

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2024 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-072-2024
 Chapter No. 79
 Proposed and Presented by Council Member Dernoga
 Introduced by Council Members Dernoga, Ivey, Hawkins, Harrison, Olson and Watson
 Co-Sponsors _____
 Date of Introduction October 22, 2024

BILL

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Regulation of Invasive Bamboo

3 For the purpose of regulating invasive bamboo, and generally relating to the regulation of
 4 invasive bamboo.

5 BY adding:

6 SUBTITLE 13. HOUSING AND PROPERTY

7 STANDARDS.

8 Sections 13-246.03, 13-246.04, and 13.246.05

9 The Prince George's County Code

10 (2023 Edition)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
 12 Maryland, that Sections 13-246.03, 13-246.04 and 13.246.05 of the Prince George's County Code
 13 be and the same are hereby added:

14 SUBTITLE 13. HOUSING AND PROPERTY

15 STANDARDS.

16 DIVISION 7A. REGULATION OF INVASIVE

17 BAMBOO.

18 Sec. 13-246.03 – Definitions.

19 (a) For the purposes of this Division, the following words and phrase shall have the
 20 following meanings indicated:

21 (1) Bamboo means a perennial evergreen that belongs to the true grass family Poaceae,

subfamily Bambusoideae; tribe Bambuseae.

(2) Invasive Bamboo means bamboo that is characterized by aggressive spreading behavior, including bamboo species in the Genus Phyllostachys aureosulcata (yellow groove bamboo); otherwise known as running bamboo, Pleioblastus, Pseudosasa, and Bambusa.

Sec. 13-246.04.- Regulation.

(1) In Prince George's County Council, no person may:

(a) sell invasive bamboo;

(b) plant invasive bamboo; or

(c) allow invasive bamboo to spread to any adjoining property without proper upkeep and appropriate containment measures, including barriers or trenches.

Sec. 13-246.05. - Enforcement.

(a) A person aggrieved by an alleged violation of this Division may file a written complaint (including in electronic format) with the County.

(b) If the County issues a notice of violation to a property owner for growing bamboo in violation of 13-246.04, the property owner shall commence appropriate containment measures within six (6) months and shall complete the containment measures within twenty-four (24) months. Upon demonstration of appropriate containment measures or removal, the property owner may request a one-time six (6) month extension for completion.

(c) Any individual(s) or property owner found in violation of this Division shall be subject to a civil fine of \$500.00 for the first violation and \$1,000 for each subsequent violation.

(d) An individual(s) or property owner found in violation of this Division shall be required to mitigate any damage caused by invasive bamboo on their property that spreads to an adjoining property. Mitigation shall include, but not limited to, the cost of any running bamboo that grows beyond the boundaries of an individual's property.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be severable; and, in the event that any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the remaining words, phrases, clauses, sentences, subparagraphs, paragraphs, subsections, or sections of this Act, since the same would have been enacted without the incorporation in this Act of any such invalid or unconstitutional word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, subparagraph, subsection,

1 or section.

2 SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that within ninety (90) days after the enactment
3 of this Act, sufficient written an electronic notice shall go out to the Prince George's County
4 Chamber of Commerce, the Prince George's County Department of the Environment (DoE), The
5 Prince George's Parks and Recreation and any other recipients as determined by the Council.

6 SECTION 4. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect on July 1st, 2025.
Adopted this 19th day of November, 2024.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: Jolene Ivey
Jolene Ivey
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____
Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive

KEY:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.

[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.

Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.

THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE HAVING FAILED TO RETURN THIS BILL WITH EITHER HER
APPROVAL OR VETO WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF ITS PRESENTATION TO
HER, THIS BILL BECAME LAW ON DECEMBER 20, 2024.