

CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT



Code Enforcement General Information

A Reference for Residents in North Little Rock

The mission of the Code Enforcement Department is to provide minimum requirements to safeguard the health and safety as well as the general welfare of citizens by regulating and enforcing the municipal codes in North Little Rock.

What is a Violation?

- Blighted, unmaintained, unsecured, or unsafe properties
- Graffiti
- Illegal dumping (property owner is responsible for removal of dumping on private property)
- Inoperable/junk vehicles
- Overgrown grass
- Storage of junk and debris
- Substandard housing conditions
- Zoning violations

What is NOT a Violation?

- Civil disputes between private parties
- Evictions
- Operable vehicles parked on the street
- Personal grievances



Steps to Compliance

1. A citizen reports a concern to the Code Enforcement Department. Most commonly reported concerns are:

- Abandoned or neglected buildings or vehicle
- Garbage or debris
- Outdoor storage
- Overgrown grass
- Rental complaints

2. A Code Enforcement Officer conducts an inspection of the property.

- If no violation is found, the case is closed: "no violation."
- If a violation is confirmed, a notice is left at the property and/or a Notice of Violation is mailed to both the property owner and the address where the violation is located.

3. The Notice of Violation indicates the timeline in which the violation must be corrected. If the property owner needs more time to bring the property into compliance, a reasonable timeline extension may be requested by contacting the Code Enforcement Officer who issued the Notice of Violation.

4. Once repairs are scheduled to be completed, the Code Enforcement Officer re-inspects the property.

- If the violation has been corrected, the case is closed.
- If the violation is still present or progress has not been made, Code Enforcement may issue a citation and/or pursue abatement.
- The Code Enforcement Officer makes regular re-inspections until compliance is met.



Commonly Asked Questions:

What happens if I don't cut my grass or correct other violations stated on a notice from the Code Enforcement Department?

- You could be issued a citation to appear in court.
- The City can cut the grass at a cost of \$185.00 per cut.

What happens if I don't pay that bill?

- A lien is filed against your personal property for the cost of abatement.

How much is the fine if I go to court?

- You could be fined up to \$500 if the violation is continuous in nature. The penalty for allowing the continuance thereof is a fine not to exceed \$250.00 per day for each day that the violation is unlawfully continued. The judge will determine the fine.

If I have a substandard structure needing to be demolished, what steps should I take to remove it?

- Call 811 and have all utilities disconnected.
- Contact the planning department and obtain a demolition permit.
- Make sure the site is cleared of all debris and the ground is leveled.

Can I, or someone else, live in a travel trailer in my yard?

- No.

If my landlord has not made the repairs that I requested, can I stop paying rent?

- No, that will give your landlord grounds to evict you for non-payment of rent (please refer to the Attorney General's Office Landlord and Tenant Rights).
- Contact our Rental Inspector to schedule an appointment to help address the issues.

Can I store an inoperable or wrecked vehicle in my yard?

- No, the parking, keeping, or storing of inoperable or wrecked motor vehicles, or any parts thereof, is considered to be a public nuisance.

Can I park my car in the yard?

- Yes, unless you are in a restricted parking district, which does not allow parking on the grass.

Can I keep or store my household furniture outside?

- Not if the furniture or other items are manufactured for indoor use.

Complaints **NOT** handled by the Code Enforcement Department:

- Animal complaints. Animal Control 501 791-8577
- Pot holes Street (Unit 50) 501 340-5355
- Permits (Building, Plumbing, Electrical, etc.) Planning/Permits 501 975-8835
- Trash not being emptied/illegal dumping Sanitation 501 371-8340



For additional information, please refer to the City of North Little Rock Nuisance Abatement and Property Maintenance Code on the City's website: nlr.ar.gov or call 791-8581.