

**WALKER TOWNSHIP
JUNIATA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

Ordinance No. 2-2026

AN ORDINANCE OF WALKER TOWNSHIP, JUNIATA COUNTY, PROVIDING FOR
NOISE CONTROL, REGULATIONS AND THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT
OF THE ORDINANCE.

WHEREAS, Walker Township, Juniata County, Pennsylvania (the "Township") is a second-class Township duly organized and existing under the Second-Class Township Code, 53 P.S. §35101 et seq; and

WHEREAS, Article XVI of the Second-Class Township Code grants to the Board of Supervisors the authority to, among other things, enact ordinances regulating building, housing, property maintenance, health, public safety, curfew and noise pollution and to proscribe certain criminal penalties not to exceed \$1,000.00 per day or imprisonment to the extent allowed by law for the punishment of summary offenses; and

WHEREAS, Article XVI grants the Board of Supervisors the authority to provide for the enforcement of such ordinances in actions brought before district justices in the same manner provided for the enforcement of summary offenses under the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure, or, alternatively, for the enforcement of such ordinances in the court of common pleas; and

WHEREAS, the Supervisors find that it is appropriate to place reasonable regulations upon of noise levels and specific activities within the Township, as such activities have a greater degree of impact and greater potential to disturb and negatively impact the quality of life in the Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Supervisors of Walker Township, Juniata County, Pennsylvania, pursuant to the authority granted to it by the Pennsylvania: Second Class Township Code, hereby ORDAINS AND ENACTS as follows:

ARTICLE I - DEFINITIONS

SECTION 1.01. For the purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meaning given herein. When not inconsistent with the context words used in the present tense included the future, words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number and the word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory.

- A. "TOWNSHIP" is the Township of Walker, Juniata County, Pennsylvania
- B. "OWNER" is a person owning, leasing, occupying or having charge of any premises within the Township.

C. "PERSON" is any natural person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization of any kind.

**ARTICLE II - PROHIBITION OF EXCESSIVE NOISE;
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION**

SECTION 2.01. It shall be unlawful for any person to make, continue, or cause to be made or continued any loud, unnecessary or unusual noise or any noise which either annoys, disturbs, injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace or safety of others, within the limits of the Township, provided that noises created in the normal and reasonable course of a legitimate business activity shall not be deemed illegal.

SECTION 2.02. The following acts, among others, are declared to be loud, disturbing and unnecessary noises in violation of this Ordinance, but said enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive, namely:

A. Horns, signaling devices, etc.: Sounding any horn or signaling device on any automobile, motorcycle, street car or other vehicle on any street or public place of the Township except as a danger warning; creating, by means of any such signaling device, any unreasonably loud or harsh sound; or the sounding of any such device for any unnecessary or unreasonable period of time.

B. Radios, phonographs, television sets, etc.: Using, operating or permitting the playing, use or operation of any radio receiving set, television set, musical instrument, phonograph, tape player or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound in such manner as to disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of the neighboring inhabitants or at any time with louder volume than is necessary for convenient hearing for the person or persons who are in the room or vehicle in which such machine or device is being operated. The operation of any such set, instrument, phonograph, machine or device between the hours of ten o'clock, P.M. and seven o'clock, A.M. in such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of fifty (50) feet from the building, structure or vehicle in which it is located shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this Section.

C. Loud speakers, amplifiers for advertising: Using, operating or permitting the playing, use or operation of any radio receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph, loudspeaker, sound amplifier or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound which is cast upon the public streets for the purpose of commercial advertising or attracting the attention of the public to any building or structure except in the course of legitimate business activity or auction sales.

D. Yelling, shouting, etc.: Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing on the public streets, particularly between the hours of ten o'clock, P.M. and seven o'clock, A.M. or at any time or place so as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of persons in any dwelling, hotel or other type of residence, or of any persons in the vicinity.

E. Exhausts: The discharge into the open air of the exhaust of any stationary internal combustion engine, or motor vehicle except through a muffler or other device which will effectively prevent loud or explosive noises therefrom.

SECTION 2.03. EXEMPTIONS Noise emitted from the following sources shall be exempt from the noise standards specified herein:

- A. All safety signals and warning devices (e.g., intrusion alarms, backup alarms on trucks); authorized vehicles when responding to emergencies (e.g., police, fire, ambulance sirens or any other device used to alert persons to an emergency or used during the conduct of emergency work).
- B. The provision, repair and maintenance of municipal services or public utilities.
- C. Bells and chimes used for religious purposes or in conjunction with national celebrations or public holidays.
- D. Appliances, lawn and garden equipment, chain saws, and power tools in use between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., provided such are operated within the manufacturer's specifications and with all standard noise-reducing equipment in use, unmodified, and in proper operating condition. The use of chain saws and power tools are exempt from the time limitations if used in the case of an emergency (such as a weather event). The Township, at its sole discretion, shall determine what constitutes emergency use.
- E. Heavy construction equipment when being used on a specific short-term project (such as constructing a building; constructing, repairing or cleaning a road; drilling a well; and other similar short-term, specific construction, demolition, or repair projects) in use between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, for the duration of such short-term, specific project, provided such heavy construction equipment is operated within the manufacturer's specifications and with all standard noise-reducing equipment in use, unmodified and in proper operating condition. The time restrictions for this exemption may be waived in the event that the use of said equipment is required for emergency repairs. The Township, at its sole discretion, shall determine what constitutes emergency use.
- F. Air conditioners, fans, heating units and similar comfort devices, provided such are operated within the manufacturer's specifications and with all standard noise-reducing equipment in use, unmodified, and in proper operating condition.
- G. Airplanes, helicopters and normal activities of properly licensed airports;
- H. Musical, recreational and athletic events conducted by or permitted by schools, local government, community or community association or village festivals, or events sponsored by nonprofit organizations.

I. All farm related operations and activities.

SECTION 2.04 Any person violating any of the Sections of this Article II shall, upon conviction thereof before any District Justice, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$100.00 and not more than \$600.00, together with costs of prosecution, and in default of payment thereof, may be sentenced and committed to imprisonment for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days. Said fine and costs may be collected by suit or summary proceedings brought in the name of the Township.

ARTICLE III: GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 3.01. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid for any reason whatsoever, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance which shall remain in full force and effect, and for the purpose of this Section, the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

SECTION 3.02. Any past Resolution or Ordinance, or part or parts thereof, conflicting with any part or parts of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent that they are inconsistent herewith.

This Ordinance is enacted this ___ day of _____, 2026 and shall be effective five (5) days following the said date of enactment.

WALKER TOWNSHIP

David Hostler, Chairman

George Hazard, Jr. Supervisor

Cory Deihl, Supervisor

ATTEST:

Patricia Bowers, Secretary