

Chapter 7.15 Noise

§ 7.15.005 County Code Adopted by Reference.

Except as provided in this chapter, the noise code for the county, set forth at Orange County Code Section 4-6.1 et seq., is hereby adopted by reference as the noise ordinance for the city.

§ 7.15.010 Designated Noise Zones.

The noise zones of the city are as follows:

- A. Noise Zone 1: Residential properties.
- B. Noise Zone 2: Commercial properties.
- C. Noise Zone 3: Industrial, manufacturing and oil properties.

§ 7.15.015 Exterior Noise Standards.

A. Unless otherwise specifically indicated, the following exterior noise standards shall apply to all property within a designated noise zone:

Noise Standards:

<u>Noise Zone</u>	<u>Noise Level</u>	<u>Time Period</u>
1	55 db(A)	7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
	50 db(A)	10:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.
2	65 db(A)	At any time
3	70 db(A)	At any time

In the event the alleged offensive noise consists of impact noise, simple tone noise, speech, music or any combination thereof, each of the above noise levels shall be reduced by 5 db(A).

B. No person shall create any noise, or allow the creation of any noise, on property owned or occupied by such person when such noise causes the noise level to exceed the following when measured from a residential property:

1. The exterior noise standard for a cumulative period of more than 30 minutes in any hour.

2. The exterior noise standard plus 5 db(A) for a cumulative period of more than 15 minutes in any hour.

3. The exterior noise standard plus 10 db(A) for a cumulative period of more than 5 minutes in any hour.

4. The exterior noise standard plus 15 db(A) for a cumulative period of more than 1 minute in any hour.

5. The exterior noise standard plus 20 db(A) for any period of time.

C. In the event the ambient noise level exceeds any of the first 4 noise limit categories in paragraph B, the cumulative period applicable to such category shall be increased to reflect that ambient level. In the event the ambient noise level exceeds the fifth noise limit category, the maximum allowable noise level under such category shall be increased to reflect the maximum ambient noise level.

§ 7.15.020 Interior Noise Standards.

A. Unless otherwise specifically indicated, the following interior noise standards shall apply to all residential property within a designated noise zone:

Noise Standards:

<u>Noise Zone</u>	<u>Noise Level</u>	<u>Time Period</u>
1	55 db(A) 50 db(A)	7:00 a.m.– 10:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.

In the event the alleged offensive noise consists of impact noise, simple tone noise, speech, music or any combination thereof, each of the above noise levels shall be reduced by 5 db(A).

B. No person shall create any noise, or allow the creation of any noise, on property owned or occupied by such person when such noise causes the noise level to exceed the following when measured from another dwelling unit on residential property:

1. The interior noise standard for a cumulative period of more than 5 minutes in any hour.

2. The interior noise standard plus 5 db(A) for a cumulative period of more than 1 minute in any hour.

3. The interior noise standard plus 10 db(A) for any period of time.

C. In the event the ambient noise level exceeds either of the first 2 noise limit categories in paragraph B, the cumulative period applicable to such category shall be increased to reflect that ambient level. In the event the ambient noise level exceeds the third noise limit category, the maximum allowable noise level under such category shall be increased to reflect the maximum ambient noise level.

§ 7.15.025 Exemptions.

The following activities are exempt from the provisions of this chapter:

A. Activities conducted on the grounds of a nursery, elementary, intermediate or secondary school or college.

B. Activities conducted pursuant to a special event permit issued by the city.

C. Activities conducted at a publicly owned park or playground.

D. Any mechanical device, apparatus or equipment used in connection with emergency machinery, vehicle or work.

E. Noise associated with construction, repair, remodeling or grading of real property performed in the following periods: between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on weekdays; and between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Saturday.

F. Noise associated with real property maintenance performed in the following periods: between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on weekdays; between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Saturday; and between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Sunday or a holiday.

G. Activities for which local noise regulations are preempted by federal or state law.

§ 7.15.030 Schools, Hospitals and Churches.

A. No person shall create any noise that causes the noise level at a school, hospital or church to exceed the exterior noise standard for the noise zone in which such facility is located.

B. No person shall create any noise that causes the noise level at a school, hospital or church to interfere unreasonably with the operation of the facility.

C. The prohibitions of this section apply only if signs are conspicuously displayed at 3 separate locations within one-tenth of a mile of the school, hospital or church. Additionally, the prohibitions of this section apply only if the school, hospital or church is in use.

§ 7.15.035 Heating, Venting, and Air Conditioning Equipment. (Ord. No. 1551)

A. No building permit shall be issued for the installation of heating, venting and air conditioning ("HVAC") equipment in or adjacent to residential areas if the noise produced by the HVAC equipment exceeds an A-weighted exterior sound pressure level of 50 dBA. The method of computation used shall be that specified in the "Application of Sound Rating Levels of Outdoor Unitary Equipment," Standard 275, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute, 1997 ed. or the latest revision thereof.

B. Notwithstanding Subsection A, a building permit may be issued for the installation of:

1. HVAC equipment containing a timing device deactivating the HVAC equipment between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. provided the noise produced by the HVAC equipment does not exceed an A-weighted exterior sound pressure level of 55 dBA.

2. HVAC equipment generating noise that does not exceed an A-weighted exterior sound pressure level of 65 dBA, provided that the applicant obtains the prior written consent of the owner of each property where the exterior sound pressure level would exceed 55 dBA.

§ 7.15.040 Motor Vehicle Burglar Alarms.

A. No person shall cause or allow a burglar alarm located in a motor vehicle owned or operated by such person to emit an audible sound for a period of more than 10 minutes. Calculation of the time shall commence with the first audible sound and shall terminate 10 minutes thereafter, notwithstanding any variation or delay in the emissions of the sound.

B. Any person violating this section shall be guilty of an infraction. Notwithstanding the preceding, any person violating this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor for the 4th and each subsequent violation in a year period.
