

Noise/ Nuisance Ordinance draft proposal 10-6-23

The Township acknowledges that the quality of life of its residents depends on a measure of tranquility in their homes and neighborhoods, free from excessive noise irritation from various sources. We acknowledge that certain activities and industries create unwanted noise and disturbance. Our objective here is to control these sound levels in our residential areas.

1. The measure of excessive noise shall be confined to residential neighborhoods where complaints have been directed to the Township Code/Zoning Enforcement officer by individual residents. The Code/Zoning Enforcement Officer or his designee shall measure the sound with an instrument conforming to ANSI S1 4 and IEC 61672 standards. Measurement samples must be at least 2 minutes in length, over a period of at least 10 minutes, over a minimum total time spent on the property of at least thirty minutes. This shall be known as the 2-10-30 sampling formula. If the average decibel level exceeds 60db, the Code/Zoning Enforcement officer may cite the entity that is the source of the sound with a warning to decrease the sound volume to levels producing results at the place of complaint of 60db or below. The Code/ Zoning enforcement officer shall issue subsequently citations with fines for every subsequent occurrence. The Board of Supervisors shall set the schedule of fines.

The 2-10-30 formula shall apply to:

A. Music and speech from outdoor venues, from indoor/outdoor venues, and from outdoor concert venues. Exceptions for special event permitted events can be granted by the Code/Zoning Enforcement Officer.

B. . Excessive engine or motor noise. This includes noise from stationary engines, vehicle engines under repair or modification, motorcycles, ATV's, and similar recreational vehicles, vehicles having modified, or insufficient mufflers, or lacking mufflers. Stationery generators used only during times of power outages are exempted.

C. Construction noise from outdoor construction sites in zones adjacent or nearby to residential zones.

D. Any continuing extraneous nuisance noise not detailed above that is the subject of complaint by a resident in a residential zone and that the Code/ Zoning Enforcement officer finds to be in excess of 60db per the 2-10-30 formula.

2. The following additional prohibitions on nuisance noise will be enforced:

A. Outdoor music, speech, or indoor/outdoor music, speech anywhere in the Township between the hours of 10 PM and 10 AM is prohibited.

B. Construction in residential zones between 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM Monday through Saturday, and all day and night on Sunday is prohibited..

C. Car alarms that do not automatically shut off after 5 minutes, or continue to be triggered regardless of the absence of attempted car break-in or car theft, are prohibited at all times.