



## A WORD TO THE WISE

### Did you know that in the City of Cleveland it is illegal to:

- Have high grass and/or weeds in excess of 8 inches?
- Set out your trash before 12 noon the day before collection
- Allow your trash cans to remain in front of your house past 12 noon the day after collection?
- Store your trash cans on a porch or between the sidewalk and front of a house?
- Park on any soft surface (eg: tree lawn, yard and vacant lots?)
- Place upholstered indoor furniture (eg: sofas, recliners) posing a health or safety hazard on a porch?
- Use an outdoor grill within 15 feet of a home?

***It is true***—all of these activities are illegal, and you could face criminal and/or civil penalties if you do not follow the law.

If you have questions about what the Cleveland Code requires, or need assistance in correcting these nuisance conditions, you may wish to contact the Department of Building & Housing Hotline at **664-2007** or Health Department at **664-2300**.

### Information Provided By:

Cleveland Housing Court  
Judge W. Mona Scott  
[www.clevelandhousingcourt.org](http://www.clevelandhousingcourt.org)



The City through newly enacted ordinance 630.02 may declare the property a nuisance when 3 or more of the following criminal activities occur within 30 days on the same property:

- Animal violations (eg: animals at large)
- Disorderly conduct
- Drug abuse
- Family offenses (eg: contributing to delinquency)
- Gambling violations
- Littering violations
- Liquor control violations
- Obscenity or sex offenses
- Offenses against a person
- Offenses against property
- Theft violations
- Weapons and explosives violations
- Firearms violations (including possession by minors)
- Handgun possession or sale violations
- Sound device violations
- Massage establishment violations
- Explosives violations
- Open burning violations

In addition to declaring the property a nuisance, the City may take action to eliminate it, at the owner's expense.

If a property owner has been billed 3 times within a two year period for costs associated with abating a nuisance, the City can criminally charge the owner with a second degree misdemeanor – the maximum penalty for which is 90 days in jail and a fine of \$750.

*For more information, call a Housing Specialist at 664-4295 or your Councilperson.*

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