Town of Pittsfield
Board of Selectmen
Town Hall, 85 Main Street
Pittsfield, NH 03263

Noise Ordinance

In accordance with the provisions of New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, Chapter 31, Section 39, authorizing the Town of Pittsfield to enact bylaws, the following Ordinance is adopted by the annual Town Meeting.

Section 1. Purpose. The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Pittsfield ordains that it is in the public interest and hereby establishes that it is public policy to regulate unnecessary noise.

Section 2. Unnecessary Noise Prohibited. No person shall operate any motor vehicle in the Town of Pittsfield so as to make any loud, or unusual, or unnecessary noise as defined within this Ordinance.

Section 3. Definitions. The following words shall have the following meanings as used in this Ordinance.

VEHICLE: Shall mean and include, Antique Motor Vehicle or Motorcycle; Automobile Transporter; Automobile Transporter Stringer Steered; Automobile Utility Trailer; Bus; Combination Vehicle; Commercial Motor Vehicle; Emergency Vehicle; Full Trailer; Heavy Truck; Highway Building Equipment; Light Truck; Mixed Use School Bus; Moped; Motor Truck; Motor Vehicle; Motorcycle; Motor Driven Cycle; Off Highways Recreational Vehicle; OHRV; Private Passenger Vehicle; Recreation Vehicle; School Bus; Semi-Trailer; Sidecar; Single unit Vehicle; Ski Area Vehicles; Snow Traveling Vehicle; Special Motor Equipment; Street Rod; Tractor; Tractor Trailer; Trailer; Truck; Truck-Tractor; Vehicle; Any Water Vehicle; all as defined in RSA 259.

(b) WAY: Way shall mean a way as defined in RSA 259:125, I & II.

(c) LOUD, UNUSUAL or UNNECESSARY NOISE. Shall include any noise occasioned by any one or more of the following actions of or by the operator of any motor vehicle:

1. Misuse of power exceeding the tire traction limits in acceleration, sometimes known as "peeling rubber; or

2. Misuse of braking power exceeding tire traction limits in deceleration where there is no emergency; or
a. No person shall play a radio, CD recorder, cassette player, or musical instrument so loud as to annoying to others in the surrounding area. Example, next house or yard; or

3. Rapid acceleration by means of quick upshifting of transmission gears with either clutch or manual downshifting of transmission gears with either clutch or manual transmission, or automatic transmission; or

4. Rapid deceleration by means of quick downshifting of transmission gears with either clutch or manual transmission, or automatic transmission; or

5. Racing engines by manipulation of the accelerator, gas pedal, or carburetor or gear selection, whether the vehicle is either in motion, or standing still; or

6. The excessive blowing of any horn, except as a warning signal, or the use of any other noise making device, whether the vehicle is either in motion, or standing still; or

7. The playing of radios, CD-cassette players, so loud as to be annoying to others in the next car, or their yard or home.

Section 4. Validity. If any section, or part of a section, or paragraph of this ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, it shall not be held to invalidate or impair the validity, force or effect of any other section, or sections, or part of a section or paragraph of this Ordinance.

Section 5. Penalty. Any person found to be in violation of this Ordinance, shall be guilty of a violation and upon conviction, shall be fined not more that $250.00 for each such offense, such sums to insure to such uses as the Town may direct.

Section 6. Effective. This Ordinance shall take effect upon it's passage.

PASSAGE: This ordinance was adopted by a vote of the March 18th, 2000 Annual Town Meeting, under Article 23 of the Warrant.