



Development Services Department

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Noise Control Codes

Sacramento Municipal Code - Title 8 Health and Safety Chapter 8.68.080 (E), (F), (H) Noise Control

E. Noise sources due to the erection (including excavation), demolition, alteration or repair of any building or structure between the hours of seven a.m. and six p.m., on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and between nine a.m. and six p.m. on Sunday; provided, however, that the operation of an internal combustion engine shall not be exempt pursuant to this subsection if such engine is not equipped with suitable exhaust and intake silencers which are in good working order. The director of building inspections may permit work to be done during the hours not exempt by this subsection in the case of urgent necessity and in the interest of public health and welfare for a period not to exceed three days. Application for this exemption may be made in conjunction with the application for the work permit or during progress of the work.

F. Noise sources associated with agricultural operations provided such operations take place between the hours of six a.m. and eight p.m.; provided, however, that the operation of an internal combustion engine shall not be exempt pursuant to this subsection if such engine is not equipped with suitable exhaust and intake silencers which are in good working order.

H. Noise sources associated with maintenance of street trees and residential area property provided said activities take place between the hours of seven a.m. and six p.m.



NOISE CONTROL CODES

Chapter 8.68 Noise Control

8.68.050 Sound level measurement (general).

A. Any noise level measurements made pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be performed using a sound level meter as defined in Section 8.68.040 of this chapter.

B. The location selected for measuring exterior noise levels shall be at any point on the receiver's affected property. In the case of interior noise measurements, the windows shall be in normal seasonal configuration and the measurement shall be made at a point at least four feet from the wall, ceiling or floor nearest the affected occupied area. (Prior code § 66.01.106)

Article II Noise Standards

8.68.060 Exterior noise standards.

A. The following noise standards unless otherwise specifically indicated in this article shall apply to all agricultural and residential properties.

1. From seven a.m. to ten p.m. the exterior noise standard shall be fifty-five (55) dBA.
2. From ten p.m. to seven a.m. the exterior noise standard shall be fifty (50) dBA.

B. It is unlawful for any person at any location to create any noise which causes the noise levels when measured on agricultural or residential property to exceed for the duration of time set forth following, the specified exterior noise standards in any one hour by:

Cumulative Duration of the Intrusive Sound	Allowance Decibels
1. Cumulative period of 30 minutes per hour	0
2. Cumulative period of 15 minutes per hour	+5
3. Cumulative period of 5 minutes per hour	+10
4. Cumulative period of 1 minute per hour	+15
5. Level not to be exceeded for any time per hour	+20

C. Each of the noise limits specified in subsection B of this section shall be reduced by five dBA for impulsive or simple tone noises, or for noises consisting of speech or music.

D. If the ambient noise level exceeds that permitted by any of the first four noise limit categories specified in subsection B of this section, the allowable noise limit shall be increased in five dBA increments in each category to encompass the ambient noise level. If the ambient noise level exceeds the fifth noise level category, the maximum ambient noise level shall be the noise limit for that category. (Prior code § 66.02.201)

8.68.070 Interior noise standards.

A. In any apartment, condominium, townhouse, duplex or multiple dwelling unit it is unlawful for any person to create any noise from inside his or her unit that causes the noise level when measured in a neighboring unit during the periods ten p.m. to seven a.m. to exceed:

1. Forty-five (45) dBA for a cumulative period of more than five minutes in any hour;
2. Fifty (50) dBA for a cumulative period of more than one minute in any hour;
3. Fifty-five (55) dBA for any period of time.

B. If the ambient noise level exceeds that permitted by any of the noise level categories specified in subsection A of this section, the allowable noise limit shall be increased in five dBA increments in each category to encompass the ambient noise level. (Prior code § 66.02.202)

8.68.080 Exemptions.

The following activities shall be exempted from the provisions of this chapter:

A. School bands, school athletic and school entertainment events. School entertainment events shall not include events sponsored by student organizations.

B. Outdoor gatherings, public dances, shows and sporting and entertainment events provided said events are conducted pursuant to a discretionary license or permit by the city or county.

C. Activities conducted on parks and public playgrounds, provided such parks and public playgrounds are owned and operated by a public entity.

D. Any mechanical device, apparatus or equipment related to or connected with emergency activities or emergency work.

E. Noise sources due to the erection (including excavation), demolition, alteration or repair of any building or structure between the hours of seven a.m. and six p.m., on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and between nine a.m. and six p.m. on Sunday; provided, however, that the operation of an internal combustion engine shall not be exempt pursuant to this subsection if such engine is not equipped with suitable exhaust and intake silencers which are in good working order. The director of building inspections, may permit work to be done during the hours not exempt by this subsection in the case of urgent necessity and in the interest of public health and welfare for a period not to exceed three days. Application for this exemption may be made in conjunction with the application for the work permit or during progress of the work.

F. Noise sources associated with agricultural operations provided such operations take place between the hours of six a.m. and eight p.m.; provided, however, that the operation of an internal combustion engine shall not be exempt pursuant to this subsection if such engine is not equipped with suitable exhaust and intake silencers which are in good working order.

G. Any mechanical device, apparatus or equipment which are utilized for the protection or salvage of agricultural crops during period of adverse weather conditions or when the use of mobile noise sources is necessary for pest control; provided, however, that the operation of an internal combustion engine shall not be exempt pursuant to this subsection if such engine is not equipped with suitable exhaust and intake silencers which are in good working order.

H. Noise sources associated with maintenance of street trees and residential area property provided said activities take place between the hours of seven a.m. and six p.m.

I. Tree and park maintenance activities conducted by the city department of parks and community services; provided, however, that use of portable gasoline-powered blowers within two hundred (200) feet of residential property shall comply with the requirements of Section 8.68.150 of this chapter.

J. Any activity to the extent provisions of Chapter 65 of Title 42 of the United States Code, and Articles 3 and 3.5 of Chapter 4 of Division 9 of the Public Utilities Code of the state of California preempt local control of noise regulations and land use regulations related to noise control of airports and their surrounding geographical areas, any noise source associated with the construction, development, manufacture, maintenance, testing or operation of any aircraft engine, or of any weapons system or subsystems which are owned, operated or under the jurisdiction of the United States, any other activity to the extent regulation thereof has been preempted by state or federal law or regulation.

K. Any noise sources associated with the maintenance and operation of aircraft or airports which are owned or operated by the United States. (Prior code § 66.02.203)