



City of Bremerton

Department of Community Development

Code Enforcement

The Code Enforcement division of the City of Bremerton Department of Community Development works to enforce several chapters of the Bremerton Municipal Code. This includes sections relating to Health and Sanitation, Land Use, Business Licenses and Regulations and Building Codes adopted by the City.

The Bremerton Municipal Code (BMC) is available to view online [here](#).

[Garbage and Refuse – BMC 6.04](#)

Garbage accumulation is a health hazard and nuisance to surrounding properties. Garbage service is mandatory within the City of Bremerton. Garbage must be properly stored in garbage cans, and the cans must be removed from the right-of-way between pickup days.

[Nuisance Vegetation – BMC 6.08](#)

Grass and weeds in excess of 12" in height, noxious weeds or any poisonous vegetation must be removed and trimmings disposed of. Bushes and trees cannot encroach on the sidewalk, street or public right-of-way.

[Public Nuisances – BMC 6.02](#)

The Public Nuisance chapter covers nuisances which affect equally the rights of an entire community or neighborhood. This can include, but is not limited to, garbage, human or animal waste, conditions contributing to pest infestations, dilapidated fences, abandoned buildings which are not secured, and scrap metal or appliances. View the chapter to

[Land Use – BMC Title 20](#)

Zoning and land use regulates off-street parking, sign regulations, fence construction and the use of recreational vehicles, among many other issues. Along with the Planning division of the Department of Community Development, Code Enforcement provides enforcement of Permitting, Land Development and Zoning violations.

[Shoreline Development – BMC 20.16](#)

The Shoreline Master Program and Critical Area Ordinance provide protection for our waterways, shorelines and geologically hazardous areas. The Planning division of the Department of Community Development evaluates work in these areas, and the Code Enforcement division provides enforcement for violations.

View the Shoreline Master Program for details [here](#).

[Graffiti – BMC 6.02 \(r\)](#)

Graffiti which is defacing any public or private buildings, structures, walls, fences or other visible spaces reduces property values and must be removed.

[Junk Vehicles – BMC 6.06](#)

To qualify as a junk or hulk vehicle, the vehicle must meet three of the four criteria set by the State of Washington.

The vehicle must be;

1. Three years or older;
2. Obviously inoperable;
3. Extensively damaged;
4. Has an approximate fair market value equal to the approximate value of the scrap in it.

[Unfit Dwellings, Buildings, Structures and Premises – BMC 6.12](#)

Buildings and structures which are deemed uninhabitable and unsafe using the standards outlined by the International Property Maintenance Code. Buildings which have been damaged by fire, deterioration and neglect to such an extent that the structural strength does not meet minimum requirements of the building code; Stress in any materials or portion thereof due to dead and live loads, is more than one and one-half times the working stress allowed in the building code. View the chapter to see a complete list of criteria for

[Business Licenses and Regulations – Title 5](#)

Business licenses and regulations regulates rental property registrations, street vendors and regulatory licenses, among many other issues. Along with the Tax and License division of the Department of Community Development, Code Enforcement provides enforcement of violations within this title of the Bremerton Municipal Code.



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Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What work requires a permit?

A. Permits are required for installation of new windows, any structural work on a building, electrical work, plumbing work and retaining wall repair or installation. There are additional situations where a permit may be required, so it is recommended that you contact the Department of Community Development Permitting department at 360-473-5275 or via email at DCDPermits@ci.bremerton.wa.us prior to starting work on a project.

Q. How do I apply for a permit?

A. You can apply for permits online or by calling the Department of Community Development at 360-473-5275.

Information about permit applications and inspections are available [here](#).

Q. Does Code Enforcement respond to animal complaints?

A. Code Enforcement does take animal complaints, however the Kitsap Humane Society primarily responds and enforces these ordinances.

Please see Bremerton Municipal Code Title 7 Animals for complete information about regulations and the authority of Animal Control to enforce violations under this title [here](#).

Q. Does Code Enforcement respond to noise complaints?

A. Code Enforcement is not a 24 hour emergency service and cannot immediately respond to noise complaints. It is recommended that you contact the Bremerton Police Department at the time that the noise is occurring so they may document the noise and may be able to immediately address the cause. Any noise emanating from a public disturbance or criminal activity should be immediately reported to the Bremerton Police Department via 911.

View the Bremerton Municipal Code Chapter 6.32 Noise Levels for complete information about regulations and enforcement of this chapter [here](#).

Q. I received a Correction Notice or Notice of Violation. What should I do?

A. Correction Notices and Notice of Violation letters are to notify you that a code violation has been reported and observed on your property. If you receive a letter and do not understand the violation described, or have any other questions, you should contact the Code Enforcement Officer or Code Enforcement Specialist that issued the notice to you. Their number and email address will be on the letterhead of the notice. Otherwise, you can call the Department of Community Development Mainline at 360-473-5275.



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If you have made corrections to resolve the violation, you should contact Code Enforcement with your name, address and case number to inform them that corrections have been made.

Q. What does it mean when a Stop Work Order is issued on my property?

A. A Stop Work Order is issued by Code Enforcement and the Building Department when a project is being done without permits or is deemed unsafe. A Stop Work can also be issued on a property where work has already been completed, but was done without proper permits or inspections.

If a Stop Work Order is issued on your property or work site, immediately cease working and contact the Department of Community Development at 360-473-5275.

The Building Department will determine what permits and inspections are required before you may begin work again. Do not remove the Stop Work Order until your permit application is approved and the permit has been issued to you.

Please see Bremerton Municipal Code Chapter 1.04 Code Enforcement for complete information about Stop Work Orders, Cease and Desist Orders and other regulations [here](#).