. – A well, cistern, cesspool, privy vault, pit or excavation on the property in active use, must be secured by a fence with warning signs. If it is not in active use, it must be permanently sealed or secured by a fence, cover or other means.

Graffiti – The property owner or occupant of a property must keep every building on the property free of graffiti.

Snow and Ice - To prevent health and safety hazards, property owners must ensure that snow and ice is removed from: roofs, eaves, walkways, driveways, parking areas and entrances.

