

# Nuisances

**8-401. NUISANCES UNLAWFUL; DEFINED.** It shall be unlawful for any person to maintain, cause or permit any nuisance within the city limits. For the purpose of this article “nuisance” shall mean: (a) Filth, excrement, lumber, brush, rocks, dirt, cans, paper, trash, metal or any other offensive or disagreeable thing or substance thrown or left or deposited upon any street, avenue, alley, sidewalk, park or public or private enclosure or lot, whether vacant or occupied; (b) Dead animals not removed within twenty-four (24) hours after death; (c) Any place, structure or substance which emits or causes to be emitted any offensive, disagreeable, noxious or nauseous odors; (d) Stagnant ponds or pools of water; (e) All grass, weeds or other unsightly vegetation not commonly used for ornamental purposes, and not exempted as an approved indigenous planting, or not normally cultivated or grown for commercial or domestic use; (f) Unused, unattended, damaged, or abandoned items found or located upon any street, avenue, alley, sidewalk, park or public or private enclosure or lot, whether vacant or occupied, including, such items to include but shall not be limited to, iceboxes, refrigerators, freezers, washers, dryers, dishwashers, hot water heaters or similar devices or equipment, or signs as defined within Chapter 16B, Article 2; (g) Any thing or things that, by virtue of the place or manner in which it is or they are maintained, permitted, stored, positioned, placed or otherwise situated, injures, impedes, obstructs or hinders the public or any neighborhood to include maintaining or strewing items across property to that degree that results in an unsightly appearance constituting a blight to adjoining property, the neighborhood or the city. A blighting influence shall be presumed based upon 1) the quantity of items strewn about or maintained upon a property being in excess of twelve (12), 2) the quality of items strewn across property being in a junked, wrecked, damaged, dismantled, deteriorating, inoperable, or abandoned state, and/or 3) evidence that vermin, noxious weeds, or other public health hazards are attracted to, protected by, or residing within such items. 7-18 (h) Any fence, structure, thing or substance placed upon or being upon any street, sidewalk, alley or public ground so as to obstruct the same, except as permitted by the laws of the city; or, (i) Any act or failure to act that causes or permits a condition to exist which injures or endangers the public health, safety or welfare; (j) Salvage material, industrial material or commercial material located upon premises located within an area zoned for residential purposes, except building materials to be used within ninety (90) days in conjunction with a construction project on such premises; (k) Piles or otherwise disorderly, un-stacked, accumulations of wood located upon any residential or commercial properties, or vacant lots in residential or commercial areas. Firewood may be stored in stacks at least (6) inches off the ground and must not be in contact with any adjacent structures. Mulch may be stored in piles that are no more than five (5) feet high and set back from any property line by ten (10) feet, and shall be appropriately screened by fence or other approved screening method to prevent mulch blowing onto adjoining properties or from being viewed from any public roadway. (l) Any recreational vehicle or commercial storage not maintained on an all-weather surface. (Code 2007; Code 2019; Code 2022)

**8-401:** [City Code Chapter 8](#)