

Our Vision

“Neighborhood Services strives to be the most proactive, resourceful, and innovative division, partnering with citizens to create quality neighborhoods in Fort Collins.”

The “Neighborhood” part of the Neighborhood & Building Services Department, Neighborhood Services provides quick response and collaborative problem solving for Fort Collins residents concerned with the safety, appearance, and cohesiveness within our community. Neighborhood Services works to build and maintain quality neighborhoods for all Fort Collins citizens through education and outreach; intervention and mediation; enforcement and compliance.

Neighborhood Services includes Code Enforcement, Public Nuisance Ordinance administration, Community Mediation Program, Community Liaison, and neighborhood support resources. For answers to questions, City resource information, and assistance with common and frustrating neighborhood problems, citizens can contact Neighborhood Services at 224-6046, in person at 281 N. College (2nd floor), or online at fcgov.com/neighborhoodservices.

Code Compliance

The City of Fort Collins has established an extensive list of codes designed to protect and maintain neighborhood safety and quality. These include:

Inoperable vehicles

Inoperable vehicles on private property that are not currently licensed or are incapable of operating may not be stored on your property unless they are screened from public view.

Unshoveled sidewalks

Everyone is required to shovel sidewalks adjacent to their property within 24 hours after a snowfall ends. If a sidewalk is not completely cleared of snow and ice and the City shovels or applies ice melt, there will be a substantial cost assessed against the property owner.

Trash and Yard Maintenance

The City has specific codes to address trash, grass, weeds, and outdoor storage.

1. Accumulations of rubbish such as vehicle parts, tires, scrap lumber, construction materials, old appliances, or leaves and branches in your yard must be disposed of properly.
2. No furniture designed for indoor use can be placed in your yard or on an unenclosed porch.
3. Leaves and branches may be piled temporarily provided they are being gathered for disposal but cannot remain in your yard for an indefinite period of

time. Leaves cannot be put in the street.

4. Weeds and grass cannot exceed a height of 6 inches in yards and alleys or 12 inches in fields or undeveloped lots within City limits.

5. Noxious weeds and brush piles are prohibited. For a list of noxious weeds visit www.larimer.org/publicworks/weeds/district.htm.

6. Trash must be stored in plastic or metal cans with tight-fitting lids, or in sealed plastic bags.

7. Trash containers must be stored in areas screened from view of the street.

8. Trash containers can be placed out for collection no earlier than 12 hours before scheduled pickup and cannot remain there for more than 12 hours after pickup.

9. Trash cannot be placed on the street or sidewalk where it can interfere with bicyclists, pedestrians and vehicles.

Parking on yards

Vehicles may park on any part of a yard as long as the surface is improved with a material such as gravel, rock, concrete or asphalt and bordered to define the parking area. Exceptions include car washing and driveways directly accessing a garage. Front Yard parking may not exceed 40 % of the total front yard if on-street parking is allowed.

If Code Compliance Inspectors find violations, a notice is sent to the property owner and, if applicable, the tenant of the property. The owner or tenant then has the number of days noted in the letter to correct the violation. If not corrected, the City may correct the violation and assess the cost of removal, inspection

and administrative costs to the property owner. In some cases, a ticket may be issued, requiring a court appearance.

Nuisance Hotline 416-2200

The Nuisance Hotline is a centralized number where citizens can report a variety of complaints including the following:

1. Wood smoke, weed, rubbish or side walk snow violations
2. More than three unrelated parties living in one housing unit
3. Concerns about the safety of rental housing
4. Inoperable vehicles & parking on yards
5. Industrial noise
6. Storm water pollution
7. Noise violations
8. Barking dogs/animal issues*
9. Overgrown trees and shrubs blocking the view of oncoming traffic, signs or blocking a street, alley or public sidewalk.

During the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday, the hotline is staffed by Neighborhood Services. After hours and on weekends, the hotline transfers to a recorded information system that prompts callers to the appropriate voice mailbox. Messages are answered on the first business day.

*You will be referred to Animal Control.

Community Liaison Program

The Community Liaison Program is a collaboration between the City of Fort Collins and Colorado State University that works to promote positive relationships between students and non-students throughout our community. This unique position focuses on education, partnerships, and programming that encourages understanding, tolerance, and quality of life issues in Fort Collins neighborhoods. Programs include:

- **Civility Awards** are given annually to CSU and community members who have made positive contributions in their neighborhoods.
- **The Great Sofa Round-Up** is free event that collects, redistributes, and disposes of unwanted sofas.
- **Community Welcome** is an annual collaboration between Neighborhood Services, Fort Collins Police Services, and CSU that provides door-to-door education and welcoming to students.

For questions and information on the Community Liaison programs, please call 224-6047.

Neighborhood Support

Fort Collins is filled with great neighborhoods and this is a primary reason why so many people want to live here. Great neighborhoods start with knowing your neighbors. Knowing your neighbors well enough to talk with them is the first and most fundamental step to creating a friendly, safe, and welcoming community. Neighborhood Services offers a variety of services and programming to promote quality neighborhoods, including:

- Neighborhood organizing and meeting facilitation assistance
- Free newsletter and flier photocopying
- Neighborhood grants
- Adopt a Neighbor volunteer program
- Newsletter and neighborhood letter templates
- Welcome Bags for new neighbors

For questions and more information, call the Neighborhood Administrator at 224-6070.

Community Mediation Program

The Community Mediation Program is a free, confidential service designed to resolve neighborhood and landlord/tenant problems. Mediation offers an alternative to traditional dispute resolution such as legal intervention. Issues resolved through mediation typically include noise, pets, property maintenance, parking, and a variety of landlord/tenant and roommate disputes.

Mediation is a voluntary process in which neighbors, with the guidance of professional mediators, come together in a neutral setting to resolve their dispute in a way that encourages communication and compromise. All parties present their side of the dispute and develop options for a permanent, peaceful resolution. Most mediations culminate in a binding written agreement that the affected neighbors craft together. Services are also available in Spanish.

Call 224-6022 or visit www.fcgov.com/neighborhoodservices/mediation for more information.

- Landlord/Tenant Handbook also available

Neighborhood Services

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www.fcgov.com/neighborhoodservices

