



Elsmere Code Enforcement – Frequently Asked Questions:

Question – How does the code enforcement process work in Elsmere?

Answer: If a violation is verified by the city code enforcement officer, the typical process is:

Step 1 - A notice of violation (a warning notice) is issued to property owner, which gives seven days to abate/remove the violation. This may be extended on a case-by-case basis by the code enforcement officer for reasons beyond the control of the property owner.

Step 2 - If the issue has not been corrected, a civil citation is issued which accrues fines from the date of receipt by the by the property owner.

Note - A citation may be issued immediately for a violation (meaning there is no warning) for repeat violators, high grass and weeds, violations that affect public safety and health, or other reasons in the public interest.

Question - What are the top 8 violations addressed by the City Code Enforcement Officer?

Answer:

1. High Grass and Weeds (that are beyond 9 inches in height)
2. Accumulation of Trash or Junk or Improper Outside Storage of Materials
3. Unlicensed and/or Inoperable Motor Vehicle on Property
4. Failure to Maintain Property - (i.e. damaged roof or siding/gutters, peeling/missing paint, etc.)
5. Improper Storage of Trash Cans - (all trash cans must be placed behind the house after collection, or on the side of the house if the cans are screened from view)
6. Improper Storage of Boat/Trailer on Property - (after 72 hours, all boats/trailers must be stored on a paved surface, meaning poured concrete or blacktop, behind the primary structure unless a variance has been granted)
7. Parking Vehicle in a Yard or on Grass
8. Shed, Fence, or Pool Installed without a Zoning and/or Building Permit - (all new sheds, fences, and pools, with the exception of small wading pools, must receive an Elsmere zoning permit before installation)

Question - I have rental property in Elsmere, and my tenants are causing violations of the City Code of Ordinances. Am I responsible for these issues or repairs and the resulting fines?

Answer: Yes! All landlords/rental property owners are responsible for the actions of the tenants as it applies to public nuisances and other code enforcement items. Property owners should visit their property at least monthly to ensure it is compliant with Elsmere's rules and regulations. Any citations will be sent to the landlord/property owner, who will be responsible for abatement of the nuisance and payment of the fines.

Question – Am I required to have residential trash collection service through Rumpke?

Answer: Yes. The City of Elsmere has granted Rumpke an exclusive franchise for trash and recycling collection in the City. This is actually a savings to residents due to economies of scale. For public health and safety reasons, the Elsmere Code of Ordinances requires each residence to subscribe to the designated trash collection service company. Failure to maintain trash service may result in fines. If your residential structure is vacant, you may request a temporary account hold for no more than 90 days at a time from Rumpke (859-472-7339), however the trash collection must be reactivated when the property is occupied.

Question – Where do I find the Elsmere Code of Ordinances, so I can see the City's rules and regulations?

Answer: There is a link to the Code of Ordinances at www.cityofelsmere.com (entitled "City Ordinance Information"). Printed copies of particular ordinances may be requested at the Elsmere City Building (a copying charge may apply).

If you have questions or would like to report a violation of the public nuisance or property maintenance ordinances, please contact Code Enforcement Officer Rich Aliff at 859-342-7911 or rich@cityofelsmere.com.