

## Chris Taggart

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**From:** R. Foehl <moremines@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2020 7:00 AM  
**To:** Chris A. Hoffman; Jeff Burrows; Greg Chilcott; Chris Taggart  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] noise/dog laws

Hello:

My name is Rene Foehl and I am a resident of Florence in Ravalli County. I am contacting you because there seems to be no county noise ordinance against excessive noise and/or barking dogs. I know that this issue has been raised before in Ravalli County, and it seems that nothing has been done to date. As the county develops and fills in, with homes on ever-smaller lots, it appears that perhaps now is an appropriate time to consider a countywide noise ordinance.

I am a homeowner who is surrounded by residents who own dogs. Although not unusual in the county, the neglect of these animals by their owners causes them to bark all day and well into the night (midnight - 2 AM is not uncommon). Sometimes the barking continues all night long when the neighbors leave for the weekend. I live on a small residential lot, and several of my neighbors have 2-4 large dogs; it can be difficult to sleep, watch television, read, or talk on the phone when 6-10 dogs are barking at once. The noise is greatly affecting our quality of life, and repeated requests to the neighbors to exercise some control of their animals have been ignored. I called the Ravalli County Sheriff's Department, and an officer told me that there is no noise ordinance and 'barking is what dogs do'; in short, I have no options.

I am therefore contacting you to see what other options I have. Can a noise ordinance finally be considered? Could I and other neighbors file a petition to enforce the Public Nuisance law as defined by Montana Code 45-8-111? Any recommendations or assistance would be recommended, and I would urge the Ravalli County Commissioners to please consider passage of a countywide noise ordinance.

The courtesy of a response would be appreciated.

Thank you,  
Rene Foehl  
183 Carlton Drive  
Florence, MT 59833  
406-782-0454

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