



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
County of Clearfield

**MOSHANNON VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
JOINT PROPERTY MAINTENANCE ORDINANCE**

**ORDINANCE No. 2015-12-3**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS, CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA FINDS THAT THE REMOVAL OF NUISANCES IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE CITIZENS OF MORRIS TOWNSHIP AND THAT REMOVAL OF NUISANCES ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY PROMOTES THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF ALL RESIDENTS OF MORRIS TOWNSHIP.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, be it Enacted and Ordained** by Morris Township, County of Clearfield, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, that the following be adopted and that Morris Township may institute proceedings under this Section by the issuance of a "notice of violation letter", assessing a civil penalty for each offense, and provide the parties in violation of said Code section the opportunity to abate the violation and pay said civil penalty in lieu of the institution of proceedings and the imposition of the other stated penalties set forth herein. Such civil penalties shall be in accordance with Exhibit "A" - Violation & Civil Penalty Sheet.

Morris Township may institute proceedings under this section by the issuance of a "notice of violation," assessing a civil penalty for each offense, and provide the parties in violation of said Code section the reasonable opportunity to abate the violation and pay said civil penalty in lieu of the institution of proceedings and the imposition of the other stated penalties set forth herein. A separate offense shall be deemed committed upon each calendar day during or on which a violation occurs or continues to occur. A Citation may be filed against the violating party in the District Court after Thirty (30) days without payment, without abatement of the violation or per the discretion of the Municipal Entity and its Officers or Representatives.

In approving the aforementioned ordinance, Morris Township supports the establishment of the Moshannon Valley Council of Government's Joint Property Maintenance Program, and Morris Township hereby approves the Moshannon Valley Council of Governments ("MVCOG") to administer said Joint Enforcement Program as herein described and authorizes the MVCOG to take any additional steps or execute any related documents necessary to enforce said program.

**SECTION 1. Definitions**

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context.

- A. **ABATEMENT** - To suppress or end a nuisance.
- B. **BUILDING** - An independent structure having a roof supported by columns or walls resting on its own foundation. Includes dwelling, garage, barn, stable, shed, greenhouse, mobile home, plant, factory, warehouse, school or similar structure.
- C. **CONDEMN**- To adjudge unfit for occupancy.
- D. **DANGEROUS BUILDING or STRUCTURE** - Buildings or structures which have any or all of the following defects shall be deemed "dangerous":
- 1) Those which have been damaged by fire, wind or other causes so as to have become dangerous to life, safety, or the general welfare of the occupants or the public;
  - 2) Those which are so damaged, dilapidated, decayed, unsafe, unsanitary or which so utterly fail to provide the amenities essential to decent living that they are unfit for human habitation or are likely to cause sickness or disease, so as to work injury to the health, safety or general welfare of the occupants or the public;
  - 3) Those which are neglected, damaged, dilapidated, unsecured or abandoned so as to become an attractive nuisance to children or others who might enter the building or structure to their danger;
  - 4) Those which have parts thereof which are so attached that they may fall and injure members of the public or property.
- E. **DANGEROUS PREMISES** - Any premises or property that has an unreasonable accumulation of rubbish or garbage thereon, or there is a significant infestation of insects, rodents, vermin and/or other pests, or that has a physical condition upon the land, whether man-made or not, that possesses a significant risk of injury to any person whether on or off the property.
- F. **DETERIORATION**- To weaken, disintegrate, corrode, rust or decay and lose effectiveness.
- G. **DWELLING** - A building used or occupied, or intended to be used or occupied, in whole or in part, as the home or residence of 1 or more persons.
- H. **EXTERIOR PROPERTY**- The open space on the premises and on adjoining property under the control of owners or operators of such premises.
- I. **GARBAGE**- The animal or vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food.
- J. **IMMINENT DANGER**- A condition which could cause serious or life-threatening injury or death at any time.

