

TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, FLORIDA, AMENDING AND RESTATING ORDINANCE 2010-003, RELATING TO DUMPING OF MANURE AND HORSE BEDDING WITHIN THE TOWN; PROVIDING THAT ONLY THOSE PROPERTIES DESIGNATED AGRICULTURE OR IN THE PROCESS OF APPLYING FOR SUCH, OR DESIGNATED RESIDENTIAL, ON PROPERTY TAX RECORDS MAY RECEIVE MANURE AND HORSE BEDDING FOR AGRICULTURAL USE ON THE PROPERTY; AMENDING THE PERMITTED HOURS FOR DEPOSITING MANURE AND HORSE BEDDING; AMENDING PERMIT APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPERTY OWNERS AND HAULERS; ADDING PROVISIONS ON THE LOCATION OF DUMPING ON PROPERTY; AMENDING PROVISIONS RELATING TO HAULER PERMIT FEES; PROVIDING THAT EXCEPT AS AMENDED HEREIN, ORDINANCE 2010-003 IS RESTATED AND IN FORCE AND EFFECT; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2010, the Town Council of the Town of Loxahatchee Groves adopted Ordinance 2010-003, to provide requirements for permits by landowners and transporters of manure and horse bedding in the Town; and,

WHEREAS, the Town Council believes that Ordinance 2010-003 should be amended to provide for additional items relating to permit requirements and fees; and,

WHEREAS, except as amended herein, Ordinance 2010-003 shall remain in full force and effect in the Town.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. The foregoing “Whereas” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Ordinance upon adoption hereof. Ordinance 2020-003 is amended as set forth herein.

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Section 2. It shall be prohibited for a property owner to permit the depositing of Manure and Horse Bedding onto real property within the Town except when the Manure and Horse Bedding is being used by the property owner for bona fide agricultural purposes in appropriately limited quantities after obtaining a permit from the Town.

Section 3. It shall be prohibited for any person to deposit Manure and Horse Bedding on any property within the Town, regardless of the consent of the property owner, unless such person, and the property owner, has obtained a permit from the Town confirming that the Manure and Horse Bedding is to be used for bona fide agricultural purposes; and, in no case may the amount of Manure and Horse Bedding deposited exceed the amount set forth in the permit issued to the Property Owner by the Town. With the exception of a Town Manager-approved permit for residential property hereinafter provided, the property on which the Manure and Horse Bedding is to be deposited must be designated as agricultural by the Palm Beach County Tax collector for property tax purposes; provided that when a property owner applies for the first time for a permit, the property owner may obtain its initial permit notwithstanding not having the agricultural use tax designation when the property owner certifies to the Town Manager that the property owner is making a good faith effort to obtain the agricultural use tax designation. This exception shall not apply to subsequent years Property owners of property designated as residential by the Palm Beach County Tax Collector may obtain a permit from the Town Manager when the property owner of the residential property demonstrates to the Town Manager that the Manure and/or Horse Bedding is solely for private, personal use on-site. The Town Manager shall advise the Town Council of all permits approved for residential properties. The determination of the appropriate quantity of Manure and Horse Bedding for use for bona fide

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~~agricultural purposes shall be based upon uses and custom associated with the specific agricultural use on the property, which may include recognized formulas of government agencies or published studies. A permit issued to a property owner pursuant this Ordinance is limited to one transporter, and a property owner may have only one permit at a time.~~

Section 4. Notwithstanding the issuance of a permit, the depositing of manure and horse bedding shall be prohibited between the hours of ~~sunset and sunrise~~ 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on Mondays through Saturdays, and prohibited at all times on Sundays. A hauler shall not dump Manure and Horse Bedding within fifty (50) feet of the property line or within seventy five (75) feet of any well on the property. The limitations in this Section do not apply to the spreading or use of the manure and horse bedding.

Section 5. The Town Council hereby finds that a violation of this ordinance presents a public nuisance for purposes of enforcement of Section 403.413, Florida Statutes, and law enforcement officers charged with the enforcement of state and local laws within the Town shall strictly enforce Section 403.413, Florida Statutes.

Section 6. The Town Administration is authorized to use the Town's Code Enforcement process to enforce violations of this ordinance where a law enforcement officer has not otherwise issued violations of Section 403.413, Florida Statutes. In such instances, the fine shall be \$250 for the initial violation and \$500 for each subsequent violation, with each load or each day being a separate violation. Each day a violation remains, and each haul for which there is no permit, constitutes a separate violation of this ordinance.

Section 7. Upon the issuance of a violation notice under Section 403.413, Florida Statutes, or this ordinance, any permits issued by the Town shall be suspended and all Manure

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and Horse Bedding deposit activity stopped until such time as a hearing is conducted or the fines paid. Should a person violate this ordinance on more than one (1) occasion during a calendar year, that person shall not be granted a permit from the Town for a period of one (1) calendar year from the date of the last violation.

Section 8. Permits shall be obtained by both property owners and transporters from the Town.

a. Property Owners shall obtain a permit from the Town for each use of manure or horse bedding, regardless of the number of loads, during which time the Property Owner shall advise in writing: (1) whether the real property on which the manure and/or horse bedding is to be dumped is designated agriculture or residential on the tax roll for property tax purposes; (2) the volume being used under the permit; (3) and the transporter for the material; (4), and will certify that the manure or horse bedding is being used for bona fide agricultural purposes, and for residential properties include sufficient information to enable the Town Manager to determine whether the use is for private, personal use on site; (5) confirming through a property site drawing or layout that the manure and horse bedding will not be dumped within fifty (50) feet of the property line or within seventy five (75) feet of any well on the property; and (6) that the property owner has verified that the transporter for the materials has a permit from the Town. One of the conditions on the issuance of a permit to a property owner is that it shall provide consent for a Town representative to inspect the property solely for purposes of ensuring compliance with the terms of the permit. There shall be no charge for a Property Owner Permit. The Property Owner shall spread the manure and horse bedding within seventy-two (72) hours of receipt of the materials.

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b. Transporters shall obtain an annual permit from the Town for the deposit of up to twenty (20) loads of Manure and Horse Bedding within the Town. For purposes of this ordinance, a “load” shall be approximately twenty (20) to twenty-five (25) cubic yards. In obtaining the permit, the transporter will acknowledge that it is aware of the Town’s regulations relating to the deposit of manure and horse bedding, and that it will confirm upon receipt of a request for materials from a property owner within the Town that the purpose for such manure and horse bedding is for bona fide agricultural purposes, and that the property owner has obtained the necessary permit from the Town. All permits for transporters shall expire each September 30 regardless of the date of issuance. Transporters are responsible for the timely renewal of its annual permit. The annual permit fee shall be Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00). A hauler may exceed twenty (20) loads permitted that it pays, in advance, an additional fee of forty dollars (\$40.00) per load. A transporter who applies for an application subsequent to transporting manure into the Town shall be charged a fee of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00), and for permitted haulers that exceed the permitted number of loads and do not pay in advance for additional loads, the cost per additional load shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00); The application fees set forth herein ~~which~~ may be adjusted by the Town Council by resolution. No permit shall be issued to a transporter who has not remedied previous violations of this Ordinance.

Section 9. As used in this ordinance “bona fide agricultural purposes” means farming, pasture, grove, or forestry operations, including horticulture, floriculture, viticulture, dairy, livestock, poultry, bee and aquaculture, consistent with Section 823.14, Florida Statutes (Right to Farm) and Section 570.02, Florida Statutes (Agriculture).

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Section 10. **Effect on Ordinance 2010-003.** Except as amended herein, Ordinance 2010-003 remains in full force and effect.

Section 11. **Repeal of Laws in Conflict.** All Ordinances or part of Ordinances in conflict herewith are in the same are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 12. **Severability.** If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Ordinance is for any reason held by the Court to be unconstitutional, inoperative, or void, such holding shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance.

Section 13. **Codification.** It is the intention of the Town Council of the Town of Loxahatchee Groves that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Loxahatchee Groves, Florida, and that the Sections of this ordinance may be re-numbered, re-lettered, and the word "Ordinance" may be changed to "Section", "Article" or such other word or phrase in order to accomplish such intention.

Section 14. **Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, FLORIDA, ON FIRST READING, THIS 6th DAY OF March, 2012.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, ON SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING, THIS 3rd DAY OF April, 2012.

**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES,
FLORIDA**

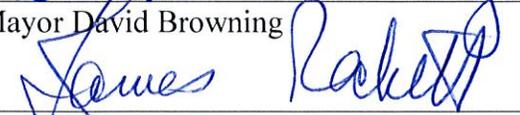
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ATTEST:


Janice M. Moore, Town Clerk


Mayor David Browning

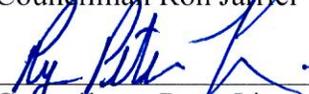

Vice Mayor Jim Rockett

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:


Michael D. Cirullo, Jr., Town Attorney

not present
Councilman Goltzené


Councilman Ron Jarriel


Councilman Ryan Liang

MDC:aw

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