

Town of Norway  
Local Law No 1 2025- Noise Ordinance  
Adopted October 8, 2025 by the Town Board of the Town of Norway

**Section 1. Purpose.**

The purpose of this Local Law is to preserve the public health, peace, welfare and good order by suppressing the making, creation or maintenance of excessive, unnecessary, unnatural or unusually loud noises which are prolonged, unusual and unnatural in their time, place and use and which are detrimental to the environment. It is also the purpose for this Local Law to allow all residences of the Town to coexist harmoniously in a manner which is mutually respectful of the interest, rights and obligations of all persons.

**Section 2. Definitions.**

Unless the context otherwise clearly indicates, the words and phrases used in this chapter are defined as follows:

DAYTIME HOURS- the hours between 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. (local time) on any day.

EMERGENCY WORK- work made necessary to protect persons or property to a safe condition following a public calamity or work necessary to protect persons or property from an imminent exposure to danger,

MOTOR VEHICLES- includes but is not limited to automobiles, truck, buses, mopeds, mini bikes, dirt bikes, snowmobiles, ATVs and any other vehicles as defined by the Vehicles and Traffic Law of the State of New York as it may be amended from time to time.

NIGHTTIME HOURS- the hours between 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. (local time) on any day.

WEEKEND HOURS- Friday 6:00 to 11:00 p.m.

NOISE – a level of sound that is injurious or annoying or disturbing to be heard.

PERSON- includes the singular and plural and also any individual, any property owner, and / or lessee, any firm, a corporation, a political subdivision, a government agency, including any agency of the Town of Norway, an association or an organization, including but not limited to officers, directors, employees, agents and/or independent contractors thereof, or any legal entity whatsoever.

SOUND – AMPLIFYING EQUIPMENT – Any machine or device for the amplifications of the human voice, instrumental music or any other sound “sound-amplifying equipment” shall not include standard automobile radios or tape recorders, ipod, when used and heard only by the occupants of the vehicle in which such automobile radio and tape recorded is installed, As used in this chapter, “sound-amplifying equipment” shall not include warning devices on authorized emergency vehicles or horns or other warning devices on any vehicle used only for traffic safety purpose or authorized fire horns or other authorized emergency alarms.

**Section 3 Unreasonable noise prohibited.**

A. No person shall intentionally cause public inconvenience, inconvenience, annoyance or alarm of reckless create a risk thereof by making unreasonable noise or by causing unreasonable noise to be made.

B. For the purpose of implementing and enforcing the standard set forth in Subsection A of this section "unreasonable noise" shall mean any sound created or caused to be created by any person which either annoys, disturbs, injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace or safety of the public or which causes injury to animal life or damages to property or business. Factors to be considered in determination whether unreasonable noise exists in a given situation includes but not limited to any or all of the following:

1. The intensity of the noise.
2. Whether the nature of the noise is usual or unusual.
3. Whether the origin of the noise is associated with nature or human-made activity
4. The intensity of the background noise, if any.
5. The proximity of the noise to sleeping facilities.
6. The nature and use of the area which the noise emanates and of the are within 500 feet of the source of the sound,
7. The time of the day or night the noise occurs.
8. The time duration of the noise.
9. Whether the sound source is temporary.
10. Whether the noise is continuous or impulsive.
11. The volume of the noise.
12. The existence of complaints concerning the noise from persons living or working in difference places or premise who are affected by the noise.

#### **Section 4 Specific Noise Sources.**

A. Purpose of section. The provisions of this section compliment and supplement the other provisions of this chapter and shall be interpreted and applied to accordance with and in accordance with and in addition to and not in lieu of those other provisions.

B. Radios, television sets and similar sound-amplifying devises. It shall be unlawful for an person anywhere in the Town to use or to operate any radio or receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph, television set or any other machine or devise for the production or reproduction of sound or any other sound-amplifying equipment in a loud, annoying or offensive manner such that noise from the devise interferes with the comfort, repose, health, or safety of members of the public within any building, or outside, of a building at a distance of 25 feet or more from the source of such sound or interferes with the conversation of members of the public who are 25 feet or more from the source of the such sound.

C. Parties and other social events.

1. It shall be unlawful for any person in charge of a party or other social event that occurs on any private or public property to allow that party or event to produce noise in loud, annoying or offensive manner such that noise from the party interferes with the comfort, repose, health or safety of members of the public within any building or outside of a building, at a distance of 25 feet or more from the source of such sound.

2. For the purposes of this section, a "person in charge of a party or other social event"

(a) That occurs on any public property shall include the person who obtained permission to utilize that property for that event.

(b) That occurs on private property shall include the person who owns the premises involved and any adult person who lives in or on the premises involved such party or social event.

D. Machinery.

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or repair any machinery, motor vehicle, construction equipment or other equipment, pump, fan, air-conditioning activity in any manner so as to create unreasonable noise as defined in #3 of this chapter. In making such determination with respect to the matters governed by this subsection, additional factors-to be considered shall include:

1. The necessity of the work being done.
2. The ability of the creator of the noise to minimize or reduce the amount of noise created, or to otherwise minimize its adverse effects.

E. Construction during nighttime hours.

1. Except for the purposes specified in section 4E (2) (b) during nighttime hours it shall be unlawful for any person within a residential area or within 500 feet of a residential area to operate construction equipment or perform any outside construction or repair work so as to create noise. Any designated official of the Town of Norway shall give a verbal warning that the violation exists and of the penalties that may result if the violation continues.

2. This section shall not be deemed to prohibit:
  - (a) Work of an emergency nature;
  - (b) Work of a domestic nature on buildings structures or projects being undertaken by a person(s) residing-in such premises; provided that, if any domestic power tool is operated during the nighttime hours, no person shall operate such machinery so as to cause noise within a residential building or across a residential real property boundary where such noise interferes with the comfort; repose, health or safety of members of the public within any building or outside of a building, at 25 feet or more from the source of the sound.

F. Motor Vehicles.

It shall be unlawful for any person to use or allow the use of any motor vehicle in such a manner as to create loud and unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling, or other noise. this includes the noise created from non-factory-installed equipment (not equivalent to original equipment), including mufflers.

G. Animals.

It shall be unlawful to keep any animal which, by causing frequent or long-continued noise, disturbs the comfort or repose of any person in the vicinity.

H. Miscellaneous:

No fireworks that are illegally obtained under New York State Laws.

I. Exceptions and variances.

1. The emission of sound for the purpose of alerting persons to the existence of an emergency; or
2. The emission of sound in the performance of emergency work; or
3. Public speaking and public assembly activities conducted on any public place or public right-of-way; or
4. The emission of sound from agricultural equipment engaged in agricultural or related activities.
5. The emission of sound in the performance of the Town of Norway Highway Equipment for the purpose of daily job descriptions.
6. The emission of sound caused by any reasonable agricultural and/ or operation of any business lawfully operating.

**Section 5. Penalties for offenses.**

- A. Any violation of the Noise Ordinance shall be deemed an offense and upon conviction shall be punishable by a fine of :
1. First offense: \$250.00.
  2. Second offense within one year: \$500.00.
  3. Third offense with one year and each subsequent offense within one year: \$1,000.00.
- B. Each day of violation of any provision of this ordinance shall constitute a separate offense.

**Section 6. Effects on other laws and actions.**

No provisions of this chapter shall be construed to impair any common law or statutory cause of action or legal remedy there from of any person for injury or damages arising from any violation of this ordinances or from other law.

**Section 7. Section 6. Effective Date.**

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.



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## Local Law Filing Instructions

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**PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS  
WHEN FILING LOCAL LAWS IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

1. Each local law shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State within 20 days after its final adoption or approval as required by section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law. The cited statute provides that a local law shall not become effective before it is filed in the office of the Secretary of State.
2. Each local law to be filed shall be an original certified copy.
3. Each local law shall be filed on a form provided by the Department of State. Copies of the local law text must be attached to the form. Only legible copies will be accepted.
4. Submit only the local law form and the text of the local law.
5. In the case of a local law amending a previously enacted local law, the text must be that of the law as amended. Do not include any matter in brackets, with a line through it, italicized or underscored to indicate the changes made. The printed introductory bill number for the proposed local law and explanatory matter must be omitted.
6. The date of filing of a local law is the date on which the local law is placed on file by the Department of State. The Department of State will assign a local law number for indexing purposes. The Department of State's Index Number for a local law may be different from the local law number ascribed by the legislative body of the local government.

It is suggested that municipalities use introductory identifying bill numbers for proposed local laws. After the local law is enacted (and approved by the voters, if required), the local law should then be numbered and submitted to the Department of State for filing.

7. Each copy of a local law filed in the office of the Secretary of State shall have affixed to it a certification by the Clerk of legislative body or other officer designated by the local legislative body. Please complete the appropriate certification on the Department's local law filing form.
8. A copy of each local law may be mailed or delivered to:

NYS Department of State  
State Records Unit  
One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Avenue  
Albany, NY 12231.

**(DO NOT FILE THIS INSTRUCTION SHEET WITH THE LOCAL LAW)**



**Department of State**  
Corporations, State Records & UCC

New York State  
Department of State  
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS,  
STATE RECORDS AND  
UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE  
One Commerce Plaza  
99 Washington Ave.  
Albany, NY 12231-0001  
dos.ny.gov

**Local Law Filing**

Pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law §27

Local Law Number ascribed by the legislative body of the local government listed below:  
\_\_\_\_\_ of the year 20 \_\_\_\_\_

Local Law Title:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Be it enacted by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the  
*(Name of Legislative Body)*

County     City     Town     Village  
*(Select one)*

of \_\_\_\_\_ as follows on the attached pages:  
*(Name of Local Government)*

**For Office Use Only**

Department of State Local Law Index Number: \_\_\_\_\_ of the year 20 \_\_\_\_\_

(The local law number assigned by the Department of State for indexing purposes may be different from the local law number ascribed by the legislative body of the local government.)

# Local Law Filing

(Complete the certification in the paragraph that applies to the filing of this local law and strike out that which is not applicable.)

## 1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto ascribed as local law number \_\_\_\_\_ of 20\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_ in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

*(Name of Legislative Body)*

## 2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval, no disapproval or repassage after disapproval by the Elective Chief Executive Officer\*.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, ascribed as local law number \_\_\_\_\_ of 20\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_ and was (approved)(not approved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_ in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

*(Name of Legislative Body)*

*(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)*

## 3. (Final adoption by referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, ascribed as local law number \_\_\_\_\_ of 20\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_ and was (approved)(not approved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_.

*(Name of Legislative Body)*

*(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)*

Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a (mandatory)(permissive) referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the (general)(special)(annual) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_ in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

## 4. (Subject to permissive referendum and final adoption because no valid petition was filed requesting referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, ascribed as local law number \_\_\_\_\_ of 20\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_ and was (approved)(not approved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_. Such local law was subject to permissive referendum and no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_ in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

*(Name of Legislative Body)*

*(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)*

\* Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairperson of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village, or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with the power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

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**Local Law Filing**

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**5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, ascribed as local law number \_\_\_\_\_ of 20 \_\_\_\_ of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ having submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of Section (36)(37) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the (special)(general) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_ became operative.

**6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed thereto, ascribed as local law number \_\_\_\_\_ of 20 \_\_\_\_ of the County of \_\_\_\_\_ State of New York, having been submitted to the electors at the General Election of November \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_ pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.

**(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)**

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in the paragraph \_\_\_\_\_ above.

(Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the county legislative body, City, Town or Village Clerk or officer designated by local legislative body

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)