

Quality of Life Violations – (14-103)

QOL.001 Accumulation of Rubbish or Garbage – All exterior property and premises, and the interior of every structure, shall be free from any accumulation of waste, trash, rubbish or garbage.

QOL.002 Animal Maintenance and Waste/Feces Clean up – People owning, harboring or keeping an animal within the City of Reading shall not permit any waste matter/feces from the animal to collect and remain on the property so as to cause or create an unhealthy, unsanitary, dangerous or offense living conditions. All waste from animals must be cleaned up on a daily basis.

QOL.003 Disposal of Rubbish or Garbage/Dumping – Improper disposal of rubbish or garbage or dumping of rubbish or garbage on vacant, unoccupied, or other property.

QOL.004 High Weeds, Grass or Plant Growth – All premises and exterior property shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of 6 inches (152.4 mm). All noxious weeds shall be prohibited. Weeds shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation. Cultivated flowers, gardens, trees and shrubs shall not be included as a violation of this ordinance.

QOL.005 Littering or Scattering Rubbish – No person shall throw, dump, place, sweep or dispose of any waste, trash, garbage or rubbish upon any public sidewalk, alley, street, bridge, public passageway, public parking area or on any public property.

QOL.006 Motor Vehicles – It shall be unlawful to store, park or place any unregistered, uninspected, inoperative, unlicensed or nuisance motor vehicle on any premises. No vehicle shall, at any time, be in a state of major disassembly, disrepair, or in the process of being stripped or dismantled. Painting of vehicles is prohibited unless conducted inside an approved spray booth.

QOL.007 Operating a Food Cart Illegally – It shall be unlawful to operate any food cart without the proper permits and or/inspections. It shall also be unlawful to operate any food cart while any portion of the cart is inoperable.

QOL.008 Operating or Vending without the Proper Permit/License – It shall be unlawful for any person, business, partnership or entity to operate, including but not limited to any business, vending cart, store or establishment without the proper permits.

QOL.009 Outside Placement of Indoor Appliances/Furniture – It is prohibited to store or place any/all appliances or furniture including but not limited to ranges, refrigerators, air conditioners, ovens, washers, dryers, microwaves, dishwashers, mattresses, recliners, sofas, interior chairs or interior tables on the exterior of any property for the purpose of sale or any other reason except for the temporary purpose to perform maintenance in said property.

QOL.010 Ownership Presumption of Waste, Trash and/or Recyclables for Illegal Dumping and Illegal Hauling – It shall be the responsibility of every owner and/or occupant to dispose of their waste, trash or recyclables in a proper manner. Any business or person who is unable to show proof that they have legally disposed of any waste, trash or recyclables, will be in violation of this ordinance. Should any person or business use an unlicensed hauler to dispose of their waste, trash or recyclables, said person or business shall be in violation of this ordinance. Upon request of the Property Maintenance/Codes Administrator or his/her designee, any owner or occupant must show proof of their appropriate trash and or/recyclable hauler. Any parts found within a municipal waste container, recycling container, garbage bag or loose trash/waste displaying the name and/or address of a person and/or persons, that the trash or waste shall be presumed to be the property of such person and/or persons. It shall be unlawful for any person, business, partnership or entity to remove haul waste, trash or recyclables without the proper approval or license. Any waste, trash or recyclables found not to be disposed of in accordance with this ordinance, will be a violation of this ordinance.

QOL.011 Placement of Littering by Private Advertising Matter – No person shall throw, place, sweep or dispose of litter or private advertising matter upon any public sidewalk, alley, street, bridge, public passageway, public parking area or public property. No person, group, organization or entity will hang, place or advertise on any public property in any manner. No person, group, organization or entity will hang, place or advertise on any property that they do have any ownership rights without the written approval of said owner.

QOL.012 Snow and Ice Removal from Sidewalks – Every owner, tenant, occupant, lessee, property agent or any other person who is responsible for any property within the City of Reading, is required to remove any snow or ice from their sidewalk. Any property located along Penn Street, Washington Street and/or Court Street or along Second (2nd) Street, Third (3rd) Street, Fourth (4th) Street, Fifth (5th) Street, Sixth (6th) Street, Seventh (7th) Street, Eighth (8th) Street and Ninth (9th) Street, between Penn Street and Washington Street, shall have all snow or ice removed within two (2) hours of the cessation of said snow and ice falling. Furthermore, the entire sidewalk must be free of all snow and ice in these areas. Any other property within the City of Reading shall have all snow and ice removed within four (4) hours of the cessation of said snow and ice falling and must create a path, free from any snow or ice, of three (3) feet on said sidewalk. Should any property be a place of business within the City of Reading, all snow and ice must be removed within two (2) hours of the cessation of said snow and ice falling. Any property deemed a business; the entire sidewalk must be free from any snow and ice. If/when the snow and/or ice cessation happens during the hours of darkness, the time limit of removal of all snow and ice begins at daybreak.

QOL.013 Storage Containers for Waste or Trash – The owner of every premise shall supply approved containers for waste/trash as well as be responsible for the removal of rubbish. All containers that store waste of trash shall be durable, water tight and made of metal or plastic. Containers must have tight fitting covers and must be kept clean and odor free at all times. All containers must be stored in the rear of every property so said containers are not visible from the public right-of-way. Waste/trash containers may only be placed in front of any property when darkness occurs the night before the day of the scheduled pick up. Once the licensed hauler removes the waste/trash from any property, all containers must be returned to the rear of any property before daybreak on the day following the pick-up. (Example: Jim Smith’s trash collection day is Wednesday. Jim Smith may place his trash containers out front of his property on Tuesday night, once night falls. Jim Smith must place his trash containers in the rear of his yard before daybreak, on Thursday morning)

QOL.014 Storing or Discarding of Appliances – Refrigerators and similar equipment including but not limited to washers, dryers, dishwashers and ranges not in operation shall not be discarded, stored or abandoned on any premises without first removing the doors.

QOL.015 Storing of Hazardous Material – It shall be unlawful for any person, business or entity to store combustible, flammable, explosive or other hazardous materials, including but not limited to paints, volatile oils and cleaning fluids or combustible rubbish including but not limited to wastepaper, boxes or rags unless the storage of said materials is stored in compliance with applicable Building Codes.

QOL.016 Storing of Recyclables – It shall be the responsibility of the owner of all residential, commercial and industrial property to ensure storage, collection and disposal of all recyclables from their property in such a manner not to create a public nuisance. Storage of recyclables is only prohibited in approved containers which must be kept clean and sanitary at all times.

QOL.017 Storing or Serving of Potentially Hazardous Food – No person, business, partnership or entity shall store or serve potentially hazardous food, including but not limited to out of date food, food being stored above or below the appropriate temperature, food being stored directly on a flooring surface, infestation problems at the location or serving food that had previously been open are considered a violation of this ordinance.

QOL.018 Swimming Pools – Swimming pools shall be maintained in good repair at all times. They shall also be kept clean, safe, covered and sanitary as well.

QOL.019 Violating the Terms of any Vending License – It shall be unlawful to violate any term, part, portion or in total, any vending license. Any person, business, partnership or entity violating their vending license, shall be in violation of this ordinance.

QOL.020 Historic District Violation – It shall be the responsibility of the owner of a property located in a Historic District, so designated by City Ordinance, to obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Preservation Officer or the Historic Architecture Review Board before making any alteration, including paint, to the exterior of a structure visible from a public right-of-way. Failure to produce a *bone fide* Certificate of Appropriateness upon request by a Codes official shall constitute violation of this ordinance.

QOL.021 Visible Satellite Dish in Historic District – It shall be the responsibility of the owner of a property located in a Historic District, so designated by City Ordinance, to obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Preservation Officer or the Historic Architecture Review Board before installing or retaining any satellite dish visible from a public right-of-way.

QOL.022 Registered Trash Hauler Required – It shall be the responsibility of the owner of every property to register a licensed trash hauler with the City of Reading.

QOL.023 Temporary Dumpster Permit Required – Each temporary dumpster, whether placed on private property or in a public right-of-way, shall display a valid permit issued by the City of Reading.

Placement and Maintenance of Dumpsters.

Temporary and Permanent Dumpsters.

(1) Temporary Dumpsters – Temporary dumpsters, incidental to construction, rehabilitation or demolition work, may be placed within the public right-of-way, or on private property, for a maximum of 10 days after receipt of the necessary permit. The permit shall be displayed on the dumpster. All temporary dumpsters, whether placed on private property or within a public right-of-way, with contents to be covered with a suitable cover or tarpaulin during: (a) periods of non-use; (b) night hours (6:00 PM to 6:00 AM); (c) high wind conditions; or (d) transport in order to prevent unauthorized use and/or scattering of any contents therein. It shall be the responsibility of the owner of the dumpster to obtain required permits. The City shall have the right to impound any unpermitted dumpster at the cost of the owner.

(2) Permanent Dumpsters – Permanent dumpsters (3 cubic yards or less); may be placed within the public right-of-way when it has been determined by the Codes Enforcement Division in conjunction with the Department of Public Works that no other location is available for trash collection and storage and the owner has received the necessary permit. The owner must demonstrate that this dumpster is necessary to ensure the health and safety for area residents and patrons. Dumpsters of 3 cubic yards or greater cannot be permanently placed in any public right-of-way.