

Code Compliance - Frequently Asked Questions

Related Questions

What is a nuisance according to the City of Troutdale's Municipal Code?

A nuisance is "...any annoying, unpleasant or obnoxious condition or practice causing or capable of causing an unreasonable threat to the public health, safety and welfare in the circumstances...", according to the Municipal Code. See section 8.28.070 of the Municipal Code for more specific nuisance information.

Does the nuisance ordinance apply to my private property?

Yes. See chapter 8.28 of the Municipal Code.

Are there standards for storage on private property?

If an item is stored on private property, no part of the item may obstruct the public sidewalk blocking any portion of pedestrian passage. These items must also be parked on an approved surface and are not allowed on grass or exposed soil.

How long can I store personal property on a publicly owned area?

There is a 72-hour maximum time limit for storage on public property. After that time, the item(s) may be ticketed and eventually towed from the location.

How long can I have my motorhome, RV or boat on the street?

For purposes of loading or unloading, motorhomes, RVs, and boats can be parked for up to four hours on the street.

What are the rules for placing a drop box or pod on the street?

Whenever possible, drop boxes, moving pods, or similar portable containers should be placed on private property. You should only place a container in the public right-of-way when placement on private property is infeasible.

Learn more at our [Drop Box & Pod Guidelines](#) page.

Can I park on my own lawn?

No. Vehicles may be parked on driveways or other approved surfaces, or properly parked on a street.

Can I park on the street facing the wrong way?

No. Vehicles must be parked in the direction of traffic flow.

Can I park head-in on a cul-de-sac?

No. Vehicles must be parked with the passenger door towards the curb, and within 12 inches of the curb.

What is considered an abandoned vehicle?

According to the Municipal Code (10.04.020), an abandoned vehicle is:

"A vehicle that has been deserted, relinquished or has one or more of the following existing conditions:

1. The vehicle license plate or registration sticker has expired or has been canceled.
2. The vehicle has no license plate.
3. The vehicle has no visible vehicle identification number (VIN).
4. The vehicle appears to be inoperative or disabled.
5. The vehicle appears to be unlawful to operate on a public street."

See Municipal Code ([10.36.010](#)) for the maximum length of time abandoned vehicles may be present in the city and the enforcement of abandoned vehicles.

Who do I call about a neighbor with garbage, debris, rubbish, or multiple cars in their yard?

Report it to Code Compliance. You can do so by completing our [online form](#).

My neighbor's trees, bushes, grass, or blackberries are growing into my yard. Who do I contact?

Report it to Code Compliance. You can do so by completing our [online form](#).

What constitutes high grass and weeds?

Any grass or weeds as defined in the code that are 14 inches in height or higher are considered a nuisance and must be cut or mowed.

Tree limbs are too low when I walk down the sidewalk. Who can I contact?

Report it to Code Compliance. You can do so by completing our [online form](#). Trees must be kept trimmed to 7 feet above the sidewalk.

Do I report someone going door to door soliciting?

Yes. You can do so by completing our [online form](#).

What types of signs can I have for advertising a garage sale and where can I place them?

A sign permit is not required for garage sales signs provided that these rules are followed:

- Place signs on a wooden support stake
- Signs cannot be displayed or attached to any public utility or traffic pole
- Signs cannot be placed on private property without the permission of the property owner
- A maximum of four signs can be displayed for any sale
- Maximum sign face area cannot exceed three square feet
- Signs cannot be displayed for more than 72 hours and must be removed at the end of the final day of the sale
- Only one garage sale at a single location is permitted every three months

Violation of these conditions will result in immediate removal of the signs and could result in a citation to appear in municipal court

Who do I contact regarding noise complaints?

The [Multnomah County Sheriff's Office](#) handles noise complaints for the City of Troutdale and also reviews applications for variances to those standards. Visit their [website](#) or call the non-emergency dispatch line at 503-988-0560.

Can I have chickens on my property?

Citizens can have up to three chickens on their property. No roosters are allowed.

Can I have livestock on my property?

Your property must be 2 acres in size or larger in order to have livestock. Miniature goats can be kept as pets only; no breeding is allowed.

Do I need a permit to keep livestock?

Yes. Livestock registration is required per by Multnomah County Ordinance (13.308). Obtaining a permit is free and can be done through [Multnomah County Animal Services](#).

What do I do if I have an animal complaint?

The City of Troutdale does not handle animal complaints. Multnomah County Animal Control provides this service for Troutdale for domestic animals. You can contact them at 503-988-7387 or at their website.

For wildlife complaints, contact Fish and Wildlife at 503-657-2000 and for wild birds call the Portland Audubon Wildlife Care Center at 503-292-0304.

Who do I contact about issues with rats?

Contact [Multnomah County Vector Control](#) at 503-988-3464.

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