

## Does the Township require a Complaint Form to be filed in all cases?

Yes, the Township requires a Complaint Form to be filed to initiate the enforcement process; no exceptions. The reason being, if the Township ends up having to bring the code violation to court in order for it to be resolved, a judge will want to see that a **resident** was aggrieved by the violation; not the Township.

## Common Code Enforcement Questions:

- Chickens
  - Up to 6 chickens are allowed in residential districts; **Roosters are not allowed** at all.
  - Chickens must have a coop and an enclosed yard; they are not allowed to roam the property.
- Lawn Maintenance
  - Lawns must be **over 10 inches tall** before we can enforce a requirement to cut the grass.
  - There **is not** an ordinance regarding the pick up and disposal of leaves. Leaves **cannot** be burned.
- Noise
  - Quiet hours are between **11pm and 7am**.
  - Excessive noise is covered by the ordinance, however if our Code Enforcement Officer performs a site inspection and does not witness a violation, the Township cannot proceed with enforcement. **We recommend calling the non-emergency Ottawa County Sheriff to ensure a quick response to excessive noise.**
- Rubbish
  - No person shall allow solid waste to accumulate on their property so as to cause a health hazard or a nuisance.
- Sheds/Accessory Structures/Fences
  - Regulations on fences and accessory structure placement vary by lot type. **[Click here to view a diagram of front and rear yards for different lot types on our fence ordinance page.](#)** If you are unsure where you can place a fence or accessory structure, always consult our zoning department!
- Snow
  - Plowing of all Township streets is performed by the **Ottawa County Road Commission**.
  - Property owners must remove snow from sidewalks within 24 hours of the **end of accumulation** of 2" or more.
- Vehicles - Broken/Dismantled/Unlicensed
  - Vehicles must be operable and plated when they are parked at a residence.
  - Dismantled and unlicensed vehicles must be stored either in a garage or off-site.
  - The ordinance **does not** regulate the color or physical upkeep of a vehicle; only if it is operable and licensed.
- Vehicles - Parking
  - There are **no** ordinances regarding street parking because it is covered by Michigan Vehicle Code which is enforced by the Sheriff's Dept.
  - Vehicles cannot be **stored** in the street. A vehicle parked in the street should move once every 24 hours.
  - There are **no** ordinances regarding vehicles parked on the lawn or in the yard of a property.
- Vehicles - Trailers/Recreational Vehicles
  - Recreational vehicles (RVs, campers, work trailers, etc...) must be parked **behind the front face of the home EXCEPT:**
    - From May 1 - October 31 when the recreational vehicle may be parked in the driveway for up to 5 days.