



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT:

Jared Cobb
City Administrator
541-937-2157
jcobb@ci.lowell.or.us

CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDER AND ABATEMENT PROCEDURES

(LOWELL, OREGON): The primary goal of code enforcement is to maintain the highest quality of life possible for residents by ensuring healthy and safe neighborhoods. That happens through enforcement of the Lowell Municipal Code. The most common violations in Lowell include the following:

- Accumulations of garbage, junk and debris clearly visible from a street or alley
- Vegetation that needs to be cut back so that it doesn't impact the use of sidewalks or streets
- Grass and weeds greater than 12 inches in height
- Dismantled vehicle parts stored on private property clearly visible from the street
- Unregistered or inoperable vehicles parked within the public right-of-way

These code violations are identified) through quarterly neighborhood sweeps conducted by staff, or the submission of a complaint form. In either case, the following steps are completed to ensure compliance:

1. A door hanger is placed as a courtesy reminder for the specific code violation. The reminder provides 10 days to correct the violation.
2. A follow-up inspection is conducted. The owner and tenant of the property is issued a warning letter if the violation has not been corrected, and an additional 10 days to abate the violation.
3. A second follow-up inspection is conducted. If the violation remains, the owner and tenant of the property may be issued a citation. A notice of abatement action may also be issued at this time. The notice provides 10 days to correct or protest the violation.
4. A third follow-up inspection is conducted. If the violation remains, the property may be abated by the City, with the cost of administration and abatement assessed to the owner and/or the tenant.

Cases involving vegetation which may cause a health, fire, or traffic hazard follow a separate process due to the public safety risks involved. The owner and tenant of these properties will be sent a notice of violation and 10 days to abate the nuisance. If the property remains in violation, the City may issue a citation and/or abate the nuisance.

The vast majority of violations are resolved through education and awareness. Fines and abatement are only intended to be used as a last resort to ensure compliance. Property owners or tenants that unable to correct the violations due to physical disability should contact City Hall to discuss special arrangements.

For more information, please contact Jared Cobb, City Administrator, at 541-937-2157 or via email at jcobb@ci.lowell.or.us.

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