

NOISE BY LAW EXEMPTION REQUEST
PRNBR20230000259
Georgian Hills Vineyards 496350 Grey Road 2, Clarksburg

Georgian Hills Vineyard 2023 Noise By-law Relief Requests, FAF.23.081 May 29th Council Meeting.

Amanda Jerome and Robert Ketchin wish to address the Council and Committee of the Whole and update everyone on the recent outcomes of testing for amplified sound with the staff of TBM Law Enforcement Team.

Amanda would like to share on our progress made, how we plan to monitor and reduce amplified sound for this coming year and how we intend to remain compliant at all times within the sound bylaws of the Blue Mountains.

Robert would like to ask that the Committee and Council support us in making this year a transition "test" year and allow us the opportunity to prove we can do this by working together with the TBM Law Enforcement team and with our neighbours in working out a suitable and amicable solution.

We ask that special consideration still be given for Noise ByLaw Relief until 11:59pm for specific weddings on the understanding that Georgian Hills has demonstrated and will continue to demonstrate a willingness and the ability to measure and manage amplified sound at all times. We would like to re-emphasise that this is not a "Late Night" issue ... it is an "Amplified Sound Management" issue. PLEASE allow us the opportunity to continue with our business plans and give us the chance to prove that we can manage amplified sound at our weddings and events.

Thank you!

Robert Ketchin

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May 25, 2023

Town of the Blue Mountains
Council of the Whole
The Blue Mountains, ON

Subject: Request for Approval to Exempt the Noise Bylaw for a Summer of Weddings

Dear Council of the Whole and Mayor,

First and foremost, thank you for your time on May 15 to discuss and approve our preliminary request for the extension of the noise bylaw for 18 of our summer events in 2023.

Our community has been blessed with this incredible wedding venue, and there are more on the horizon that attract couples from both within and outside our town. These venues provide employment opportunities, boost local businesses, and contribute to the overall economic growth of our community.

We have taken the feedback from the last council meeting and are working together with the staff and neighbours to find a common ground to mitigate the amplified sounds coming from our venue. We are grateful for the approval of these events with noise to be capped at 11pm however the existing approval poses challenges for the plans our couples already have in place for this season of weddings given that we've been planning business as usual for this season with a midnight shut off as we had not received any indication of noise issues for 6 years in this event business operation. We humbly request the extension of the noise bylaw for the upcoming summer season to accommodate the joyful celebrations of weddings with select events to be granted an extension to 11:59pm.

With the challenges set forth with local accommodations, guests are not able to check-in until 4pm. This pushes the couples to begin their event by 4:30pm or 5pm. With the amount of planning, effort, and investment that goes into their wedding day, that additional hour at the end of the night is incredibly valuable to their overall experience as this is when they truly wind down from the whirlwind magic of the day to enjoy that last bit of time with their friends and family.

The following lists the full dates of events for 2023 that are booked and were submitted for the May 15 Town Council review.

DATE	TIME (MUSIC PLAYING)	MUSIC TYPE	GUEST COUNT
Friday, June 2	4pm to 11:30pm	Personal Speakers	80
Saturday, June 10	4pm to 11pm	Personal Speakers	30
Saturday, June 17	4:30pm to 12am	BAND to 11pm DJ to 12am	160
Saturday, June 24	4:30pm to 12am	DJ	100
Sunday, June 25	2pm to 5pm	CHARITY EVENT	100
Saturday, July 1	3pm to 12am	DJ	90
Friday, July 7	5pm to 12am	BAND to 11pm DJ to 12am	140
Saturday, July 8	4:30pm to 12am	DJ	90
Saturday, July 15	4pm to 12am	DJ	160
Saturday, July 22	11am to 4pm	DJ	60
Sunday, July 23	12pm to 5pm	CHARITY EVENT	150
Saturday, July 29	4:30pm to 12am	BAND to 11pm DJ to 12am	70
Saturday, August 5	4:30pm to 12am	DJ	60
Sunday, August 6	3:30pm to 12am	Personal Speakers	80
Saturday, August 12	4pm to 8pm	DJ – dinner music	30
Friday, August 18	4:30pm to 12am	DJ	55
Saturday, August 19	5pm to 12am	BAND to 11pm DJ to 12am	140
Friday, August 25	4:30pm to 12am	BAND to 11pm DJ to 12am	150
Saturday, September 2	4pm to 12am	BAND to 11pm DJ to 12am	160
Friday, September 8, 2023	6pm to 12am	DJ	100
Saturday, Sept 9, 2023	5pm to 12am	DJ	60
Saturday, Sept 16, 2023	4pm to 12am	DJ	60

The items highlighted in yellow will have band sound from approximately 9pm to 11pm. DJ music without subwoofer or base, with volume reduced would play from 11pm to 11:59pm.

The items highlighted in green will have DJ sound only for the duration of the night. This sound is the most manageable and we will reduce the subwoofer, base, and volume in an incremental basis from 10pm to 11pm with amplified sound being greatly reduced from 11pm to 11:59pm.

Therefore, we kindly request the Town Council to consider extending the previously approved exemption during the summer season to accommodate these weddings. This temporary

extension will allow Georgian Hills to host celebrations with outdoor amplified music until 11:59pm on Fridays and Saturdays. We believe that this adjustment will strike a balance between respecting the needs and preferences of engaged couples and ensuring the peaceful coexistence of our community.

In making this request, we acknowledge the importance of maintaining a peaceful environment for our residents. We propose that the extended noise bylaw be accompanied by reasonable conditions to mitigate potential disturbances, such as:

- the use of Noise Aware with an agreed upon maximum decibel level
- sound barriers and buffers such as the tent walls to be in place by 10pm
- monitoring the use of microphones such as:
 - no use of microphone after 9pm for speeches
 - no use of microphone after 11pm for live bands
- live bands to be completely turned off by 11pm
- allow open communication with our neighbours to connect us should a noise disturbance occur so this can be managed immediately and expediently.
- monitoring of the music levels by our DJ and event manager

We are committed to working closely with the Town Council, other relevant authorities, and our neighbours to ensure that noise levels are kept within reasonable limits and any concerns are promptly addressed. We are confident that with open communication and a collaborative approach, we can find a reasonable compromise that respects the rights and interests of both wedding celebrants and residents.

Kindly note that this request is specific for our 2023 season. We wish to continue to work with Town Council and relevant authorities to develop a blanket approval as we begin to plan our 2024 and beyond events. Such plan will include the involvement of testing real life event noise at our 2023 events alongside providing GHV and my event team a chance at proving our efforts in working to reduce the disturbances felt by our neighbours.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to the opportunity to discuss this matter further and work towards a favorable resolution.

Yours sincerely,

Amanda Jerome
Amanda Jerome Events