

Water Conservation

The Town of Howey-in-the-Hills follows the St. Johns River Water Management irrigation guidelines. Our water conservation plan allows irrigating of landscape throughout the year. Regulations during Eastern Standard time are as follows:

Residential landscape irrigation at odd numbered addresses or no address is only on Saturday and shall not occur between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.; during Daylight Savings time you may also irrigate on Wednesday; times still apply.

Residential landscape irrigation at even numbered addresses is only on Sunday and shall not occur between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.; during Daylight Savings time you may also irrigate on Thursday; times still apply.

Non-residential landscape irrigation may occur only on Tuesday and cannot occur between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.; during Daylight Savings time you may also irrigate on Friday; times still apply.

Illicit Discharge

An Illicit discharge is defined as "any discharge into a municipal storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of stormwater". Some of the pollutants that fall into this category are:

Car wash wastewater, Gas and motor oil, Grass clippings, Household cleansers, Paints, Pesticides, Pet waste, Solvents, Weed killer

All non-storm substances discharged into the Town's storm sewer system are to be considered illicit discharges that would pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the public and are hereby prohibited.

FAQ

Q: My neighbors have the same violations, why have you selected me?

A: The Code Enforcement Department does not conduct selective enforcement. The Officer tries to cover the entire town routinely. In addition, the officer responds to all complaints that are filed with our office. You may be unaware that the attempt to remedy a violation is already in progress. Please feel free to call the Code Enforcement office to inquire about a specific address.

Q: I received a Notice of Violation on a house that I own, but I rent this property to a tenant. Why don't you issue the notice to the tenant?

A: In most cases, the tenant was issued a Notice of Violation, and you, as the property owner would have been notified of the violation via certified mail. As the property owner, you are legally responsible for any violations of Town ordinances. If your tenant does not come into compliance, you could be held responsible and the case could be presented to the Special Magistrate.

Q: This seems like a waste of tax dollars. Why don't you go after "real criminals?"

A: The Code Enforcement Department exists to protect the quality of life of all residents in the Town of Howey-in-the-Hills. It has a different purpose than law enforcement. Code Enforcement helps maintain property values and improves areas that have become blighted with debris, overgrowth, or graffiti. Areas that have become blighted are more likely to have a higher crime rate than those areas that are well maintained and free from Code violations.

Beautiful Howey-in-the-Hills Code Enforcement

"Howey-in-the-Hills Code Enforcement serves as a resource to protect the health and safety of our community. We strive to maintain the quality of life through education, cooperation, and voluntary compliance."



Azure Botts

Code Enforcement Officer

Case # _____

**THE TOWN OF
HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS**

111 North Palm Ave.
Howey-in-the-Hills, FL
34737

Phone: 352-324-2030

Cell: 352-638-0524

Fax: 352-324-0523

Email: abotts@howey.org



About the Process

The intent of Code Enforcement is to obtain voluntary compliance through educating the public of the ordinances, to work with the public in resolving violations, and to maintain communication and a good working relationship with our citizens.



One of our goals is to educate the public!

The Process!

When there is a violation of an ordinance or Land Development Code, the property owner is notified of the violation. If compliance is not attained, a notice of violation is then issued with a timeframe to comply. If compliance is still not met, the property owner can be issued a notice of hearing before a special magistrate. If the property owner is found in violation, a fine of up to \$250.00 per violation, per day and up to \$500.00 per violation, per day for repeat violations, can be assessed per Florida Statute 162.09.

Special Magistrate

A Special Magistrate is a member of the Florida Bar, existing by the authority of the State of Florida and appointed by the Town of Howey-in-the-Hills, to hear and decide Code Enforcement violation cases. The Special Magistrate provides an expeditious and effective means of dealing with violations.

COMMON VIOLATIONS

- ◆ Grass/weeds/vegetation in excess of 12 inches in height.
- ◆ Unlicensed/inoperable vehicles are prohibited.

KNOW THE RULES!



Be informed!

- ◆ Accumulation of refuse and junk are prohibited.
- ◆ Trash receptacles left out after the day of pick up is prohibited.
- ◆ Erecting a fence is prohibited without first obtaining a building permit.
- ◆ Placing signs in public right of way is prohibited.
- ◆ Parking of boat/recreational vehicle/trailer in front yard is prohibited. Some rare exceptions apply.
- ◆ Placement of sheds is prohibited without first obtaining a building permit.
- ◆ Alterations/remodeling of structure/dwelling is prohibited without first obtaining the appropriate building permit(s).
- ◆ Chickens, poultry, and/or livestock are prohibited within the town limits.
- ◆ Garage/yard sales need a permit. A permit is good for three consecutive days and no more than two yard sales per year. Except for town-wide yard

sales during spring and fall.

- ◆ Open fires are prohibited. However, a fire is allowed in a fire-pit style container not to exceed 35 inches in diameter for residential use. Only wood may be burned in fire pit.
- ◆ Tree removal requires a tree removal permit or a certified arborist needs to assess the tree(s) and provide documentation.

Making a Complaint

Making a complaint is easy. Fill out the Code Violation Observation Form found on our Code Enforcement web page (<https://www.howey.org/police/page/code-enforcement-department>) and submit the form by email to abotts@howey.org

Note: Under Florida law, email addresses are public records.

CS/SB 60 amends the municipal code enforcement statutes to prohibit municipal code inspectors and code enforcement officers from initiating an investigation into violations of city codes or ordinances based upon an anonymous complaint. It also **requires that an individual making a complaint of a potential violation provide his or her name and address to the local government body before an investigation may occur.** The prohibition does not apply if the code inspector or code enforcement officer has reason to believe the alleged violation presents an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare, or imminent destruction of habitat or sensitive resources.