

**ORDINANCE NO. 03-2018**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE TOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES AT CHAPTER 42, ENVIRONMENT, ARTICLE V, NOISE; AMENDING SECTION 42-198, RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF CERTAIN MACHINERY; EXPANDING THE PERIOD OF THE YEAR DURING WHICH THERE IS A PROHIBITION ON THE OPERATION OF SAID MACHINERY; PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS; AMENDING SECTION 42-199, HOURS FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK, AT SUBSECTION (b) SO AS TO EXPAND THE LIMITATIONS ON THE MONTHS, DATES AND TIMES DURING WHICH CONSTRUCTION WORK MAY BE UNDERTAKEN; AMENDING SECTION 42-230, LAWN MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT NOISE, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT LAWN MAINTENANCE SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE HOURS OUTLINED FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK SET FORTH IN SECTION 42-199; PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF LAWN MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT BY RESIDENTS, AND FOR GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT; PROVIDING REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF LEAF BLOWERS, AND PROHIBITING THE COMMENCEMENT OF LARGE SCALE LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION AT ANY TIME ON SATURDAYS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Code of Ordinances of the Town of Palm Beach is hereby amended at Chapter 42, Environment, Division V, Noise, Section 42-198 to read as follows:

**"Sec. 42-198. Operation of certain machinery during winter, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, including the Friday immediately after Thanksgiving.**

- (a) *Prohibited.* During the period of the year commencing on the Monday prior to Thanksgiving of each year no person shall operate or cause to be operated the following machinery or equipment within the town:
  - (1) Dredges, whether used in making hydraulic fills, dry fills, piledriving or any other purpose.

- (2) Hammer-driven piledrivers, whether operated from water or land, or from motor truck or tractor, and whether stationary or moveable.
- (3) Gasoline, diesel and/or steam engines, operated in such a manner as to emit odors or noises offensive or disagreeable to the inhabitants of the town.
- (4) Dry sandblasting machines and jackhammers.
- (5) Any other class of machinery or appliance that in its operation would render the enjoyment of property within the town less agreeable than if such appliances or machinery were not operated.

(b) *Exceptions.*

- (1) It shall be within the discretion of the town council when, in its opinion, the operation of any of the prohibited machinery or appliances mentioned in subsection (a) of this section shall not be overly offensive to the residents or inhabitants of the town, in the vicinity of the equipment's operation, to grant an exception to this section.
- (2) The operation of equipment relating to essential services of the town and equipment operation during emergency conditions shall be exempt from subsection (a) of this section."

Section 2. Chapter 42, Article V, of the Town's Code of Ordinances is hereby amended at Section 42-199 to read as follows:

**"Sec. 42-199. - Hours for construction work.**

- (a) *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Construction work* means work of a physical nature requiring a permit in accordance with the provisions of this Code and/or violates the conditions of section 42-198 and/or violates the conditions of this section, and/or causes excessive noise as defined by section 42-228.

- (b) *Limited.* Beginning on the Monday preceding Thanksgiving, and during the months of December, January, February, March, and April of each year, construction work not otherwise prohibited by Section 42-198 or other work resulting in noise tending to disturb the people in the vicinity thereof shall not begin until the hour of

8:00 a.m., and shall cease at the hour of 5:00 p.m., except Saturday, Sunday, and legal holidays, when all construction work is prohibited. In no event shall heavy equipment or other construction-related noise be permitted before 9:00 a.m. At all other times such work may commence at 8:00 a.m. and cease at the hour of 6:00 p.m., except Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, including the Friday immediately after Thanksgiving, when all construction work is restricted or prohibited. Construction work is permissible on Saturdays from May through the Monday preceding Thanksgiving, but subject to the following restrictions: work shall not begin until the hour of 9:00 a.m. and shall cease at the hour of 5:00 p.m.; all work must be quiet in nature during which all of the noise and machinery prohibitions identified in Section 42-198 are applicable; material deliveries are prohibited in all cases unless the Building Official waives such restriction due to compelling circumstances; concrete pours and concrete sawing is prohibited unless the Building Official waives such restriction due to compelling circumstances; and the razing of buildings is prohibited, with the exception of non-mechanized debris clean-up. The permitted hours for construction work in the C-WA zoning district shall be from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. during the months commencing May 1 and ending on October 31, except Sundays and legal holidays, when all construction work is prohibited.

(c) *Exceptions.*

- (1) It shall be within the discretion of the town council when in its opinion the operation of any of the prohibited machinery or appliances mentioned in subsection 42-198(a) shall not be overly offensive to the residents or inhabitants of the town in the vicinity of the equipment's operation to grant an exception to this section.
- (2) The operation of equipment relating to essential services of the town and equipment operating during emergency conditions shall be exempted from subsection (a).
- (3) At the discretion of the director of planning, zoning and building, or his representative, emergency work for nontown related essential services may be authorized at any time during the year.
- (4) Interior work not resulting in noise tending to disturb people in the vicinity thereof, shall be allowed during the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays during the period commencing on the Monday preceding Thanksgiving and ending on April 30.
- (5) The town council, in its discretion, for the benefit of the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the town may,

by resolution, temporarily amend the hours for construction work referenced herein.”

Section 3. The Code of Ordinances of the Town of Palm Beach is hereby amended at Chapter 42, Environment, Division V, Noise, Section 42-230, to read as follows:

**"Sec. 42-230.      Lawn maintenance.**

- (a) Lawn maintenance in the town shall be limited to the hours outlined for construction work at section 42-199 and leaf blowers shall be subject to the same restrictions as heavy equipment as described in said section.
- (b) Nothing in this section shall preclude the operation of lawn maintenance equipment by residents after 9:00 a.m. on Saturdays, Sundays or legal holidays, including the Friday immediately after Thanksgiving. Further, golf course maintenance equipment within the town is not restricted during the hours outlined herein: however, such golf course maintenance equipment shall not be used before 8:00 a.m. or after 5:30 p.m. on any day at locations within 300 feet of residential properties, except in the event of valid emergencies and once per month for purposes of chemical spraying or fertilizing. The sound level meter measurement shall be no greater than 75 dBA measured 50 feet from the point of operation of the equipment. The sound level meter measurement shall not be applicable to lawn maintenance equipment used on golf courses.
- (c) Lawn maintenance equipment includes but is not limited to lawn mowers, edgers, hedge trimmers, yard tractors, leaf blowers, lawn vacuum machines, and monofilament line grass trimmers.
- (d) Leaf blowers shall not exceed a decibel level of 65 dBA as measured at 50 feet from the point of operation. It shall be unlawful to blow, sweep or rake yard trash or clippings into the public street or storm drains.
- (e) There shall be no commencement of large scale landscape installation at any time on Saturdays.”

Section 4. Severability.

If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or applications of this Ordinance which can

be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable.

Section 5. Repeal of Ordinances in Conflict.

All other ordinances of the Town of Palm Beach, Florida, or parts thereof which conflict with this or any part of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 6. Codification.

This Ordinance shall be codified and made a part of the official Code of Ordinances of the Town of Palm Beach.

Section 7. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval, as provided by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED in a regular, adjourned session of the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach on first reading this 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018, and for second and final reading on this 13th day of February, 2018.

---

Gail L. Coniglio, Mayor

---

Richard M. Kleid, Town Council President

---

Danielle H. Moore, Council President Pro Tem

---

Julie Araskog, Town Council Member

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bobbie Lindsay, Town Council Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen Dominguez, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret A. Zeidman, Town Council Member