

**CANADA  
PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC  
TOWN OF BROME LAKE**

**BY-LAW 494 RESPECTING OPEN AIR FIRES AND FIREWORKS  
(2008)**

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WHEREAS it is incumbent upon a municipal corporation to pass by-laws to prevent fires;

WHEREAS certain property owners whose lands are situated within the boundaries of the municipality are, on occasion required to burn dry straw, hay, grass, undergrowth, scrub wood, branches, dead trees, plants, or other combustibles ;

WHEREAS certain persons may wish to light a camp fire to drive away mosquitoes, or to enliven a picnic or an outdoor event;

WHEREAS such fires may, on occasion present a risk to the property of others;

WHEREAS such fires should be subject to well defined and uniform regulations;

FOR THESE REASONS:

It is proposed and unanimously resolved that this by-law should be adopted and bear number 494 and the following is decreed:

**ARTICLE 1 PREAMBULE**

The above preamble is deemed to be an integral part of this by-law.

**ARTICLE 2 PROHIBITIONS AGAINST LIGHTING A FIRE WITHOUT A PERMIT**

No person shall, within the municipal boundaries, light or maintain a fire in a private or public place within having first obtained a permit from the municipality, except in the case of a wood fire lighted in a fireplace that is specifically built for such purposes and that no prohibition has been issued for safety reasons, either by the government of Quebec or its agencies or by the municipality itself.

**ARTICLE 3 CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT**

Only the following types of fires shall be permitted under the following conditions:

- a) Fires in outdoor cooking apparatuses such as fire places, barbecues and other similar installations built for this purpose;
- b) Fires in metal containers, such a barrels which are equipped with spark deflectors;
- c) Fires lighted on a site made up of sand or gravel where the border is free of any vegetation;
- d) For farmers, straw or hay fires when authorized by the Fire Chief;

- e) Duly authorized industrial burn offs. For example a fire intended to burn off any ligneous material felled during a clearing operation conducted for the construction of a roadway, a power transmission line or the construction of a building or any other works of a commercial or industrial nature: the law requires that in such cases, a permit be issued by the organization responsible for the protection of forests, in the present case, the Society for the Prevention of Forest Fires (la Société de protection des forêts contre le feu).

#### **ARTICLE 4 FIRE WORKS**

An event where it is intended to make use of fire or fire works shall not be permitted within the territory of the municipality unless the person responsible for such event shall have obtained prior to holding such an event, permission to hold same from the Fire Chief; such permission shall be subject to the following conditions:

- a) The site shall be well cleared and far from any high obstacles.
- b) There shall be a total ban in the event of wind
- c) The applicant shall maintain adult surveillance over any person under the age of 18 years on the site who is making use of fire works;
- d) The applicant shall read all instructions contained on the fire works and shall adequately plan the event, including the order of lighting or firing
- e) The firing ramp shall be installed in the middle of the site with boxes and wheelbarrows filled with earth or sand nearby;
- f) The pieces shall be set in the ground if they are not equipped with a base, except in the case where there is a contrary indication on the packaging. The pieces shall be set at a 10 degree angle, and aimed away from the spectators.
- g) No fire works shall be hand held except for sparklers;
- h) Light only one half of the fuse.
- i) Keep a supply of water nearby : throw the used pieces and the debris in a bucket of water or return them to the supplier;
- j) Do not re-ignite a piece that has not gone off: wait 30 minutes before approaching it.
- k) Keep the pieces under lock and key in a dry, cool and well aired place which is not accessible to children
- l) Provide all other measures to ensure safety of the site.

#### **ARTICLE 5 INFRACTIONS AND FINES**

- a) A fine of \$50.00 shall be levied against any person who contravenes this by-law.
- b) A fine of \$100.00 and costs shall be levied against any person who contravenes this by-law.
- c) A fine of \$500.00 and costs shall be levied against any person who commits a second or subsequent offence under this by-law.

**ARTICLE 6 REPEAL**

This by-law repeals by-law 143 and its amendments.

**ARTICLE 7 COMING INTO FORCE**

This by-law shall come into force on the day of its publication.

DONE and ADOPTED at the regular Council meeting of August 4, 2008.

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Richard Wisdom, Mayor

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Me Alain R. Roy, M.A., LL.B.  
City Clerk