

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH DUNDAS

BY-LAW NO. 2021-53

A By-law to adopt Policy No. 3-27 – Beaver Control and Dam Management.

WHEREAS the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, provides that the powers of the municipality shall be exercised by By-law;

AND WHEREAS the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, states that a municipality and a local board shall adopt policies with respect to certain matters;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of South Dundas wishes to adopt Policy No. 3-27 – Beaver Control and Dam Management.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of South Dundas hereby enacts as follows:

1. That Policy No. 3-27 – Beaver Control and Dam Management be adopted as per Schedule "A", attached to this By-law.
2. That this By-law shall come into full force and effect on the date of passing.

READ and passed in open Council, signed and sealed this 10th day of May, 2021.



MAYOR



CLERK

POLICY MANUAL	Policy No. 3-27
For Municipality of South Dundas	Effective Date: May 10, 2021
Subject: Beaver Control and Dam Management	Department: Environmental Services

Policy Statement:

The Corporation of the Municipality of South Dundas is committed to protecting municipal infrastructure from water movement problems related to beaver activity and to provide the option of trapping and removing beavers on private lands and removing beaver lodges and dam on private lands at a fee for service.

The beaver is not declared a species at risk in Ontario. The Municipality of South Dundas has no legislated duty to provide beaver control on private or provincial land. However beavers are a frequent concern in the Municipality. Heavy spring run-off or excessive summer rain storms can create problems when beavers build dams in watersheds, creeks, and coulees. Any culverts or watersheds where there are trees nearby can become a beaver problem area.

Purpose:

Beaver pose many problems in an expanding human environment. This policy addresses the management of flooding due to beaver dams. It anticipates that such problems will occur to varying degrees from time to time and provides the guidelines required to remain flexible but prevent undue municipal expenses.

Policy

1. Control is associated with the protection of municipal infrastructure on private or public lands.

1.1 The Municipality of South Dundas will remove beaver and/or beaver dams from private property or public lands if the removal serves to protect municipal infrastructure (roads, bridges, culverts, municipal drains).

1.2 Municipal staff will assist internal departments with the removal of beaver dams and clearing of culverts for the protection of municipal infrastructure and public safety. Environmental Services and Transportation will maintain a system of screening of culverts where repeated beaver problems exist.

a) For concerns with municipal infrastructure or public safety, the Municipality is granted authorization to remove beaver dams and control beaver on Municipal controlled lands and public and private lands to which it has access or is granted access to.

b) Beaver lodges will only be removed upon approval of the Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR).

c) Decisions on impact to public infrastructure will be based on the discretion of Environmental and Transportation staff.

d) Hired trappers must be authorized and hold a valid licence under the Province of Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

e) To enter onto private land to complete a site inspection, Municipal personnel must obtain written permission from the owner or lessee through the "Permission to Enter upon Lands for Problem Wildlife Control" form (form b).

f) The Municipality will facilitate contacting a licenced trapper for beaver removal, and a licensed contractor to remove the dam.

2. Control is not associated with the protection of municipal infrastructure and is located on private lands.

2.1 The Municipality of South Dundas will maintain a list of contacts for persons requiring removal of beaver or beaver dams from private property.

2.2 Municipal landowners with beaver-related problems on private land are encouraged to deal with the problems on their own as far as possible.

2.3 Trapping and/or removal of beavers is ultimately the responsibility of the landowner.

3. Control is associated a "natural watercourse" as defined by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans or within a municipal drain.

3.1 Municipal Landowners with beaver concerns on lands located within Department of Fisheries and Oceans designated watercourses are

encouraged to contact the Department of Fisheries and Oceans directly to deal with beaver related problems.

3.2 Municipal Landowners with beaver concerns on lands located near or within a Municipal drain are encouraged to call the Municipal Drainage Superintendent for further site inspection and direction.

3.2 All beaver management work on designated watercourses or Municipal drains must comply with the Fisheries Act, Species at Risk Act, the Drainage Act, and the Public Lands Act.

3.3 Where help is required to alleviate water problems on land adjacent to a Municipal Drain, arrangements will be made by the Drainage Superintendent to remove the beaver, and the associated dam. Applications for site review and beaver control will be accepted year-round and accepted based on a site review by the Drainage Superintendent. No fees will be charged for this service, unless the size of the dam is significant, wherein the costs for dam removal will be billed to the watershed which drains into the associated Municipal drain.

3.4 Beaver Dam removal on Municipal drains will follow the DSAO Best Management Practices for Beaver Dam Removal.

3.5 Beaver Dam removal timelines are dependent on permits the Municipal Drainage Superintendent receives from the Conservation Authority and Ministry of Natural Resources.

3.6 Beaver dam removal is restricted during the following timelines to protect spawning fish and developing eggs and fry. These timelines are based on the drain classification. The Municipal Drainage Superintendent will be responsible for coordinating the work and permits so that it fits within the associated timelines.

Drain Type

Restricted Activity Period

A

September 15th to July 15th

B

March 15th to July 15th

C

March 15th to July 15th

D

October 1st to July 15th

E

March 15th to July 15th

Beaver Control and Dam Management

Private Property Landowner Responsibility



Protective Measures:

- wrap trees with wire
- plant trees and vegetation that beavers do not like such as elderberry, twinberry, and ninebark
- install beaver baffles on culverts
- install electric fencing along stream banks

If Beaver is causing damage you are permitted to:

- capture beavers
- harass beavers
- kill beavers (following applicable laws)
- hire a Licensed trapper
- only farmers on their own land and licenced trappers can kill by trapping devices

If Beaver may cause damage to Municipal infrastructure such as roads or culverts call:

The Municipality of South Dundas
613-543-2673

Municipal Property/Drains or County Property



Call:
The Municipality of South Dundas
613-543-2673 or
mail@southdundas.com

Or
The United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry
613-932-1515 or
info@sdgcounties.ca

Provincial Highway



Call:
The Ministry of Transportation
807-476-2000

Provincial Park or Conservation Authority Land



Call:
South Nation Conservation Authority
613-984-2948
Or
The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
1-800-565-4923

Crown Land



Call:
The Ministry of Natural Resources
1-800-667-1940

Application for Beaver Control and Dam Management- Form A

Applicant/Property Owner Name:	
First:	Last:
Phone:	Email:
Mailing/ Invoice Information:	
Address:	Town:
Postal Code:	Unit/Suite:
Is site address different than the address above? Yes No	
Site address:	Town:
Is this a Perceived Threat to health and safety/municipal infrastructure? Yes No	
Is yes why:	
Have you hired a trapper?	Yes No
What is the name of the Company/Person completing the trapping?	
What is their trapping License number?	
Will you be completing the trapping by yourself ?	Yes No
What method of beaver control will you be utilizing?	Trap/Transport Trap/Kill
Do you want to Municipality to remove the beaver?	Yes No
Do you want the Municipality to remove the dam/lodge?	Yes No
If you want the Municipality to remove the beaver please explain where the beaver is located on the property (draw a map or written description)	
If the Municipality is to remove the dam, the property owner consents to having the material from the dam/lodge left on their property to manage (after removed)	
I consent to having the materials left on my property.	Signature/Initial of Property Owner

If the Municipality is to remove the beaver the property owner must consent to having the Municipality remove the beaver from their property.	
I consent to having the beaver removed from my property	Signature/Initial of Property Owner
If the Municipality is to remove the beaver and/or the beaver dam/lodge the property owner must consent to receiving the invoice*	
I consent to receiving an invoice for the work completed by the Municipality's contractor for the removal of the beaver and/or the beaver dam/lodge on my property	Signature of Property Owner
* If the removal is examined and determined to be essential to protect Municipal infrastructure such as a Municipal drain, road, or culvert, no invoice will be sent.	

Permission to Enter upon Lands for Problem Wildlife Control- Form B

This form permits the Municipality of South Dundas and any of its officials or contractors to enter upon private property for the purpose of the management of problem wildlife control. By signing this consent form the property owner consents to Municipal officials or contractors completing the necessary work to track, locate, trap, remove, and potentially dismantle any problem wildlife and/or their habitat. The property owner also, by signing this form agrees to pay for any associated fees for the tracking, locating, trapping, removing, and dismantling of problem wildlife and their habitat.

The Property owner also shall acknowledge that the Municipality and its contractor shall not be held responsible or liable for any property damage associated with the tracking, locating, trapping, or removing of the problem wildlife, and that the Municipality shall only remove or dismantle the problem wildlife habitat if safe and effective to do so without causing significant property damage such as flooding. For beaver dam removal the property owner will be consulted before removal.

I, _____ property owner of _____

INSERT NAME

INSERT ADDRESS

Consent to the tracking, locating, trapping, removal and/or potential dismantling of problem wildlife and habitat on my property and relieve the Municipality of any property damage associated with the tracking, locating, trapping, removal and/or dismantling (where appropriate) of problem wildlife and its habitat.

PROPERTY OWNER SIGNATURE

DATE

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Application/Consent Filed:		Date Application Reviewed:	
Application Approved		Application Denied	
Contractor		Contractor Start Date	
Contractor Trapping License Number		Contractor work to be completed	
Invoice from Contractor Number		Invoice from Contractor Total	
Invoice to property owner Number		Invoice to property owner Total	
Invoice to Property owner date		Invoice to property owner paid	