

# TOWN OF BRISTOL VT ORDINANCE OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC SAFETY AND PUBLIC POLICY

## Section 1. Skateboards Bicycles or Like Conveyances:

- 1.1 This ordinance applicable to bicycles and skateboards shall apply whenever a bicycle or skateboard is operated upon any highway or street, or any path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles subject to those exceptions stated herein. "Bicycles" as used herein also includes a three wheel bicycle, tricycle, unicycle and any powered / unpowered personal mobility device or wheelchair, or any like conveyance. Skateboard used herein also includes long boards, hover boards, scooters, in-line skates, roller blades or skis or any other like conveyance.
- 1.2 Pedestrians shall have the right of way on all town sidewalks. Failure to yield right of way by person(s) on bicycles or skateboards shall constitute a violation of this ordinance.
- 1.3 Persons with a disability (has or could qualify for a handicap placard) are exempt from any restrictions set forth in this ordinance but must still yield to pedestrians using town sidewalks.
- 1.4 Skateboarding shall be prohibited in the parking lot at the Bristol Shaw's, Rite Aid and the National Bank of Middlebury. Person's operating a skateboard or bicycle on Main Street sidewalks must exercise extra care to avoid a collision with pedestrians exiting from businesses or stepping up onto the curb from Main Street parking, or be in violation of this ordinance. Bicycles must also operate in accordance with State Law as stated in 23 VSA on all public highways in the Town of Bristol or be in violation of this ordinance.
- 1.5 Skateboarding, is prohibited on Mountain Street from Crescent Street to Garfield Street, On Spring Street, on Fitch Ave. and the sidewalks between Fitch and Spring on Mountain Street between the hours of 7:00 am to 9:00 am and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm whenever school is in session.
- 1.6 Skateboarding is prohibited on all privately owned but publicly accessed property when written request is received by the Town of Bristol from the property owner or agent or the property is posted by the property owner. Skateboarding will also be prohibited on the property of Holley Hall, Howden Hall, Bristol Fire Department, Bristol Police Department, The Bristol Town Garage, Lawrence Memorial Library, Town Bandstand, The Fountain and Peace Garden on the Town Park and Veterans Memorial, Mount Abraham Union High School and Bristol Elementary School.
- 1.7 In all cases where a violation occurs the violator (or parent of the violator in the case of a juvenile under age 16) will first be given notice of the violation either verbally or in writing. If prior notice / warning has been given to the violator (or parent of the violator in the case of a juvenile under age 16) then the violator will be charged with violation of this ordinance. In the case of a juvenile, the parent or guardian of the offending juvenile will be responsible for the violation.
- 1.8 In all cases where a violation occurs the enforcement officer may confiscate the conveyance. In cases of a first offense the conveyance shall be returned to the violator (or parent of the violator in the case of a juvenile under age 16) following confirmation no prior violations exist and the ordinance has been explained and a copy given to the violator. In cases of second and subsequent violations the conveyance shall be held and the Town shall maintain a lien on the conveyance until payment is received on the violation or adjudication of the violation is completed.

1.9 Law Enforcement Officers are exempt from the prohibitions of this section relating to bicycles when in the performance of their official duties but in all cases must exercise due care.

**Section 2. Creating Public Disturbance or Inconvenience:**

- 2.1 Persons may not stand on a public sidewalk or roadway or leave items under their control upon a sidewalk or roadway in such a manner as to block passage of the pedestrian on any public sidewalk or motorists on the roadway.
- 2.2 Persons may not urinate or defecate in any public outdoor location. The use of an outdoor or portable toilet facility does not constitute a violation of this section.
- 2.3 Persons may not play stereos, radios or other such devices from a motor vehicle (as defined by VSA 23), which can be heard at a distance of 25 feet from the vehicle.
- 2.4 A person may not be out in a public location nude and shall at least have those parts of their bodies normally covered by a bathing suit clothed while in a public place or visible while outdoors from a public place. A woman breastfeeding her child, irrespective of whether her breast is covered, shall not be considered in a state of nudity. The term “public location” shall mean any location likely to be observed by members of the public and where the public is present or likely to be present, including streets, sidewalks, parks, parking lots and business and commercial establishments; both for profit and not-for-profit and whether open to the public at large or where entrance is limited by a cover charge or membership requirement.

**Enforcement:** This ordinance is enacted by the Bristol Select Board to promote the public health, safety and welfare of the Town under the authority it is granted to regulate as set forth in 24 V.S.A. Section 2291. This ordinance shall constitute a civil ordinance within the meaning of 24 V.S.A. Chapter 59. Issuing officials shall be any certified Law Enforcement Officer or other official authorized by the Select Board.

**Waiver Fee:** An Issuing Municipal Official is authorized to recover a waiver fee, in lieu of a civil penalty, in the following amount for any person who declines to contest a municipal complaint and pays the waiver fee.

First Offense	Warning
Second Offense	\$50
Third and Subsequent Offenses	\$100

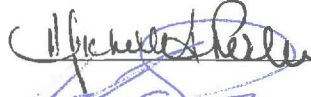


**Civil Penalties:** An Issuing Municipal Official is authorized to recover civil penalties in the following amounts for each violation.


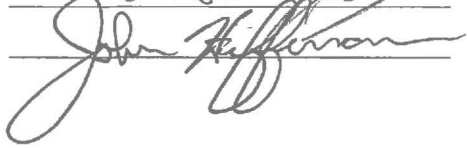
Second Offense	\$100
Third & Subsequent Offenses	\$250

**Section 3. Effective Date:**

This ordinance shall become effective on July 15, 2016, after its adoption by the Bristol Selectboard. If a petition is filed under 24 V.S.A. § 1973, the taking effect of this ordinance shall be governed by that statute.

Adopted by the Bristol Selectboard on May 16, 2016.

 (Chair)  
  


Adoption History:

1. Agenda item at regular Selectboard meeting held on 05-16-16.
2. Read and approved at regular Selectboard meeting on 05-16-16 and entered in the minutes of that meeting which were approved on 5-30-16.
3. Posted in public places on 5-17-16 KEG.
4. Notice of adoption published in the Addison Independent newspaper on 5-30-16 with a notice of the right to petition.
5. Other actions (petitions, etc.)

**Certificate of the Clerk:** I certify this ordinance was adopted as detailed above and filed / recorded on

13<sup>th</sup> day of June 2016

Bristol Town Clerk



**TOWN OF BRISTOL VT ORDINANCE  
OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC SAFETY AND PUBLIC POLICY**

The purpose of this ordinance is to promote public safety, health and welfare by preventing injury, property damage and public disturbance or inconvenience.

**Section 1. Skateboards Bicycles or Like Conveyances:**

1.1 This ordinance applicable to bicycles, skateboards and "like conveyances".

1.2 Pedestrians shall have the right of way on all town sidewalks. Failure to yield right of way by person(s) on bicycles or skateboards shall constitute a violation of this ordinance.

1.3 Persons with a disability (has or could qualify for a handicap placard) are exempt from any restrictions set forth in this ordinance but must still yield to pedestrians using town sidewalks.

1.4 Skateboarding prohibitions for downtown stated. Bicycles downtown must be in compliance with Title 23.

1.5 Skateboarding prohibitions near Bristol Elementary School stated.

1.6 Skateboarding prohibitions on private & public property stated.

1.7 Violations: explains first and subsequent offenses and how enforced / who is responsible.

1.8 In all cases where a violation occurs the enforcement officer may confiscate the conveyance. Explains circumstances of confiscation.

1.9 Law Enforcement Exemptions.

**Section 2. Creating Public Disturbance or Inconvenience:**

2.1 Prohibits blocking sidewalks and roadways.

2.2 Prohibits public urination / defecation.

2.3 Prohibits loud stereos in vehicles.

2.4 Prohibits public nudity with breastfeeding exemption.

**Enforcement:** Explains authority / purpose / enforcement officials.

**Waiver Fee:** An Issuing Municipal Official is authorized to recover a waiver fee, in lieu of a civil penalty, in the following amount for any person who declines to contest a municipal complaint and pays the waiver fee.

First Offense – Warning • Second Offense – \$50 • Third & Subsequent Offenses – \$100

**Civil Penalties:** An Issuing Municipal Official is authorized to recover civil penalties in the following amounts for each violation.

Second Offense – \$100 • Third & Subsequent Offenses – \$250

**Section 3. Effective Date:**

This ordinance shall become effective on July 15, 2016, after its adoption by the Bristol Selectboard, per authority granted via 24 V.S.A § 2291. If a petition is filed under 24 V.S.A. § 1973, the taking effect of this ordinance shall be governed by that statute.