

Neighborhood Guidelines

The quality of life in our neighborhood depends upon mutual respect and working together to keep a positive and safe place to live. The guidelines below are some that are defined by City of Milwaukee Ordinances. While we prefer to deal with problems at the neighborhood level, we must be willing to report continuing situations to the proper authorities.

Milwaukee Police Department – Report It/Record It at 414-935-7211 indicating the date, time, address and issue.

Noise - Noise and loud music from any sources, include car stereos, is too loud if it can be heard 50 ft. away, about one house distance. Ordinance #80-63-1. \$230 fine.

Speed Limit – The speed limit on residential streets is 25 mph (and 15 mph in alleys). Please drive carefully, and remember that children live in our neighborhood. Ordinance #101-13.

Vulgar Language – each of us should set a positive example of the language we use in the neighborhood. Children and residents do not need to hear vulgar, racist, violent or abusive language. Ordinance #106-1 up to \$500 fine.

Fireworks - can be dangerous and are illegal in our city. Fines can be from \$500-1,000, if convicted. Ordinance #105-47.

Department of Public Works (Sanitation/Forestry) – Call City at 414-286-City (2489) indicating the address of the issue. You can also complete an online service request at city.milwaukee.gov/ -choose “Request Services On Line” at the bottom of the left scroll column, then choose the issue. You can easily complete the form and have the choice of providing your name or remaining anonymous. The city will not release your name.

Snow Shoveling of Sidewalks - MHNA needs your help to insure that our sidewalks are safe places to walk in the winter season. Snow must be cleared within 24 hrs. after completion of a snow fall (Ordinance #116-8). After the City inspects a reported issue and finds the property in violation, fines are \$25 for the first notice, \$45 for the second notice and \$90 for subsequent violations. If the sidewalks still are not clear within another 24 hours, a Sanitation crew will clear a path and the charge will appear on the property tax bill.

Yards/Grass - Care about your neighborhood. Don't create conditions of a neglected property that is an invitation for crime. Overgrown grass and weeds more than 9 inches is a city violation. Ordinance #116-8.

Department of Neighborhood Services - Call City at 414-286-City (2489) indicating the address of the issue or call directly to Heidi Weed 1st District Special Inspector at 414-286-3158 (office). You can also complete an online service request at city.milwaukee.gov/ - choose "Request Services On Line" at the bottom of the left scroll column, then choose the issue. You can easily complete the form and have the choice of providing your name or remaining anonymous.

Litter/Garbage and Trash (*) – don't prime for crime with grime. Properties that are not cared for increase the incidence of crime. Also, don't clean out your car in front of a residence in the neighborhood – it adds to the litter and negative appearance of the neighborhood. DNS will inspect and report properties with litter that might include more than a bushel of trash, piles of brush, appliances, etc. Ordinance #79-12

Graffiti and Suspicious Activity (*) - Graffiti should be reported to police and then removed within 24 hours. Ordinance: # 275-35(3). Also call the Anti-Graffiti hotline at 414-286-8715.

Parking (*) - Parking on unpaved surfaces (grass, dirt) are not allowed. No more than 4 cars per duplex or single family house. Ordinance # 295-403-2

Pets (*) - Please clean up after your pets in your yard, someone else's or in public spaces. Dogs are required to be leashed, fenced and supervised. A maximum of 3 animals per household is allowed. Ordinance #79-11.

Nuisance Vehicles (*) – For a vehicle to be defined as a nuisance 3 of the 5 conditions must be met: no current valid license plates displayed, unmoved for 30 days, inoperable, substantial damage, parked on an unapproved surface. DNS is responsible for enforcing complaints about nuisance vehicles on private property. Ordinance #80-49.

Exterior House/Garage Violations (*) – to preserve and improve existing housing stock, properties are expected to meet minimum building codes. Repairing any defective, missing, cracked and broken components of chimney, roof, exterior surfaces, masonry & foundation blocks, porches, windows & doors, paved areas, walks and steps, and garages is the responsibility of the property owner, Ordinance: #275-32. Note: Handrails are required on both sides of stairs with 4 or more risers, including service walks; alleyside house numbers should be included on garages for fire and police safety responses.

(*) Fines: If an order is issued by DNS and the owner is non-compliant, re-inspection fee schedule include: \$50.70 (1st), \$75.05 (2nd), \$202.80 (3rd), and \$354.90 for the fourth and all subsequent inspections. If an order is litigated, additional court fees will apply. All fees are added to the tax bill as a special charge.

Compiled by Cynthia Sommer, MHNA and Heidi Weed, City DNA Special Enforcement Officer