

Public Nuisances

- Abandoned, wrecked, dismantled or inoperative Vehicles, boats, campers, other equipment
- Accumulation of junk or trash stored in yards visible from public streets
- Overgrowth of vegetation or accumulation of debris constitute a fire, health hazard, dangerous, harbor vermin
- Maintaining property with garbage or/and animal waste

Statutes Regulating Public Nuisances

- Division 8 – Public Health and Safety Regulations
 - Chapter 8.010 - Public Nuisances

Department or Agency having Jurisdiction:

- Police Department
- Neighborhood Preservation

Party responsible for Compliance:

- Property Owner
- Tenant

Violation Notification Process

Responsible party is notified via a letter

- Self-Certification Letter allows you to correct any reported violation(s) within 30 days without penalties. This letter also serves to educate and provides understanding of the rules of our city ordinances.
 - Letter must be signed by responsible party and returned to Inspector.
 - Notice of Violation Letter allows you to correct verified violation(s) within 30 days without penalties. This letter also serves to educate and provides understanding of the rules of our city ordinances.
 - An inspection is requested and scheduled to verify violation(s) before civil penalties (citation) are issued.
 - An inspection is requested and scheduled to verify violation(s) before civil penalties are issued. (Administrative citation)
 - Communication between responsible party and Inspector is advantageous for abatement timeframe and case closure.
- Our main objective is to obtain voluntary compliance.

Method(s) of Abatement

- Responsible party shall correct violation(s), sign and return self-certification letter, or comply with Notice of Violation letter, within time frame indicated on letter.
- Communication between responsible party and Inspector is advantageous for abatement timeframe and case closure.
- If an extension is requested, case will be reviewed and responsible party notified if extension is granted or denied.
- Pay civil penalties, if an administrative citation was issued.

Consequences of Non-Compliance:

- Refuse Containers, Play Equipment, Animal violations= \$53.00 first offense
- Other Municipal code violations=\$132.00 first offense
- Substandard and Property Maintenance violations= \$424.00 first offense
- Sewage and Hazardous Materials Discharge violations= \$424.00 first offense
- 2nd offense= 2 x original fine
- 3rd offense= 3 x original fine
- Delinquency Fee: \$101.00
- An alternative, cases may be referred to the City Attorney's Office for prosecutorial discretion and/or a Notice of Non-Compliance filed with County Recorder's office though the County Assessor's Office for cost recovery

Due Process

- Pay civil penalties within 30 days of issuance of the citation.
- The person cited has the option of requesting an initial administrative review provided it is requested within 20 days of issuance of the citation.
- If the department upholds the citation, the person cited can request an administrative hearing which is conducted through an third party hearing officer.
- If the citation is upheld through the hearing officer, the person cited still has the option of appeal through Superior Court.

For more Information:

- CA Department of Food and Agriculture:
http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/phpps/ipc/encycloweedia/winfo_weedlaws.htm
- California Law: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov>
 - Penal Code 370-Public Nuisance
 - Health and Safety Code 2855-2868-Abatement of public Nuisances
 - Health and Safety Code 14900-1902- Seasonal and recurrent nuisances
 - Health and Safety Code 17980-17992- Existing Nuisances in any building or property
 - Vehicle Code 22661-Abandoned Vehicles; public nuisance
- City of Ventura Municipal Code:
<http://www.cityofventura.net/cm/municipal-code>