

Noise Ordinance Summary

Decibel Level Violations

New Lower Standards for Residential Zones

- 50 dBA – 9 pm to 7 am
- 60 dBA – 7 am to 9 pm

Same Decibel Procedures as Before

- Requires officer measured dBA reading
- Reading taken from boundary of Noise Sensitive Unit (NSU)
- 50 dBA – 9 pm to 7 am – NSU (Night)
- 60 dBA – 7 am to 9 pm – NSU (Day)
- 60 dBA – 9 pm to 7 am – Non-NSU (Night)
- 75 dBA – 7 am to 9 pm – Non-NSU (Day)

Exemptions

- Organized group activities on public property (i.e., stadiums, schools, and athletic fields)
- Emergency equipment/vehicles
- Properly functioning alarm systems
- Sounds permitted by government regulation (e.g., railroad or aircraft sound)
- Construction activities from 7 am to 9 pm
- Sounds from vehicular traffic on premises open to public
- Sounds related to religious services/holidays
- Sounds from an event at a City park where a Park Use Permit has been issued
- Sounds otherwise permitted by law

Non-Decibel Violations

Noisy Animals

- Heard any time of day
- Repetitive noise
- Continuous for 10 min. or intermittent for 30 min.
- Heard beyond boundary of owner/keeper's property

Noise Heard within Noise Sensitive Unit (NSU) – Night

- Noise coming from device designed for sound production
- Heard – 9 pm to 7 am
- “Plainly audible” from within NSU

Noise on Public Property

- Noise coming from device designed for sound production
- Heard – anytime
- “Plainly audible” from at least 100 feet from the device

Construction/Power Tools/Engines

- Not permitted from 9 pm to 7 am (Night)
- Permitted from 7 am to 9 pm (Day)
- Decibel level does not matter
- Night use requires City permit

Private Party Complaint

- Must be non-decibel based
- Must sign Certification form
- Description must summarize evidence of a violation
- Signing party is subject to False Certification
- Party must agree to come to court

Responding to Noise Complaints

"NSU" - Noise Sensitive Unit: Any authorized land use of a church, temple, synagogue, day care center, hospital, rest home, retirement home, group care home, school, dwelling unit (single-family dwelling, duplex, triplex, multi-family dwelling, or mobile home) or other use of the same general type, and rights-of-way appurtenant thereto, whether publicly or privately owned.

Type of Noise or Sound Producing Device	Violations	NOT Violations
LAWN MOWERS/LEAF BLOWERS	<p>Operating the equipment between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m., regardless of sound volume.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person running a lawnmower at 6:30 a.m. 	<p>Operating the equipment between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m., regardless of sound volume.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person running a lawnmower at 8:30 p.m.
SAWS, DRILLS, CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT	<p>Operating equipment between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m., regardless of sound volume.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person operating demolition equipment at 6:30 a.m. without a City Administrator issued variance permit • Person operating a power saw for landscaping at 6:30 a.m. 	<p>Operating the equipment between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m., regardless of sound volume.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person(s) operating power drills, saws, hammers, etc. at 8:30 p.m. while engaged in construction activities • Person operating a power saw at 2:00 p.m. while engaged in landscaping activities
STEREO/BOOM BOX SPEAKERS	<p>Sound reproducing device (i) is plainly audible from within a NSU between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.; (ii) is plainly audible on public property from 100 ft. or more away (and the responsible party does not have a noise amplification permit); or (iii) its volume exceeds ordinance-set decibel-level limits based on time of day and location of NSU-property receiving the noise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music stereo/boom box sound being plainly audible 	<p>Sound reproducing device (i) is NOT plainly audible from within a NSU between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.; (ii) is NOT plainly audible on public property from 100 ft. or more away (or the responsible party has a noise amplification permit); and (iii) its volume DOES NOT exceed ordinance-set decibel-level limits based on time of day and location of NSU-property receiving the noise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music stereo/boom box sound being played on

	<p>from within a dwelling unit at 10 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music stereo/boom box sound where a decibel-level reading of the sound from or within the boundary of property on which a dwelling is located in a residential zoning district exceeds 60 dBA at 10 a.m. • Music stereo/boom box sound being played on public property (i.e. at the park) where the sound coming from the device is plainly audible from 100 ft. or more away 	<p>private property at 8 p.m. where a decibel-level reading of the sound from or within the boundary of a nearby property with a retirement home located in a residential zoning district DOES NOT exceed 60 dBA</p>
<p>LOUDSPEAKER</p>	<p>Sound reproducing device (i) is plainly audible from within a NSU between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.; (ii) is plainly audible on public property from 100 ft. or more away (and the responsible party does not have a noise amplification permit); or (iii) its volume exceeds ordinance-set decibel-level limits based on time of day and location of NSU-property receiving the noise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person using a loudspeaker on a public sidewalk where the sound coming from the device is audible from 100 ft. or more away • Person using a loudspeaker in a public park where a decibel-level reading of the sound coming from the device, from or within the boundary of a nearby property (<100 ft. away) on which a dwelling is located in a residential zoning 	<p>Sound reproducing device (i) is NOT plainly audible from within a NSU between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.; (ii) is NOT plainly audible on public property from 100 ft. or more away (or the responsible party has a noise amplification permit); and (iii) its volume DOES NOT exceed ordinance-set decibel-level limits based on time of day and location of NSU-property receiving the noise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person using a loudspeaker in a public park with a sound amplification permit for operating the noise reproducing device at decibel-levels above that allowed by the noise ordinance • Person using a loudspeaker on a public sidewalk where the sound coming from the device is not audible from over 100 ft. and any decibel-level reading from nearby properties in a residential

	<p>district, exceeds 60 dBA at 10 a.m.</p>	<p>zoning district DOES NOT exceed 60 dBA at 10 a.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person not using a loudspeaker or other sound reproducing device and merely speaking/shouting at a volume that is audible from 100 ft. or more away • Person using a loudspeaker for an organized athletic or school-type event • Person using a loudspeaker in an official capacity during an emergency situation (i.e. to direct traffic, etc.)
<p>MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS</p>	<p>Sound reproducing device (i) is plainly audible from within a NSU between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.; (ii) is plainly audible on public property from 100 ft. or more away (and the responsible party does not have a noise amplification permit); or (iii) its volume exceeds ordinance-set decibel-level limits based on time of day and location of NSU-property receiving the noise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person playing a musical instrument where the sound is plainly audible from within a dwelling unit at 10 p.m. • Person playing a musical instrument where a decibel-level reading of the sound from or within the boundary of property on which a dwelling is located in a residential zoning district exceeds 60 dBA at 10 a.m. • Person playing a musical instrument on public property (i.e. at the park) where the sound coming from the device is plainly 	<p>Sound reproducing device (i) is NOT plainly audible from within a NSU between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.; (ii) is NOT plainly audible on public property from 100 ft. or more away (or the responsible party has a noise amplification permit); and (iii) its volume DOES NOT exceed ordinance-set decibel-level limits based on time of day and location of NSU-property receiving the noise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person playing a musical instrument on private property where a decibel-level reading of the sound from or within the boundary of a nearby property on which a church is located in a residential zoning district DOES NOT exceed 60 dBA at 10 a.m. • Bells or chimes being used for a religious service, or ceremony, regardless of noise volume or time of day • Person playing a musical instrument in a public park with a sound amplification

	audible from 100 ft. or more away	permit for operating the noise reproducing device at decibel-levels above that allowed by the noise ordinance
CAR ENGINE NOISE (REVVING, THROTTLING, ETC.)	<p>Sound reproducing device (i) is plainly audible from within a NSU between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.; (ii) is plainly audible on public property from 100 ft. or more away; or (iii) its volume exceeds ordinance-set decibel-level limits based on time of day and location of NSU-property receiving the noise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person revving their car engine where the sound is plainly audible from within a dwelling unit at 10 p.m. • Person revving their car engine where a decibel-level reading of the sound from or within the boundary of property on which a dwelling is located in a residential zoning district exceeds 60 dBA at 10 a.m. • Person revving their car engine on public property (i.e. parked on a public street) where the sound coming from the device is plainly audible from 100 ft. or more away 	<p>Sound reproducing device (i) is NOT plainly audible from within a NSU between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.; (ii) is NOT plainly audible on public property from 100 ft. or more away; and (iii) its volume DOES NOT exceed ordinance-set decibel-level limits based on time of day and location of NSU-property receiving the noise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person revving their car engine on private property where a decibel-level reading of the sound from or within the boundary of a nearby church located in a non-residential zoning district DOES NOT exceed 75 dBA at 10 a.m.
CAR ALARMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car alarm system being audible for a period of more than 15 minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car alarm system being audible for a period less than 15 minutes
ANIMAL NOISE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous barking/whining that can be heard beyond the boundary of the owner's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous dog barking that can be heard beyond the boundary of the owner's property for less than ten

	<p>property for ten (10) or more minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Repeated episodes of barking/whining that can be heard beyond the boundary of the owner's property lasting thirty (30) or more minutes (e.g. 10 episodes of dog barking lasting 30 or more seconds each within a 30 minutes period)	<p>(10) minutes, or that only recurs sporadically (e.g. three to four times each day)</p>
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