

**UNLAWFUL CONGREGATION**  
**Section 605.09 C.O.**

No person shall congregate with others on the sidewalk, street corner or within the parks or public grounds with intent to provoke a breach of the peace, or causing a breach of the peace by the serious annoyance to pedestrians or by using threatening, insulting or abusive conduct, and refusing to move on when ordered by a police officer.

**Penalty:** Violation is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

**LITTER ON PUBLIC PROPERTY;**  
**FEEDING BIRDS**

**Litter on public property; feeding birds**  
**Section 613.02 C.O.**

- (a) No person shall throw or deposit litter in or upon any street, sidewalk or other public place within the City except in public receptacles or in authorized receptacles for collection.
- (b) No person shall litter public property by the feeding of pigeons, starlings, sparrows or other birds, nor shall any person place food for the feeding of such birds on any public property so as to increase the hazard of rodent infestation.

**Penalty:** A minor misdemeanor and possible criminal citation.

**PROPERTY NUISANCES**

**Chapter 209, C.O.**

The city recognizes that grass over 8 inches in height, noxious weeds, refuse including trash, junk, garbage and food waste, offal, animal wastes, tires and stagnant surface water harbor and are breeding grounds for pests and may otherwise create human health problems. The owner, operator or person in control of the property on which these nuisances are found is responsible for the removal or abatement of the nuisance.

The commissioner of the environment will send

notice to the property owner, operator, or person in possession or control of the property (for every vacant parcel of land, the commissioner of environment will mail notice to last known address of the owner of each vacant parcel of land, or shall publish a notice in a newspaper) to abate the nuisance, giving a timeframe for compliance. If the abatement does not occur within the stated timeframe or if the action taken does not completely abate the nuisance, the city may take any action necessary to abate the nuisance and bill the owner for the costs of any abatement.

If any nuisances exist that are not removed or otherwise abated, the city may take any action necessary to abate the nuisance, and the owner will be billed for all costs of the abatement.

Property nuisances may be ticketed; the violation is a minor misdemeanor.

Other civil or criminal legal actions may be filed by the commissioner of environment to enforce nuisance violations without additional notice.

If the nuisance represents an imminent threat to the public health, the city will immediately abate the nuisance without notice, and bill the owner for the costs of any abatement.

**GARBAGE AND WASTE**

**Setting out containers Section 551.04 C.O.**

Solid waste shall be set out in proper waste containers (garbage cans or trash bags) on collection day in front of the premises or on the sidewalk adjacent thereto in accordance with the rules prepared by the Director of Public Service. Such a waste container shall not be set out earlier than 12:00 Noon on the day preceding a regular collection day and shall be removed from the front of the property and returned to the container storage site no later than 12 noon on the day following the date of collection.

**Penalty:** The maximum fine is \$100.

CITY OF CLEVELAND  
**“Quality of Life”**  
**Ordinances**

Cleveland City Council • Phone: 216-664-2480  
[www.clevelandcitycouncil.org](http://www.clevelandcitycouncil.org)

**CRIMINAL ACTIVITY**  
**AS A NUISANCE**

**Chapter 630, C.O.**

Chapter 630, C.O. declares certain criminal activities that occur on a property and that are engaged in by the owner, occupant or invitee of the owner or occupant of the property, to be nuisance activities.

**Criminal activity nuisances include:** any violation, such as unmuzzled dogs at large, dog nuisances, killing and injuring animals and cruelty to animals; any disorderly conduct or disorderly activity violation including failure to disperse, intoxication, inducing panic, and minor’s curfew; any drug abuse violation; any family offense violation including endangering children; any gambling violation; any littering violation; any liquor control violation; any obscenity and sex offenses violation; any offense against another person including assault, aggravated menacing and telephone harassment; any offense against property; any theft violation; any weapons and explosives violation; any handgun possession and sale violation; and any sound devices violation.

**Penalty:** If three or more nuisance activities are found to have occurred on separate occasions within a 60 day period on the same property, the property may be declared a nuisance property and the owner of that property will be charged the costs to abate any future nuisance.

If a fourth or subsequent nuisance activity occurs at the same property within a specific period of time after the third or subsequent nuisance activity, the city may abate the nuisance activity by using administrative and law enforcement actions and the costs of the abatement will be charged to the owner of the declared nuisance property. If not paid, the costs



may be placed on the nuisance property as a lien to be collected as other taxes and returned to the city. The property owner may also be issued a criminal citation for a second degree misdemeanor.

The costs of abatement are determined based on the time required to respond to the nuisance activity, multiplied by an hourly rate based upon the wages and benefits of a police officer, dispatch costs, and etc.

**NOISE**  
**Regulation of sound devices**  
**Section 683.01, C.O.**

No person shall play any radio, music player, television, audio system or musical instrument anytime at a volume that would annoy or disturb the quiet.

**Ord. 683.02**

No person shall play any radio, music player or audio system in a motor vehicle at such volume as to disturb the quiet.

**Penalty:** Fourth degree misdemeanor on first offense, fine of \$250 and subject to 30 days in jail; any subsequent offense is a third degree misdemeanor, which is a fine of \$500 and subject up to 60 days in jail.

**ETHNIC INTIMIDATION/**  
**HATE INCIDENT**

Ethnic intimidation is a criminal offense under **Ohio Revised Code Section 2927.12 and Cleveland Codified Ordinances Section 623.16.**

Ethnic intimidation whoever commits aggravated  
*(NEXT PAGE)*

*(ETHNIC INTIMIDATION ORD. CONTINUED)*

menacing, criminal damaging or endangering, menacing, criminal mischief or telephone harassment under state or city law because of the victim's race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity or natural origin, age, disability, Vietnam-era or disabled veteran status, is guilty of ethnic intimidation.

If you or anyone that you know has been a victim of ethnic intimidation or a hate incident, contact the Cleveland Police Department immediately.

**Penalty:** Carries enhanced penalties.

**MOTOR SCOOTER AND MINI-MOTORCYCLES**

Motor scooters and Mini-motorcycles cannot legally operate on Ohio's roadways unless they are titled, registered, covered by proper insurance and the operator is at least 16 years old with a motorcycle license or endorsement on his or her driver's license. Most of the small electrical and gas power motor scooters or mini- motorcycles that are sold in stores are not roadworthy and therefore cannot be titled or registered. These scooters or mini-motorcycles are designed to be ridden on private property only and shall never be driven on the public street.

**Penalty:** Scooters or mini-motorcycles will be confiscated without proper license, papers and plates.

**Section 437.03 C.O.**

Requires every motorcycle to be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlights.

**CURFEW**

**Daytime Curfew Ord. 605.141 C.O.**

(a) No child between the ages of six and seventeen shall be at any place within the city, except in attendance at school between the hours of 10:00 am and 2:30 pm during any school day, unless the child has written proof from the school authorities excusing him or her from attending school, or unless the child

is accompanied by a parent or legal guardian or a responsible adult.

(b) Each parent or legal guardian of a child between the ages of six and seventeen has a duty to prohibit the child from behaving contrary to section (a).

**Nighttime Curfew Section 605.14 C.O.**

(a) Children shall not be upon street, sidewalks, in a park or any public place between the following restricted hours, unless the child is accompanied by a parent or a legal guardian or a responsible adult selected by the parent or legal guardian to supervise the child. The parent or legal guardian is responsible for their children to keep curfew.

**TIME & AGES**

<b>Darkness to Dawn:</b>	12 years or younger
<b>9:30 pm to 6:00 am:</b>	13 and 14 years old
<b>11 pm to 6:00 am:</b>	15 and 16 years old
<b>Midnight to 6:00 am:</b>	17 years old

**Penalty:** A parent who fails to prohibit their child from being outdoors during restricted hours is guilty of negligently failing to supervise a child, a minor misdemeanor for a first offense and may be required to perform community service. A second or subsequent offense is a fourth degree misdemeanor.

**PARKING**

**Abandoned Autos Section 451.25 C.O.**

No person shall park a vehicle within the City for a period in excess of seventy-two hours upon any street, alley, or public grounds. Any vehicle so parked shall be deemed abandoned and shall be subject to be impounded.

**Penalty:** Fine \$300 or more.

**ANIMALS**

**Dog Nuisances Section 603.04 C.O.**

Each of the following is a dog nuisance:

1. A dog which bites, barks, yelps, howls or

bays in such a manner or to such extent as to disturb the peace and quiet or endanger the health of any person.

2. A dog which scratches or digs in or urinates upon any lawn, tree, shrub, plant, building or any other public or private property other than that of the dog owner.

**Penalty:** Failure to abate a nuisance by the dog owner after notice results in a fine ranging from \$50.00 to \$100.00 for the first three offenses; for any fourth and subsequent offense, the nuisance dog shall be impounded.

**Disposal of Dog Waste Section 603.041 C.O.**

Any person in control of any dog on any public or private property not owned by dog owner must remove and properly dispose of any fecal matter left by the dog.

**Penalty:** \$150.00

**Vicious Dogs Section 604 C.O.**

A "dangerous" dog will be considered a Level I Threat Dog if the dog is proven to have chased or approached a person in a menacing manner without provocation. A dog may also receive this classification if it bites a person when it is not on its owner's property or if animal control has impounded it on three separate occasions within a 12 month period for being unconstrained and uncontrolled while off its owner's property.

A "vicious" dog will receive a Level II Threat Dog classification if it has caused serious injury or death to any person or domestic animal without provocation, unless the person or animal is injured while committing a criminal trespass on the property of the owner.

All dogs with a Level I or II label must:

- Be spayed or neutered
- Have signage on their premises indicating

"Level I Threat Dog" or "Level II Threat Dog"

- All owners of a level I or II threat dog (exempt any dog that on three separate occasions within a 12 month period has been impounded for being unrestrained or uncontrolled off its owner's property) will be required to obtain a policy of liability insurance of not less than \$100,000 within 30 days

***(Dog Warden 216-664-3069).***

**DUMPING PROHIBITED**

**Section 551.26 C.O.**

No person shall dump garbage or solid waste on any public or private property or place not licensed as a solid waste disposal facility.

**Penalty:** Fine of not less than \$50 and not more than \$1,000 or up to six months in jail or both. Additionally, violator must reimburse city the cost of removing waste dumped.

**TOY VEHICLES AND GAMES ON STREET**

**Section 411.04 C.O.**

No person is allowed on a public roadway on roller skates, or riding in or by means of any coaster; vehicle or similar device except while crossing a street at a crosswalk unless the street is an authorized play street. No person shall fly a kite, or play ball or other game, including playing or using mobile or movable basketball hoops, on any street unless the street has been set aside for playground purposes.

**Penalty:** A minor misdemeanor on the first offense; a second offense within one year after the first offense is a fourth degree misdemeanor. On each subsequent offense, within one year after the third offense, the penalty is a third degree misdemeanor. In addition, any equipment or device used as a mobile or movable basketball hoop, shall be declared to be contraband and shall be seized and disposed of.