



## **OWL AND WILDLIFE PROTECTION ORDINANCE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Village of Owl's Head Falls maintains a longstanding commitment to the protection of owls, avian migration, wildlife populations, and the natural soundscape of the village. Certain activities are regulated due to their potential impact on nesting behavior, feeding routes, habitat integrity, and wildlife safety. This packet contains the applicable ordinances and instructions for requesting a permit.

### **PERMIT REQUEST FORMAT**

Submissions must include: the applicant's full name and property address, a typed essay addressing all required questions, required sketches and photographs, and a notarized affidavit submitted in person to the Office of the Village Clerk. Incomplete submissions will be returned without comment. Approval is not guaranteed and may be denied at the discretion of the mayor.

### **REQUIRED AFFIDAVIT LANGUAGE FOR SUBMISSIONS**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, affirm that all information submitted in this application is true and complete. I agree to abide by the Compact of 1760 and reaffirm my respect for owls, avian migration, and local wildlife populations. I submit this affidavit knowingly and under penalty of perjury.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Subscribed and sworn before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

Notary Public: \_\_\_\_\_

## **WIND CHIME REGULATION ORDINANCE**

Wind chimes require a permit for installation or use because their sounds can disturb owls and disrupt the village's natural soundscape. The ordinance exists to protect local wildlife, and permission for wind chimes can be revoked at any time if they are found to negatively impact owls or other birds.

Please address the following issues in your permit application essay:

- List the wind chime's main material(s) and if any are owl feather-inspired.
- State if the chime makes one tone, many tones, or sounds owls react to.
- Say if the chime can be heard from roads, trails, neighbors, or owl nests.
- Note if any owl changed flight, paused, or called near the chime.
- Say if you've called the chime "subtle."
- Indicate if you'd miss the chime and if you think owls would notice its absence.
- Disclose if you've had other chimes that weren't owl-friendly.
- Acknowledge the chime may be removed without explanation, even if owls like it.

## **STREAM ROCK DISPLACEMENT ORDINANCE**

Before moving, stacking, or adjusting rocks in any stream, you must secure a permit. This requirement helps ensure that local cod habitats remain undisturbed and that curious owls are not displaced or attracted by sudden changes. Unauthorized rock arrangements could alter water flow, impact cod spawning areas, or inadvertently create gathering spots for owls, leading to unforeseen consequences.

Please address the following issues in your permit application essay:

- How many rocks are moved, and will this affect cod legends or attract owls?
- Were any rocks once among cod or checked by owls?
- Does the new layout suggest spawning grounds, owl gatherings, or symbols?
- Could moving stones change cod behavior or prompt owl attention?
- Were cod or owls discussed or imagined during the move?
- Is the arrangement inspired by the sea, cod tales, or owl wisdom?
- Will you undo the setup if cod or owl themes become too strong?
- Confirm cod and owls were not disturbed or idolized.

## **FIREWOOD STACKING AUTHORIZATION ORDINANCE**

Outdoor firewood stacking is allowed only with proper authorization and a detailed placement sketch that must be approved beforehand. The impact on owls—such as the possibility of stacks becoming perches or nesting sites, altering their movement patterns, or changing visibility through the area—must be considered.

Please address the following issues in your permit application essay:

- Estimate total log count and possible impacts on owl activity.
- State stack height and consider its use as an owl perch or nest.
- List wood types and assess if logs disturb owl nests.
- Determine if wildlife could shelter in or under the stack.
- Discuss how stack position affects owl behavior and movement.
- Express willingness to restack to help accommodate owls.

## **OUTDOOR CLOTHESLINE USE ORDINANCE**

The ordinance requires permits for outdoor clotheslines, limiting use to nighttime and natural-fiber garments to protect owls. Clotheslines can distract or confuse migrating owls at night and loose synthetic fibers may cause digestive problems like constipation if ingested, which is why careful regulation is in place to safeguard owl health and migration.

Please address the following issues in your permit application essay:

- State exact nighttime hours for hanging laundry.
- Describe garment movement in moonlight (flap, billow, shimmer).
- Note if wildlife or owls have been startled by laundry.
- List items likely to distract birds due to length or looseness.
- Will socks or small items be paired to avoid loose threads?
- Explain clothesline monitoring during wind for bird safety.
- Report any bird or owl interest in outdoor laundry.

## **BIRD FEATHER COLLECTION LIMITATION ORDINANCE**

Anyone who intends to collect, or has collected, more than three feathers in a single day must obtain a permit. This requirement helps to prevent poaching and restrict the commercial use of owl feathers, ensuring that feather collection remains limited and regulated to protect wildlife.

Please address the following issues in your permit application essay:

- State passive feather collection method, without disturbing birds.
- Explain why three feathers were collected in one day.
- Note if any birds, including owls, were present during collection.
- Confirm no feathers were taken directly from birds or obtained by encouragement.
- Indicate where each feather was found and cause, such as molting.
- Describe if and how feathers were photographed or documented in place

## **PLUSH OWL OWNERSHIP CLARIFICATION ORDINANCE**

Owl plush animals may seem innocuous, but they can easily cause confusion and emotional stress for real owls. To prevent such disturbances, a permit is required before owning or displaying a plush owl, helping protect the wellbeing of local wildlife.

Please address the following issues in your permit application essay:

- Briefly describe the owl's size, color, and realistic features.
- State the owl's material and how it was made.
- Identify the owl's outdoor location and its visibility.
- Could the owl be mistaken for a real owl in low light or fog? Why?
- Has anyone interacted with the owl? If so, how?
- Does the owl have a name? If yes, what is it?
- Which direction does the owl face, and why?
- Have any animals reacted to the owl? Describe.
- Is the owl displayed year-round or just seasonally?
- Confirm the owl is not real.
- Say that owning the owl does not grant special rights.
- Are you willing to move the owl if it causes confusion?