

Dalton Police Department

Code Enforcement

Presentation to The Mayor and City Council Members
2021

What is Code Enforcement?

Code Enforcement is responsible for monitoring both public and private property, commercial and residential, to ensure that there are no health or safety hazards that might endanger the public and determining compliance with all City codes and ordinances.

These code requirements are the minimum standards the City has adopted to protect the interests and eliminate hazards that could affect public safety, health, and general welfare.

What is Code Enforcement?

Traditionally Code Enforcement has been viewed as a process whereby local governments use various techniques to gain voluntary compliance with duly-adopted regulations, local ordinances, health and housing code, and sign standards.

Others view code enforcement as an annoying intrusion into the free use of private property.



The Dalton Police Department the Current Code Enforcement Assignments

One Operations Sergeant
Sgt. Woody Cantrell

Two Code Enforcement Officers
Matt Lane and Ryan Shope

*The third Code Enforcement position is currently vacant. We are working to increase staffing levels to be able to fill the vacancy.

Why is Code Enforcement important?

Code enforcement officers address a wide range of issues that affect the environment , health, safety, property values and general well-being of all residents in Dalton.

Code Enforcement Officers ensure that residential and business properties are properly maintained, that trash and debris are disposed of, that inoperative/junk vehicles are not illegally stored.

The Code Enforcement Division's routine functions include:

- Systematic code enforcement patrol of the entire city
- Investigate citizen complaints
- Contact code violators and monitor compliance activity
- Bring unresolved code violations to the Dalton Municipal Court and present evidence of the violation for the Court's consideration



Resources used for Code Enforcement

Georgia State Statutes

City of Dalton Ordinances

Unified Zoning Ordinances

International Property Maintenance Code Book





Frequently Asked Questions

How do I report a Code Violation?

- A code violation can be reported by completing an online code violation complaint through see click fix website.
- Code enforcement officers can be contacted via telephone/voicemail at Dalton Police Department
- Contact Whitfield County 911 center and request an officer responded to your location

What do I do if I receive a notice of violation from Code Enforcement?

You should correct the violation before the date indicated on the notice. If you have any questions about what is required of you to achieve compliance, please contact the Code Enforcement Officer listed at the bottom of the notice you received.

Notice of Violation

When & Where Occurred

Code Section

Explanation of Violation

Timeframe for Correction

Officer's Information



DALTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

301 Jones Street

Dalton, GA 30720

(706) 278-9085

Notice of Violation

Date _____

Address _____

Notice is hereby given to the Owner/Occupant of the above location that you are in violation of Code Section _____, of The City of Dalton Code of Ordinances.

Explanation of Violation

You are hereby given _____ hours/days notice to correct the above violation or you will receive a citation to appear in Municipal Court for the violation.

If you have any questions, contact Officer _____ at (706) 278-9085, ext. _____

Received by _____

Officer's Signature

Badge #

LINE NOV 000720



What is an Accumulation of Rubbish?

Rubbish is any combustible and noncombustible waste materials, except normal garbage.

Accumulation is the acquisition or gradual gathering of something. A mass or quantity that is gradually gathered or has been acquired

Accumulation of rubbish violations





How do I get rid of my Rubbish items?

The City of Dalton Public Works Department offers a free Bulky Waste Service to residents to help remove larger items from their property once approval for the item(s) has been granted by DPW.

Examples of refuse collection

NOT APPROVED



APPROVED WITH CALL AHEAD



My neighbor's house is a mess!!
Can't anybody help me?

What someone perceives a "mess" may not necessarily be a code violation. However, any code violations noted at the property can be handled by a Code Enforcement Officer.

A Code Enforcement Officer can inspect the property and determine if there are issues that can be classified as violations.



My neighbor does not follow our HOA rules.
Can the City force compliance?

Code Enforcement does not have the authority to enforce
HOA covenants and restrictions.

What is the height limit on high grass and weeds in my yard?

Grass and weeds cannot exceed 12" in height.

Can the City cut the grass at a vacant or foreclosed property?

No - The City does not maintain vacant or abandoned property.

A Code Enforcement Officer will attempt to contact the current property owner to bring their property into compliance.

* An ordinance has been drafted and if passed it would allow the city or its designee to enter a property to resolve minor property maintenance violations

Land maintenance issues can occur in any part of the city

COMMERCIAL



RESIDENTIAL



What is considered an inoperative vehicle?

Any vehicle that has been dismantled, is not capable of being operated on a public street due to missing or inoperable mechanical or electronic parts and does not have a current license plate.

Inoperable vehicle storage





Where can I store my boat or recreational vehicle on my property?

Recreational vehicles and boats can be stored anywhere on your property within the City.

However, they cannot be used as a living quarters.

RV storage violation example

BEFORE



AFTER



Is my neighbor allowed keep chickens within the city limits?

Chickens are permitted within the city. Chickens on residential properties are limited to no more than ten (10) chickens per parcel.

Chickens must be contained to the property of the owner.



Blighting issues and other violations

Dangerous Structures

BEFORE



AFTER



Dangerous Structures

BEFORE



AFTER



Improper use of city trash can

REFUSE OUTSIDE CONTAINER



OVERFILL AND PROHIBITED REFUSE



Violations with improperly placed curbside refuse by volume, material, or a combination of issues



Trash outside container at Apartments or Businesses

APARTMENT COMPLEX



BUSINESS PARKING LOT



Other example of trash outside the dumpster

BEFORE



AFTER



Illegal Dumping / Littering

BEFORE



AFTER



Illegal Dumping / Litter



Illegally posted signs –
on poles, trees and/or on the right of way



Unsafe and Nuisance Swimming Pools





2020 Code Enforcement Statistics



NEW CASES IN 2020

1291

NEW CODE VIOLATIONS
REPORTS GENERATED IN 2020



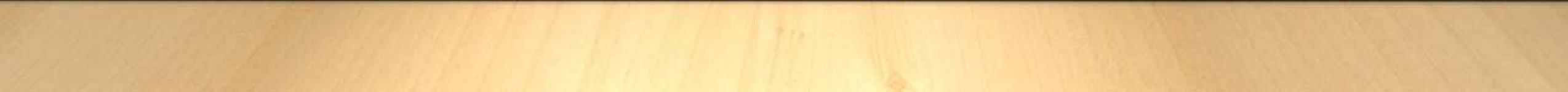


CLOSED CASES 2020

1316 CODE VIOLATIONS

INCIDENTS CLOSED SUCCESSFULLY IN 2020

BY THE VIOLATIONS BEING CORRECTED

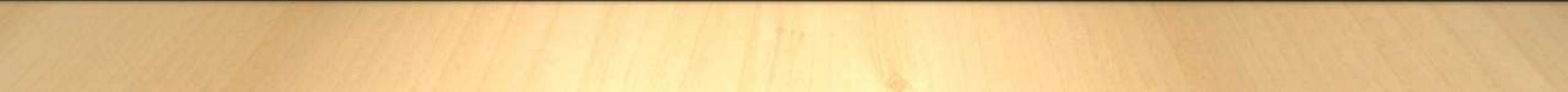




COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

The CDBG Program provides annual grants on a formula basis to entitled cities and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low and moderate income persons.

1664 HOURS INVESTED INTO CDBG IN 2020

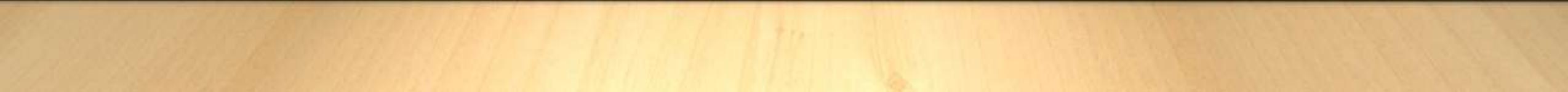




OPERATION GATEWAY

OPERATION GATEWAY IS A FOCUSED EFFORT TO IDENTIFY AND CORRECT
CODE VIOLATIONS ON THE STREET AND HIGHWAYS COMMONLY USED
TO ENTER AND LEAVE THE CITY OF DALTON

267 HOURS SPENT ON
OPERATION GATEWAY PROGRAM





Dalton Police Department
Code Enforcement Contact numbers

706-278-9085

Operations Sergeant

Sgt. Woody Cantrell ext. 160

Code Enforcement Officers

Matt Lane ext. 176 and Ryan Shope ext. 181