

Resident Responsibilities And City Ordinances

The City of Brooklet has ordinances intended to protect the rights and privileges of all residents of Brooklet. In neighborhoods made up of young adults, families, and senior citizens, the observance of these laws is key to creating harmony among residents. The Brooklet Police Department and Code Enforcement Officers will frequently patrol and strictly enforce City ordinances. Individuals violating the laws regarding parking, alcohol consumption, disorderly conduct, noise, litter/trash, pets, and, or who otherwise create a public nuisance, will be penalized.

Drinking in public and public drunkenness.

- a) *Drinking in public.* It shall be unlawful for any person to consume any spirituous malt or alcoholic beverage in or upon any street, alley, sidewalk, or other public way or place in the city, or within any public building.
- b) *Public intoxication.* It shall be unlawful for any person to be and appear in an intoxicated condition in any public place within the city, including, but not limited to, sidewalks, parks, squares, streets, public buildings, or other public places, or within the curtilage of any private residence not his or her own other than by invitation of the owner or lawful occupant, which condition is made manifest by boisterousness, by indecent condition or act, or by vulgar, profane, loud, or unbecoming language, or by acting in such a way as to endanger his or her life or safety, or that of any other person or persons.
- c) *Penalty.* Any violation of this section shall be punishable in accordance with the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brooklet.

Trash and weeds.

- a) It shall be unlawful for any person owning or occupying any lot, tract, parcel of land or premises within the city to permit to grow thereon weeds or noxious vegetation to an extent which might endanger the public health or is unsightly.
- b) It shall be unlawful for any person to maintain, cause or permit uncut grass, shrubs, bushes or weeds on any property under such circumstances that the grass or weeds are breeding places for insects, rodents or reptiles or is a fire hazard.

Discharge of weapons and projectiles.

- a) *Firearms and bows and arrows.*
 - 1) No person shall discharge any gun, pistol or other firearm or bow and arrow without written permission from the chief of police containing a statement as to the duration of such permission and a statement as to the purpose and circumstances for which such permission is granted. Permission may be granted for such purposes which shall include, but not be limited to, the disposal of poisonous and otherwise harmful snakes; the disposal of squirrels which are causing health hazards or damage to property; and the disposal of other vermin which are harmful to health or property. Permission shall only be granted to those persons who, in the sole discretion of the chief of police, are responsible adults.
 - 2) This subsection shall not apply to:

- a. Any authorized federal, state, county or municipal officer in the legitimate pursuit of his duties nor to one exercising his right of self-defense as provided for in O.C.G.A. §§ 16-3-21, 16-3-23, 16-3-23.1, 16-3-24 and 16-3-24.1.
 - b. Archery classes conducted under the supervision of the county board of education or its duly authorized personnel.
- b) *Air guns and slingshots.* No person under the age of 18 years shall discharge any air gun or slingshot within the city without being under the direct supervision of an adult.

Fireworks prohibited.

Fireworks of any kind shall not be shot on the streets or roads of the city.

Handbills and advertising matter.

It shall be unlawful for any person to tack, post or nail any paper, metal, wood or other signs for advertising material of any character on any telegraph, telephone or electric light pole, on any street or alley within the city.

Noise

Brooklet has a noise ordinance that applies to all areas of the city. It applies to the sound generated within an apartment or single property, as well as to amplified stereo sound in automobiles. It applies to indoor and outdoor sound. It also applies to animals that, by habitually howling, barking, or crying, disturb nearby residents. Anyone who wants to exceed the allowed decibel level must apply for a permit. The use of outdoor sound amplifying equipment requires a permit to exceed and is issued by the City of Brooklet. Violation of the City of Brooklet Noise Ordinance will result in a \$50 citation.

Discarded, dismantled vehicles on public or private property.

- a) *Unlawful when constituting health hazard or unsightly nuisance.* It shall be unlawful for any person to have in his possession or on his premises, or on any street or land in the city, any discarded, dismantled, wrecked, scrapped, ruined or junked motor vehicle or parts thereof; and the city, when such motor vehicles are in such condition that they constitute a health hazard or unsightly nuisance, may remove and dispose of such motor vehicles notwithstanding the fact that such motor vehicles may be located upon private property.
- b) *Removal by city; sale; money exceeding expenses to go to owner.* When the city, in its discretion, determines that any vehicle in the condition set out in subsection (a) of this section should be removed, the city shall cause such vehicle to be moved and sold. If the vehicle has any monetary value, the proceeds received from such sale that exceed the cost of wrecker service and other expenses incidental to the moving of such vehicle shall be given to the owner of such vehicle upon his application for such funds at any time within 30 days after the removal of such vehicle.
- c) *Unclaimed funds.* If the owner of the vehicle is unknown, or any funds for the sale of the vehicle remain in the hands of the city, and no application is made by the owner within 30 days from the date of its seizure, the funds shall be forfeited and become the property of the city. The city will give notice to the public of any funds remaining in its hands by publication of notice in one issue of the official organ of the county on a yearly basis.
- d) *Exception.* Nothing contained in this section shall be deemed to apply to any such motor vehicle which shall be located within the premises of any junkyard complying with the laws of this state relating to the licensing and regulating of motor vehicle junkyards.

Riding bicycles, roller-skating and skateboarding upon sidewalks prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person to roller-skate, rollerblade, ride a skateboard, or ride a bicycle on any public sidewalk located within the city.

Coasters, roller-skates and similar devices; use restricted.

No person upon roller-skates, or riding in or by means of any coaster, toy vehicle, or similar device, shall go upon any roadway except while crossing a street on a crosswalk, and except upon streets set aside as play streets when and as authorized by ordinance of the city.

Go-carts and similar vehicles; use prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate on the streets or sidewalks of the city any form of gasoline powered vehicle, commonly called a go-cart or any other vehicle having such shape and dimensions, power and other characteristics of the go-cart type of vehicle, the same being described in a general way as having a flat platform for a body with no hood or fenders and powered by one or more small air-cooled gasoline motors.

No parking.

A no parking ordinance which was recommended by the state highway department of transportation was adopted for the grocery store/service station located at the Northeast intersection of Cromley Road and State Highway 26 (U.S. 80). The no parking will apply to the shoulder of Highway 26 between the curb and the pavement edge.

Trees, shrubbery, branches, yard trimmings, etc. removed by contractor.

All individuals, firms, businesses, partnerships, proprietorships or corporations engaged in the business of yard maintenance, landscaping, nursery operation or in the business of trimming or removing trees, shrubbery, or similar growth, who shall contract with the property owner, the owner's agent or occupant to perform services on the property shall remove from the property all yard trimmings, sawdust, branches, stumps and all portions of the byproducts of the services performed, as well as all rubbish associated therewith including rocks, concrete, dirt and trimmings.

Removal for compensation.

It shall be unlawful for any firm, partnership, proprietorship or corporation to trim trees or bushes, do landscaping or yard work for compensation within the city unless the byproduct from those services is immediately removed from the premises and placed or deposited by the contractor in the city designated landfill or hauling station. Compensation shall be interpreted to include receiving as compensation the wood, limbs and other residue from such trimming and cutting. Any form of compensation shall place the burden of disposal directly upon the individual or contractor performing the task.

Preparation for collection of yard trash.

Yard trash resulting from work where a contractor or person receiving compensation is not involved, shall be placed on the street curb in order that it may be removed without the collector going into the yard or place of business, and any exceptions to this subsection shall be determined at the discretion of the city clerk

or his/her designee. The city council shall establish fixed days for the removal of this material and so publish the schedule. Yard trash for street pick up should be separated as follows:

- 1) Leaves, straw, grass clippings;
- 2) Limbs with a maximum of five inches in diameter, placed with butts toward street;
- 3) Shrubbery trimmings and vines.

Maintenance of property.

- a) *Property.* All owners or occupants of property shall maintain their property in a litter-free condition.
- b) *Sweeping into sidewalks or streets.* No person shall sweep into or deposit in any street or sidewalk the accumulation of litter from any building or property.

Dangerous animals.

- a) It shall be unlawful for any person to permit any dangerous or vicious animal of any kind to run at large within the city.
- b) The police officers of the city shall be authorized to use such force as is necessary to prevent any such dangerous or vicious animal from causing harm to any person or property.

Strays.

It shall be unlawful for any person to permit any cattle, horses, swine, sheep, goats, or poultry to run at large in the city. If any such animal is found to be running at large in any public place in the city, it shall be impounded in the manner provided in this chapter.

Running at large prohibited; removal of excreta.

It shall be unlawful for dogs to run at large in the city, and all owners, harbors and keepers of dogs are hereby required to keep their dogs in a safe enclosure to prevent their running at large. If the dogs are carried outside the enclosure they must be kept on a leash and the leash must be held by an individual at all times. The owner of each dog or the person having control of a dog on public property or on private property in which the owner of the dog has no ownership interest, shall be responsible for the immediate removal of any and all excreta deposited by any such dog on public property or on private property in the City of Brooklet in which the owner of such dog has no ownership interest.

Annual rabies treatment.

- a) *Required.* All persons residing within the city limits who own, have, and keep dogs within said city limits, are hereby required to have said dogs treated annually for rabies by some licensed veterinarian.
- b) *Failure of owner to have dog treated.* If the owner of said dog, after ten days' notice to him, fails or refuses to have his dog so treated, the chief of police or any member of the police department of the city shall impound said dog in accordance with section 10-5 and said dog shall be treated for all intents and purposes as an animal running at large.
- c) *Tag required.* The owner of any dog shall be required to secure a tag from the veterinarian treating said dog.

Number permitted to be kept; location.

No person shall be permitted to keep, possess, or have more than three dogs within the city limits within 300 yards of the residence of said owner or within 300 yards of the residence of any other citizen in the city.

Building permit required.

A building permit, or a sign permit in [the] case of a sign, is required in advance of the initiation of construction, erection, moving, or alteration of any building or structure or sign. No building permit or sign permit shall be issued except in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance; however, a building permit issued before the adoption of this ordinance shall remain valid with the same qualifications as issued under this ordinance. No building permit shall be issued until utility and drainage plans have been prepared and approved by a licensed professional engineer, if in the opinion of the zoning administrator or the building inspector utility and/or drainage may be a problem.

Sign permits.

The zoning administrator shall receive applications for the construction of signs, as required by this ordinance. Such applications shall follow the same forms as required for building permits, and shall contain information required by this ordinance in article VIII. The zoning administrator shall process such sign applications. The city clerk shall issue sign permits and sign permit numbers for proposed signs which comply with the requirements of this ordinance upon approval by the zoning administrator.

Please visit https://library.municode.com/ga/brooklet/codes/code_of_ordinances to review all ordinances for the City of Brooklet.