

VILLAGE OF WATKINS GLEN

LOCAL LAW NO. 4 OF 2026

A LOCAL LAW REGULATING VENDORS, PEDDLERS, AND SOLICITORS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF WATKINS GLEN

Be it enacted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Watkins Glen as follows:

SECTION 1. TITLE

This Local Law shall be known as the “**Vendor and Peddler Regulation Law of the Village of Watkins Glen.**”

SECTION 2. PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of this Local Law is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of residents and visitors of the Village by regulating vending, peddling, hawking, and soliciting activities conducted within public spaces, streets, and rights-of-way. The intent is to ensure that such activities are compatible with public use of streets and sidewalks, preserve neighborhood character, and prevent fraud, obstruction, or undue annoyance to the public.

SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS

As used in this Local Law, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

1. **Vendor or Peddler** – means any person, whether principal or agent, who engages in the business of selling, offering for sale, or soliciting the purchase of goods, wares, merchandise, food, beverages, or services within the Village of Watkins Glen, whether from a fixed location, from a vehicle, cart, stand, or by house-to-house solicitation, and whether operating on public or private property.
2. **Solicitor** – Any person who seeks to obtain subscriptions, donations, or contributions of money or property, or who attempts to sell services, memberships, or similar intangible items.

3. **Fixed Location Vendor** – A person operating from a stationary stand, cart, or vehicle located on public property or in a public right-of-way.
 4. **Mobile Vendor** – A person operating from a moving vehicle, cart, or other conveyance.
 5. **Special Event Vendor** means a vendor operating as part of a Village-approved public event or festival under permit from the Village.
 6. **Public Property** Any street, sidewalk, park, public parking lot, or other property owned, leased, or controlled by the Village of Watkins Glen.
 7. **Private Property** means any land, parking lot, driveway, or premises owned by a private person or entity.
 8. **Person** includes any individual, partnership, corporation, association, or other entity.
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SECTION 4. PERMIT REQUIRED

1. **General Rule:** No person shall act as a vendor, peddler, or solicitor within the Village without first obtaining a Vendor's Permit issued by the Village Clerk pursuant to this Local Law.
 2. **Separate Permits Required:** A separate Permit shall be required for each individual and each vehicle, cart, or stand used.
 3. **Permits Non-transferable:** Permits shall not be transferable.
 4. **Applicability to Private Property.**
 - (a) Vendors operating on **private property** are subject to this law to the same extent as those operating on public property.
 - (b) No vendor shall conduct business on private property without the express written consent of the property owner or lawful occupant, which shall be filed with the license application.
 - (c) The Village's approval of a license shall not constitute approval to occupy or use any private property without such consent.
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SECTION 5. APPLICATION AND LICENSE FEE.

1. Applications shall be filed with the Village Clerk on forms provided by the Village on forms prescribed by resolution of the Village Board and shall include:
 - o Applicant's full name, residence, email address, and business address;
 - o Description of goods, wares, or services to be sold;
 - o Vehicle or cart description and Permit plate number (if applicable);
 - o Proposed locations and times of operation;
 - o A copy of the applicant's valid New York State sales tax certificate (if applicable);
 - o Written permission from the property owner if operating on private property; and
 - o Proof of general liability insurance naming the Village of Watkins Glen as additional insured, with limits of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

2. Each application shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee as established by resolution of the Village Board.
 3. Permits shall be valid for the period stated on the permit and may be renewed upon payment of the renewal fee.
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SECTION 6. DURATION OF PERMIT

Permits shall be valid for a period of one (1) year from the date of issuance unless revoked or suspended sooner.

Special event Permits may be issued for shorter periods corresponding to the event.

SECTION 7. EXEMPTIONS

This Local Law shall not apply to:

1. Persons selling newspapers or periodicals;
 2. Sales by charitable, religious, or civic organizations conducted on property they own or control.
 3. Farmers or gardeners selling their own produce;
 4. Persons delivering goods previously ordered or making regular route deliveries;
 5. Merchants or business owners operating from a fixed business location within the Village;
 6. Vendors operating under an exclusive contract with the Village for a specific public location or event.
 7. Persons participating in a Village-approved public event under the sponsorship of a nonprofit organization, provided that event organizers obtain necessary permits;
 8. Children under 18 years of age engaged in fundraising for schools, scouting, or youth organizations.
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SECTION 8. INSURANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION

1. Every applicant shall file with the Village Clerk a certificate of insurance evidencing general liability coverage in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence / \$2,000,000 aggregate, naming the Village of Watkins Glen as an Additional Insured.
 2. Each permitted shall agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Village, its officers, employees, and agents from any and all claims arising from or related to the licensed activity.
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SECTION 9. REGULATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

1. Vendors shall not obstruct sidewalks, driveways, building entrances or traffic flow.
 2. Vendors shall not make loud noises, use amplification, or engage in aggressive solicitation.
 3. Vendors shall maintain their vending area in a clean and orderly condition and remove all trash daily.
 4. Vendors shall comply with all parking and traffic laws, health codes, and fire safety requirements, including requirements for tents, temporary special event structures and other membrane structures.
 5. Vendors shall display their Permit prominently at all times while engaged in vending or soliciting.
 6. Vendors on private property shall operate only within the area authorized by the property owner and shall not create traffic or safety hazards.
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SECTION 10. HOURS OF OPERATION

Unless otherwise authorized by the Village Board, vending shall be permitted only between the hours of **8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.**

SECTION 11. SPECIAL EVENT VENDORS

The Village Clerk may issue temporary licenses for vendors participating in events approved by the Village Board. Such vendors shall comply with all conditions imposed by the event sponsor and the Village.

SECTION 12. SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION

1. The Village Clerk may suspend or revoke a Permit for violation of this Local Law, for fraud or misrepresentation, or for conduct detrimental to the public welfare.
2. Notice of suspension or revocation shall be given in writing, stating the reasons therefore.
3. The decision of the Clerk may be appealed to the Board of Trustees within ten (10) days of notice of revocation.

SECTION 13. ENFORCEMENT; PENALTIES

1. This Local Law shall be enforced by the Watkins Glen Police Department, the Code Enforcement Officer, the Village Clerk, and/or such other officials as may be specifically designated by the Board.
2. Any person who violates any provision of this Local Law shall be subject to:
 - o A fine not exceeding \$250 or imprisonment not exceeding 15 days, or both, for each offense.
 - o Each day's violation shall constitute a separate offense.
3. In addition to criminal penalties, the Village may pursue civil remedies, including injunction or revocation of Permit.

SECTION 14. SEVERABILITY

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, or part of this Local Law shall be adjudged invalid, such judgment shall not affect or invalidate the remainder thereof.

SECTION 14. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State of the State of New York in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law.
