

WHAT IS CODE ENFORCEMENT?

Code Enforcement is the prevention, detection, investigation and enforcement of violations of statutes or ordinances regulating public health, safety and welfare, public works, business activities and consumer protection, building standards, land-use, or municipal affairs. Community Service Officers are tasked with Code Enforcement within the City of Newman.

These common questions and answers are being provided to you to assist in becoming a responsible property owner/tenant and prevent potential code violations while promoting and maintaining the quality of life in our community. The entire City Code can be found at www.cityofnewman.com, under the City Code tab.

VEHICLES

Can I Park A Vehicle In The Front Or Side Yard Of My Property?

Per NMC 5.17.020.R, "Parking of any vehicles on lawns or other areas in front yards, or side yards not behind a solid fence six feet in height where such vehicle is plainly visible from the street or other public or private property, other than on a driveway, is prohibited." Cars need to be parked on a driveway or on the right-of-way. Please note that street parking shall not exceed 72 hours.

Can I Keep A Vehicle That Is Inoperable?

NMC 9.05.070.A, Abandoned vehicles **on public or private property**, excluding a highway, states "Upon discovery of an abandoned vehicle **or** a vehicle which lacks an engine, transmission, wheels, tires, doors, windshield or other major part or equipment necessary to operate safely on the highway, the Chief of Police shall have the authority to cause the abatement and removal of said vehicle..." Vehicles need to be kept clean and free of cobwebs. Please note that *it is a safety hazard to leave a vehicle unattended on a ramp or on jacks.*

Can I Repair Vehicles At My House?

Only a vehicle owned by the property owner. The vehicle must be registered to a permanent resident at that location. Repairing vehicles for money or barter in a residential district is prohibited. Additionally, per NMC 9.07.030, Vehicle repairs **cannot** occur on any public street (excluding emergencies).

Can I Park A Commercial Vehicle In A Residential District?

The primary function of all vehicles in a residential district must be for the transportation of passengers and must be under a weight limit of one (1) ton. Commercial vehicles are inconsistent with residential uses.

Can I Display My Vehicle For Sale On The Public Street?

No, NMC 10.04.020 states that "It shall be unlawful for the operator of any vehicle to park the same upon any street for the purpose of displaying it for sale, or to park any vehicle upon any street in any business district from which said vehicle merchandise is being sold."

Can I Park Or Store A Vehicle In The Street?

Per NMC 9.07.010, "No person who owns or has possession, custody or control of any vehicle shall park such vehicle upon any street or alley for more than a consecutive period of three (3) days"

Can I Store A Recreational Vehicle Or Trailer On My Lot?

NMC 5.17.020.P. states that "In any residential district, no recreational type vehicle, including motor home, camping trailer, boat trailer, boat, pick-up camper units, fifth wheel, or dune buggy shall be stored or parked for more than 72 hours, except within a side or rear yard or within any garage, without first obtaining a temporary permit from the Newman Police Department which would permit up to a maximum of 72 more hours of parking." Recreational vehicles **cannot** be stored on a driveway.

Can A Person Live In A Motor Home Or Trailer Parked On My Property Or On The Street?

No, per NMC 5.17.020.P.3. "...recreational vehicle(s) shall not be used for sleeping quarters nor shall any sanitary or cooking facilities contained therein be used except as may be provided for within a valid temporary-parking permit issued by the Newman Police Department." Recreational vehicles are **not** legal living spaces and will be towed.



COMMON CODE ENFORCEMENT QUESTIONS

RESIDENTIAL

Can A Business Be Conducted From A Residence?

Home-based businesses are permitted if they are consistent with NMC 5.21 (Home Occupations) and obtain a permit and Business License. A home occupation is an activity which is incidental and secondary to the use of a dwelling for residential purposes. Contact the Planning Department at 209-862-3725 for more information.

How Many Garage/Yard Sales Can I Have In A Year? Do I Need A Permit?

NMC 3.01.180 states that no more than three (3) garage/yard sales shall be conducted at the applicant's home in one fiscal year (July to June) and no sale shall last more than three (3) consecutive days in length. A garage sale permit is required prior to the sale. Sales of property shall be personally owned and have been used by the seller for personal or household use; resale of the goods and/or wares of a merchant of any description are not permissible.

Can I Post Signs On Utility Poles And/Or Other Devices In Public Right-Of-Ways?

No, NMC 5.18.060 states that Signs within the public right-of-way, including those on street trees, utility poles, street signals, street lights, street name signs, or traffic warning signs, are prohibited. Only City-approved signs shall be placed in the right-of-way (i.e. official City business, detour signs, etc.). Many sign types are required to have a sign permit, call the Planning Department at 209-862-3725 for more information.

When And Where Can I Place My Trash Can?

Refuse and Recycling totes shall be stored behind a wall, fence or within a building and not be visible from the public right-of-way on non collection days (NMC 8.01.060.C). All curb and alley service customers shall place the refuse at the curb or in the alley not later than 4:00 a.m. on the day of the collection and shall remove the refuse containers from the curb or alley on the same day of the collection.

What Constitutes A Nuisance?

NMC §8.02.030, Nuisances, states that "It shall be unlawful for any responsible person to keep or maintain premises under his/her control, in a condition detrimental to the public health, safety, or general welfare". Per said code section, the following are examples of nuisances (among others) and will be cited as such:

- The accumulation of waste paper, hay, grass, straw, weeds, litter, rubbish, dirt, rank growth, or other combustible or noncombustible material upon the premises, or public sidewalks, streets, or areas in front of such premises, or upon any roof or in any building, entranceway, parking area, court, or yard thereof;
- Overgrown vegetation
- Dead, decayed, diseased, or hazardous trees, weeds, and other vegetation
- Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment for 10+ days.
- Trash, dirt, rubbish, scrap materials, and other debris, either inside or outside buildings, visible from the street or neighboring properties for 10+ days.

What Kind Of Pets May I Own?

Per NMC 9.02.100.B. Household pets are permitted in residential districts. "Household pets" are defined as animals ordinarily permitted in the house and kept for company or pleasure and not for profit, such as dogs (3 maximum), cats (3 maximum), birds (5 maximum), Mouse/rabbit/guinea pig/ hamster/or animal of like size or species (10 maximum) and animal(s) continuously confined to a terrarium or aquarium and within the confines of a dwelling.

Please note that dogs must be kept on a leash when not on its owner's private property nor should they be permitted to habitually make loud noises (i.e. barking) (NMC 9.02.120).

Furthermore, it shall be unlawful for any person owning or keeping any dog to disturb the peace and quiet of any citizen of the City and/or willfully make or continue, or cause to be made or continued, any noise which unreasonably disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood (NMC 9.02.305).

Who Do I Call To Report Graffiti, Vandalism Or Other Neighborhood Concerns?

Please call the Newman Police Department at: 209-862-2902 during business hours (M-F, 8am-4pm) or dispatch at: 209-847-2231 after hours.

