

BYLAW NO. 2025-608

BYLAW 2025-608 TO REGULATE AND CONTROL
THE FEEDING OF WILD BIRDS AND ANIMALS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF
MUNSON IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

WHEREAS the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26 and all amendments thereto, empower Council to pass bylaws respecting nuisances; the safety, health, and welfare of people; and the protection of people and property.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Village of Munson duly assembled, enacts as follows:

1. Title

This Bylaw is entitled the "Feeding of Wild Birds and Animals Bylaw" of the Village of Munson.

2. Definitions:

In this By-Law:

- 1) "Public place" means
 - a) Streets,
 - b) public parks and trails,
 - c) Property owned by the Village,
- 2) "Wild animal" means any bird or animal which is not domesticated.
- 3) "Songbird" means any bird belonging to the oscine division in ornithology; but does not include crows, pigeons or seagulls.
- 4) "Domestic animal" means any animal commonly kept as a pet in family households, including, but not limited to dogs, cats, guinea pigs, rabbits and hamsters; and any animals commonly kept for companion or commercial purposes.
- 4) "Feral Cat" means any unowned (non-domestic) cat that lives outdoors and avoid human contact.
- 5) "Stray Domestic Animal" means any domestic animal that is at large on property that is not owned by the property owner or tenant.

3. Purpose

The purpose of this bylaw is to regulate and control the feeding of Wild Birds and Animals within the Village of Munson. Many municipalities currently restrict the feeding of wildlife, because it can be harmful to wildlife as well as humans and their pets.

Feeding wildlife can also cause various issues such as:

- Animals becoming dependent on people feeding them
- Animals lose their natural behavior and fear of both humans and their pets, which increases the likelihood of human-wildlife and pet-wildlife conflict
- Animals congregating in large numbers where they are being fed, which increases the likelihood of diseases and parasites being prevalent, resulting in them being a nuisance to the area
- Attracting unwanted animals

4. Exemptions

The following circumstances are to be exempt and allow the following:

- Feeding of songbirds and bird feeders on private property, where the property owner has given permission to do so and in accordance with this by-law.
- Leaving food as bait to trap a nuisance animal

5. Prohibitions

In the Village of Munson, except in accordance with this bylaw:

- No person shall not feed, attempt to feed, or deposit food on land they own or occupy for consumption by Wildlife, feral cats, or birds in a way that leads to a public safety risk, health risk or nuisance condition.
- No person shall feed any wildlife or wild animal on public property,
- No person shall place any food, pet food or feeding device on any property in a manner that attracts wildlife or a wild animal.
- No owner or occupier of land shall place or allow any feeding device or other material to be placed outdoors or on any public or private property for the purpose of attracting or feeding wildlife or a wild animal.
- No person shall feed any bird other than a songbird.
- No Person shall feed one or more wild animals in any place in such a manner or to such an extent that doing so causes or may cause an unreasonable interference with another person's use and enjoyment of their property, or of a public place.

6. Pest Prevention

Every property shall be kept free of rodents, vermin, insects and other pests. No owner or occupier of property shall permit or allow offensive odors that have as their source compost, pet food or food to be emitted or escape from the property and which odor attracts or could attract wildlife, wild animals, rodents, vermin, insects or other pests to the property

7. Offence and Penalties

Any person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw is punishable on summary conviction by a fine of not less than \$50.00 and not more than \$1,000.00 and to imprisonment of not more than 30 days in default of payment thereof.

8. Obstruction

No Person shall obstruct or hinder any person in the exercise or performance of the person's powers pursuant to this Bylaw.

9. General

Nothing in this Bylaw relieves a person from complying with any Federal or Provincial law or regulation, other Village Bylaw, or any requirement of any lawful permit, order or license.

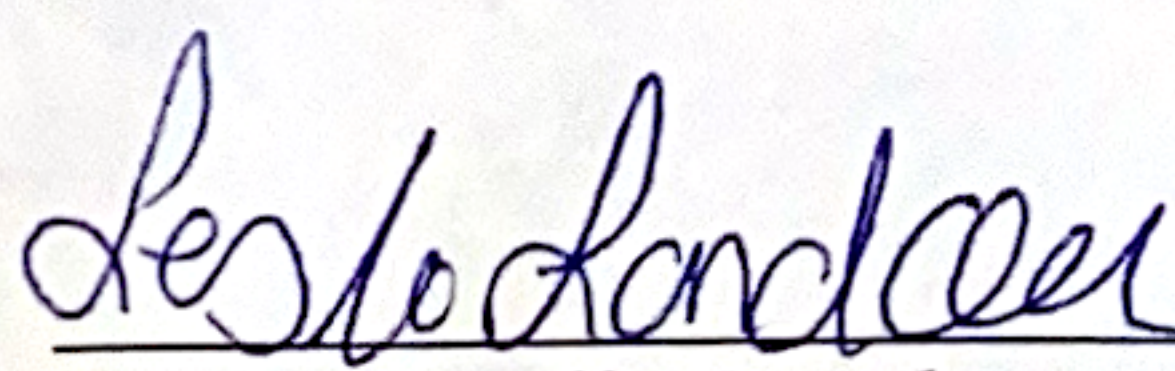
10. Severability

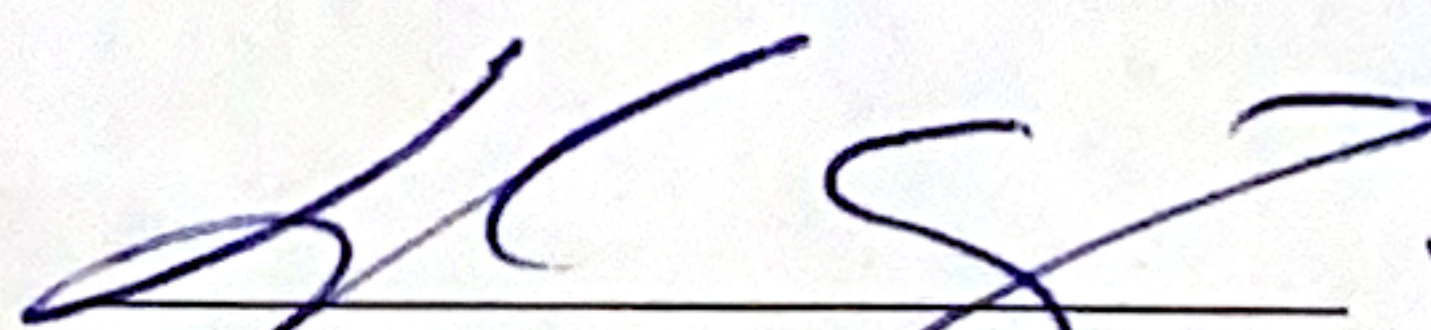
Every provision of this Bylaw is independent of all other provisions and if any provision of this Bylaw is declared invalid for any reason by a Court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions of this Bylaw shall remain valid and enforceable.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS 20 DAY OF May, 2025

READ A SECOND TIME THIS 20 DAY OF May, 2025

READ A THIRD AND FINAL TIME THIS 20 DAY OF May, 2025


Mayor Leslie Landon


CAO Lyle Cawiezel