

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
PROPOSED ORDINANCE
FIRE HYDRANT MAINTENANCE**

An ordinance to amend the Code of the Town of Simsbury entitled: Fire Hydrant Maintenance

Statement of Purpose: to provide for the removal of vegetation and other obstructions from public and private hydrants.

Chapter 90 of the Code of the Town of Simsbury (“the Code”) is hereby amended as follows:

§90-1 Purpose

To provide for the safety and welfare of residents and property owners of the Town of Simsbury by requiring the owner, agent of the owner or the occupant of any property which has a public or private fire hydrant located on or adjacent to that property shall eliminate any obstructions around such fire hydrants and/or automatic fire sprinkler equipment.

§90-2 Definitions

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meaning indicated.

OBSTRUCTION: Any item including but not limited to snow, vegetation, ground cover, fences, mailboxes or such that would impede any use or maintenance by Simsbury Fire District personnel.

PUBLIC FIRE HYDRANTS: Fire hydrants owned by the Simsbury Fire District, Avon Water Company or Tariffville Fire District that are located along a public roadway.

PRIVATE FIRE HYDRANTS: Fire hydrants, to include all automatic fire sprinkler controls, which are owned by private entities but in the case of emergency will be used by Simsbury Fire District personnel.

§90-3 Obstruction of fire hydrants prohibited

The owner, agent of the owner or the occupant of any property which has a public or private fire hydrant located on or adjacent to shall remove, clear away or cause removal or clearing of any obstructions:

- (1) within a three foot (3’) radius of any such hydrant; and
- (2) to an access strip five feet (5’) in width from such hydrant to the street.

§90-4 Enforcement provisions

- A. It shall be the duty of the Police Department, under direction of the Chief of Police, or his or her designee, to enforce this chapter upon notification by the Fire Marshal, Fire Chief or his/her designees, of a violation. It shall be the duty of the Chief of Police or his or her designee to provide notice of all violations to the offending party, which shall set forth the nature of the violation and order of immediate correction thereof.
- B. Any owner, agent of the owner or the occupant of any property which has a public or private fire hydrant located on or adjacent to that property who fails to comply with the provisions of this chapter following notification shall be issued a Town Ordinance Violation ticket for each day that the violation remains unabated after the date of the notification. Each Town Ordinance Violation ticket shall subject the owner, agent of the owner or the occupant to a fine of \$90.00 for each ticket issued, or the maximum penalty provided by the Connecticut General Statute Section 51-164p.
- C. The Town of Simsbury may, at any time after the issuance of the notice of violation and failure to comply by the owner, agent of the owner or the occupant of any property, cause the removal of the obstruction and recover its cost to remove the obstruction in any fashion permitted by law, including the filing of a lien against the subject property, pursuant to the provisions of Connecticut General Statute Section 7-148(c)(6)(C)(v).

Section 2

This ordinance shall take effect on October 13, 2015.

Public Hearing Date: September 16, 2015
Approved by Board of Selectmen: September 16, 2015
Legal Notice Published: September 22, 2015
Filed with the Town Clerk: September 17, 2015

Attest:

Simsbury Town Clerk